VOL No: 100

G.L. 12388

Tanjore 15 Oct 1773

Your favour of the 11th I have duly rec.d—
 on some Days ago which Mr Geo Wynch had in
 that Letter you had my approbation of the
 to the Malabar Coast.

I have deducted from your Account c.t Me
 Sales of the blue Cloth which Should have come
 the Owners Account.— The Bal.ce due to Me as p
 Account is Ar 1057.7.2 which if you can pay at
 as to Mr James Call I should be glad as I want
 from Calcutta in January.— How Ramah comes
 charged you with so much Arrack I dont know
 he insisted on it his Account was right if so its well
 deduct it from the Acct I send you.—

Your Acct with the Owners I enclose you
 Order to insert the Blue Cloth Sold on their Account
 please then to return Me

I am Dr Hewitt
very affect.y yours

To Coja Satur Padry Jacob
at Masulapatam.

Dr Sir

I was duly favored with yours of the 10th Instant and herewith enclose you Copies of Letters I have recd from Capt Hewitt since the last I sent to Masulapatam

There is a Balle due from Capt Hewitt to the Owners of Ark: 1707: 1. 9 and he has to receive in Bengal 3750 for the remr of his freight and deducting ½ for his priviledge makes 3281. 4 or together with his Ballance 4988. 5. 9 — he will have to pay his Impress, pilotage, a Grapnel & Hawser which he wants but I hope little else.—

The Accounts between you and Me I will settle as soon as I get the Expences of the Boat and Cable made by Capt Brutton—

Capt Hewitt writes Me he hears the Boat is so large and the Timbers so heavy that he cannot hoist her in and that she is only fit for a Vessel of five hundred tons If it should be so let me know as I must write Captain Hewitt to provide himself One and you must dispose or do the best you can with that you have

You find by Capt Hewitt [illegible] of Credit on Bengal and Bombay— At Bombay I [illegible] body if you do you must procure Letters for him at least against his arrival at Masulapatam— And though I have no particular dealings in Bengal except what has about the Diana yet I believe my Letters will procure him what Money he may want, nevertheless if you have any Correspondents there I should be glad you would send Me a Letter for him.—

Capt Hewitt has a Balle of mine in his Hands of Ark! 1000 & upwards which will be of Service to him if he wants Cash at Bengal I am Dr Sir
your very Obed: Hble Servant
W Stevens

Tanjore Feb [illegible]

Dear Colonel

Agreeable to what I wrote you on the 26th Neziff Cawn took a Ride round the [illegible] to look at the hollow Ways &c about which I find the Nabob has wrote him as well as about levelling the Pagodas &c as Neziff seemed ~~anxious~~ anxious to have them all carried into execution with all Expedition and particularly (as I told him that a very great Number of Coolies could be procured) desired that I would make my disposition and sett about compleating the Slope of the Glacis immediately.— I waited on him yesterday Morning and told him that in Order to being expeditious large Supplies of Money would be wanted: that Coolies for compleating the Glacis & moving of Earth might be had to the Amount of four or five thousand Pagodas pr Month & for the repairs of the Fort Wall about three or four Thousand: that these together was a considerable Sum, and more than I feared I should ever receive for the Purpose — He said there was no fear but any Sums laid out for the Service of the Fortifications would be granted by the Nabob — I told him I could wish the Nabob would order him to grant me Supplies of Cash: however I proposed that he should write the Nabob to know what Sum he would expend pr Month, and that it should be left to Neziff to have the most needful things done — He seemed perfectly sensible that this was a point necessary to be settled & I believe he intends writing the Nabob on the Subject

Has the Nabob wrote you on these Matters? I conclude not as I have not heard from you which I wonder much at, more especially as he waits not for the Report of what is necessary to be done

~~He~~ I suppose you are very busy and have not much Time to spare I wish you would write Me a few Lines if it was only to tell Me how I am to act, whether to proceed with Neziff's directions or whether its best to wait till a plan

be laid for the whole — a great deal of Earth may undoubtedly
be moved to fill up the hollows near the Fort which cannot
possibly be to undo again, but to bring the Glaces to its
proper hight and Slope cannot be done till a plain is laid
& fixed on for the whole Fort —

As you was thinking of
proposing a Contract with the Nabob. Suppose you were to
mention the following Terms Moving of Earth at any
distance not exceeding 200 yards at twenty Cubical English
yards for One Current Pagoda or 2 fa: 8 Cash ꝑ Cubical yard
Brick Work laid in Chunam. all Materials included. under
the Parapet clear of Arches or plaistering at 73 fan: (8 Pag
1. 21) ꝑ Cubical English yard — for other kinds of Brick
Work I am no judge off but the Rate might be fixed
proportionally thereto — however if it is not necessary to
make proposals immediately I may be able to write
you more particularly especially regarding moving of Earth
in a few Days

I get very little done towards the Survey as I am
almost constantly employed some where about the
Works — Mandicelle is employed about finishing the
Parapets & Rampart of the Town Survey but goes on very
Slowly indeed —

I have had a Letter from Thislop just now he has
caught a severe Cold which now detains him from join
Me as you will See by his Letter inclosed

I send you some red Cotton which I believe you
will find a better Color than that you have — I wish you
could Send Me a little Mouth glue ~~glue~~ as I have unluckily
lost the piece I had & I find my self much distressed some
times for want of it — I also wish you would beg borrow
or Steal for Me a Table of Logarithms Sines Tangents &

---

till I can get my Own

Nizeff Cawn has just sent Me a parcel of his
Lascars to work under my Direction — I have begun demolishing
Permacoil & shall employ all the Lascars I can Spare there till
its down & so go on with the Rest

I have inclosed you Pay Bills as ꝑ List
accompanying which Amount please to receive and carry
to my Credit I am Dr. Colonel

Your very Affect Servant

Tanjore 28th Novr. 1773

Wm Stevens

To Mr. Charles Bromley

Dear Sir

Yours under Date the 19th July last I was duly
favored with in Camp before this place informing Me that Mr. Raddons
late Dubash had made Answer but that it had been sent to
Masulipatam for amendment — and referring Me to Mr. Jourdan
for more particular Information, but as I was not on the Spot or
even near him how could you expect I could gain Intelligence from
that Quarter, when I was an entire Stranger to what had been done
at Masulapatam when I was only a few Miles distant from it.

I forget whether I acquainted you that I intended
writing to Mr. Marricott for attested Copies of any papers he had
relative to the Affair between Me & Vencaty, however I did so, but
afterward finding Copies of all papers that I judged was necessary
I wrote Mr. Marricott that till I know what proof I had to make
I thought nothing further would be requisite as you will already
know by the paper No. 36 Before sent you. I draw on Mr. Marricott
for the Ballance of his a Current with Mr. Raddons Estate Ch.o 250
Have now to inform you that he refused to pay the Bill for the
Reasons assigned in his Letter to Me dated 22d June last — which

I inclose you with the Papers he covered to Me

I am at a loss to know whether I as Executor am to become Answerable for these further Claims mentioned in Mr. Marriots Letter if so these demands must be added to Vencatys Acct with the Estate of Mr. Raddon if not on whom am I Call for the Ballce due from Mr. Marriott to Raddons Estate, whether on him or Vencaty for every Transaction between Mr. Raddon & Marriott was for account of Vencaty

I wish you would let me know what further has been done since your last, and whether any thing is wanted on my Part — together with your Answer on the last Paragraph, as without it I shall be at a loss how to Reply to Mr. Marriott being quite a Stranger to the Business of an Executor and how far they are answerable

Tanjore 29th Novr. 1773

I am Dr. Sir

Your very Obedt. Servant

Wm. Stevens

To Mr. John Turing at Fort St. George

Dear Turing

I have been very negligent in not telling you long since that in looking over your Acct Current dated the 31 Decr. last that you Charge Me C Pag 450 for Amount of Mr. Iredans Bill for M Pag 400 @ 12½ p% — And that you only give me Credit for M Pag 545 the Amt your Handkerchiefs @ 10 p% as I had charged them to you having given you Credit for the 400 M Pag at the same Rate.—

I remember in a Letter you wrote me from Cuddalore that you said we fixed the Exchange of the Rupees — As I have not my papers with me, nor had I, might I possibly find out what it was; may I therefore request you will settle this Account into Current Pagodas and forward Me that I may adjust mine — And as I am much distressed for Cash at present in all Quarters, and much disappointed in a very considerable remittance I expected two Months ago — I must request you will not if you can possibly avoid call on Me for the Ballance for some Time. — In the mean Time if you chuse to have my Bond I will send it you for the Ballance that may be due to you the End of next Month Or close your A/current the 31st of last December and I will make the Bond payable with Interest from that Time.—

Excuse my not doing all this before as I long intended but a continual hurry since I left Madras put it entirely out of my Head when I had leisure to have done it. — May you enjoy your Health and every Happiness is the sincere Wishes of Dear Turing

Your very affect Servant

Wm. Stevens

Tanjore 29th Novr. 1773—

Tanjore 1st Decr. 1773

Dear Colonel

What I wrote you the 28th respecting the moving of Earth @ 2..8 p Cubl. yard I fancy can never Answer the following are the prices that have been paid here

		Sil/pa.	Cash
Cleaning the Ditch & carrying Earth on Glacis . . .	p Cub Eng yard	2	53
Digging D° with Crows & pick Axes . D°	D°	4	—
Digging upon Glacis & carrying Earth 22 yards	D°	1	—
D° . . . 44	D°	1	53 —
D° . . . 72	D°	2	27 —
Digging near Lally Water Course	D°	3	27 —

The Prices I think are rather dear and I make no doubt but I could easily reduce them 25 p% in consequence of sure Payments —

I propose to try One of the retaining Walls of the Rampart of the Fausebray (where the Guns are to be placed) in Solid Iron Stone I have agreed with the Stone Cutters to

& lay them finding all their Own Coolies except Chunam b
at 16 Tanjore fas P.r Cub.c Yard of there or P English Cub Y
about 37½ Silver fanams. The Cost of the Stone is about 5
or together   94½ fanams or 2¼ Pagodas.. inclusive of
Chunam Sand & Jaggree

I am almost afraid of trying any
experiment with Mines in Blowing up the Pagodas
I did mean to try the Interior Room of Permacoil over wh
the Dome is built it is 10 feet 6 in Square within and the Wal
are 5 feet 8 Inches thick and 10 feet high within. What
I proposed to do was to endeavor to blow outwards One Sid
& part others of the Square but even if One side was out and p
of each adjacent One (nay suppose more) I do not expect th
Spire would fall down. I designed to have effected this
Scheme by lodging the Powder in two Chambers near the
Angles but exclusive of the great probability of its not having
the Effect designed I should fear the Materials made Use
for confining the powder would Support the Building
On the whole I believe I shall content myself with Boring the
Masonry where its of any Solidity and giving it small blasts
to rent & Shake it only. As for lifting these Stupendous
Buildings I should even apprehend to a person skilled in
Mining that he would have more trouble in lodging his
his powder than he ~~raught~~ might gain by its effect. The Stones
which ~~from~~ from the Sides of the Walls seperate easy & the middle
is only an irregular Mixture of Chunam & rubbish which is of
no great Texture

Since writing the above I have been at
Permacoil & find it so easily taken down that I shall use very
little Powder about it. Only where there is some hard Work
of Bricks laid in Chunam

It is amazing to observe the Quantity
of Ground that will be necessary to form a Glacis to the Stewa
of Tanjore to the height of it present Counter scarp ~~[illegible]~~
it would be requisite to fill in 5 or 6 feet high for 2 or 300
Yards and to raise the Fausebray some feet higher than

our intended profit. Of Course to form a Glacis to the profit several
Feet must be taken off the Counterscarp and then the upper ~~Wall~~
Wall will be much exposed. In Short this Matter requires yet
some Consideration and I wish I had the Profiles of Sutherland
back that I might be able to send you an exact Idea by some
Sections shewing that of the present Glacis to some distance
outwards. Or at least to have them ready against your arrival
here.. In the mean Time if you approve of it I will set
about filling up such hollows as must inevitably be done as I
wrote you in my last.

Inclosed is M.r Dugood Bills amounting to
Pag. 64.36.60 for which I have debited you Account with
Me; also for four Pagodas to be paid a Conicoply here out of the
amount of a Bill for Conicoplies you have here with inclosed
This Bill is the Same you drew last Month and you must pay
the Conicoply you have with you

Tanjore 1.st Dec.r 1773

I am D.r Colonel
Your very affect. Servant
W.m Stevens

D.r Sir   Tanjore 1.st Dec.r 1773

I shall be obliged to you if you will get me the following articles
and send Me by Coolies as soon as you can 5 or 6 Ink Glasses
& some Pounds Sealing Wax

8. 10 or 12 Iron rimmed Locks
One or two dozen Stock Locks
½ a dozen Hand Saws ———— Country Ones.
2 or 3 dozen Hand saw Files
2 Cross cut Saws ————
Some Pounds of Europe Chalk
A dozen Skeins of Log Line ————
A dozen Pounds of Europe Twine
A Chest of Carpenters Tools. —— I mean a handy One such as Gentlemen
have frequently for their own Use
A Set of English weights as far as 7 lb

If you cannot get them all let me have what
you can procure.

The Globe Lamps &c you Sent Me arrived here a few Days ago with some things from Mr. Angus amounting to 5 Coolies All of whom demanded Pay of Me from Madras — as I supposed that the things you sent did not amount to more than two Coolies I dismissed them without any Thing and Sent your Letter to Mr. Angus to settle with them should they apply to him.

I should also be glad of a couple of yards of Coarse Cloth of any Color for covering Some Peons Badges — Some Color that does not show the Dirt Soon is the best — I fancy blue or dark Green —

Mr. David Young

I am Dr. Sir
Your very affect Servant
J. Wm. Stevens

Dear Colonel

I have received the Box containing twenty One Bags of five hundred and One Bag of three hundred and twelve Chuckrum and five Cash — Ten thousand eight hundred & twelve Chuckrum five Cash (10812..5) — Some of the fanams are very good Ones and about a third of them but indifferent

Tanjore 3d Decr. 1773

I am Dr. Colonel
Your very affect Servant
J. Wm. Stevens

Dear Westcott

Two Days ago I recd. a Letter from our friend Pringle inclosing Mr. Greenways Letter and his Acct Sales of Sundries at Rangoon on our Account — I wish he had been further ere We had entered into any Concern with him — He has not sold any of his Carpets Shoes or Lamp Oil at Pegue — One piece of his Perpetuanoes some Bunagges and all his chay Handkerchiefs also are remaining

On my leaving Mas.m I wrote you a Note which I left with Pringle desiring you would settle our Accounts and Pay the Ballance to him. but by his last Lr. I find you have not yet done it. — Pray do as I am in immediate want of Cash. remitt him the Ballance or send him a Bill on Madras for it, and [illegible] transmitt Me your Acct Current.

I have desired if there be no particular Objection that he will have Greenways Timber Sent to Madras. — I think its best to do so as it is decaying and will do so considerably before its Sold at Masulapatam. — May you enjoy all Health and Happiness is the sincer Wishes of Dear Westcott

Tanjore 5th Decr. 1773

Your very affect
J. Wm. Stevens

To Mr. John Peter Boileau

Sir

In a Letter to my Attornies dated the 7th June last I inclosed them a demand which appeared to Me due from you to the Estate of Edwd. Raddon decd. which I find they presented to you and you answer them in a Note of the 11th June that the Articles in the said demand will require references to ancient Papers which it will be difficult for you to find immediately but that you will embrace the first Leisure Time to examine into it Particularly — As some Time is now elapsed, and as at the same Time I wish to bring the matters of the deceaseds Estate to a conclusion — I have to request you will acquaint Me whether you are satisfied with the said demand or with any information that may tend to Shew the whole or any part of it accounted for

Tanjore 5th Decr. 1773

I am Sir
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
J. Wm. Stevens
Exr. to the Estate of
Edwd. Raddon

My dear Pringle

Yours of the 10th & 22d Ulto I have duly recd the latter inclosing a Letter from Greenway with his Acct Sales of sundries at Rangoon — What Greenway means by that odd expression must be he wishes he had now made as good a Voyage as he has formerly done for himself — otherwise I know not what he wanted to Say

I wish to have my Books the Book Case & bottom; every Thing marked in the List together with the Arrack, remnants of Cloth, Lace ~~[illegible]~~ Soosee or any Thing of that Kind sent to Nagore — many Things I am in much distress for I therefore could wish them sent as soon as Boats chuse to venture out — If One Boat or even two could bring them with the Beaureau &c I would desire it —

I am much in want of a few pieces of 24 Punjum Cloth for Table Cloths & Sheets & endeavor to get me them —

The Jaggree I would also have Sent if you cannot Sell it where it is —

I have wrote Westcott to pay his Ballance to you he assists in distressing Me by not having already done it —

I almost wish Greenway at the Devil for his disappointments —

The Acct Sales of my Effects I want also as I believe Some Articles in it must belong to Raddon's Estate —

I thank you for remitting the One thousand pagodas to Mr Cuthbert and only wish it had been more — Do pray see if Orders are not come to Masm to pay the three hundred Madr Pagodas for my Survey of Masm —

I am of Opinion you had better Send the Cargo of Timber landed at Masm by Greenway to Madras — It is decaying no doubt at a great Rate and may I suppose lay long with you before its disposed off — If their is no particular Objection let it be forthwith done

Do pray press Duncan as you say you will for Money — And let me have your account Current at the End of the Month

If Hughes has more leisure on his Hands than yourself make him attend to this Request and I may with more propriety say these Requests, and I will do as much for either or both of you whenever I have an Opportunity — My best Compliments to Hughes Sinclair & Lysaght I hope you are all well & may you continue So is the Sincere Wishes of my

Dear Pringle
your very affect
Tanjore 5th Decr 1773

Since writing the above I have recd your favor of the 26th Ulto inclosing Acct Sales of my Effects and of the Muggadooties, also Ramah's Acct pat. of disbursements on Acct William & Mary Little for all which you have my best Thanks

I am sorry on yr Acct that an Embargo is laid on the exportation of Rice from Calcutta — Hughes was kind enough to write Me of it whilst you were at Ellore —

If Boileau has not yet Sent any further Answer to the papers I sent you relative to Raddon's Estate, be so kind as to forward them to Me — I must for fear of accidents do the necessary in it, and then for my own part I care not any further about it — As he has promised to embrace the first Opportunity of leisure to examine into some Papers I have thought it best just to write him a few Lines which I should be glad you would send him for his Answer

Did you ever present the Account I sent you between Messrs Mitchell & the Estate of the Lapar at Madras — And what was his Answer — If there is no likelyhood of getting any thing from him be kind enough to return the said Acct to David Young with an Account of what you have done

I did once present it and he told Me he was pretty positive he had paid it & that he had a Receipt for it but his papers were then at Visagapatam — I forgot whether you did not tell Me Something about this Business when I was at Masulapatam yrs

J. W. Stevens

I have charged my Attorney's Acct with the Sales of the Muggadooties which I fancy I have been rather premature in doing; however if the Money is not paid I can easily rectify it — What's the Amount in Mad Pagodas — I am obliged for your paying Mr Duff's Bill it should be MP 43.29.8. [illegible] Send it Me

To Capt. Robert Hewitt
at Calcutta
Dear Sir

Your favor of the 20th. Octr. from Covel I duly received — I have given you Credit in the Owners Account for the third of Arrack given to the Lascars, and for the amt of the Impreſs Bill 2448: 8 though the Bill I have examined & can make only 2428: 8 however I conclude it to be some mistake which is not worth while saying any thing more about. The Ballce. therefore due to them in my Books is the same as yours Arc. 1707. 1. 9 — I have charged your Acct with the Owners for the Ballance due to me Arc. 1047. 7. 2 which therefore please to debit Me with and add to their Account

I have wrote Satur for information about the Boat however he has not thought fit to answer Me, and if he has not wrote you I would have you furnish yourself with One but that at Masulapatam should be too big. — My good Friend I have always put that confidence in you which desired you would always have what was needful at the same Time not putting the Owners to any Expence that could with prudence be avoided — therefore from your representation of the Utility of a Grapnall & Coir Hawser I could rather have wished that you had said you meant to have furnished yourself with them than have asked whether you should buy them By all means get them for I am of Opinion they are very usefull & may save a Veſsel sometime or other

I should have wrote you before had I not waited for a Letter from Satur

There is a Cable for you at Masulapatam made on purpose by Capt Bratton —

I wrote Satur to know if he could give or procure Letters of Credit on Calcutta or Bombay at the latter place I have not any Connections nor know I any body. Or at Calcutta am I much better off — I know none, and Lewis D'Costa is the only One I have had any dealings at all with. they have been so trifling that I could not expect he would advance any Money on my Letters to him, however I dare say if you are in want of Cash. he will as readily furnish you with any on my Acct by shewing him this as upon a formal Letter

I hear an Embargo is laid on the Exportation of Rice from Calcutta: but I fancy if it should continue it will not affect you in your intended Voyage as I do not suppose you could take in much, or would you chuse to delay much Time on the Coast in landing it — I dont know whether you might intend to take any with you, if you did theres no help for it

I wish you may be able to freight the Veſsel to your liking as you were in hopes by One of your Letters to Me. — Should you want to make any remittance let it be to Mr. Benfield at Madras

I hear some sorts of Veſsels bear a good Price again: I mean not to refuse a good offer for my Concern in the Diana; and was it not on your Account I would long ago have had her off my Hands for the most I could have got however I have to desire you will if you can get a good Price for my Share to dispose of it and I hope you may be able to do it sometime or other to secure yourself the Command of the

I have wrote Satur that I mean to dispose of my Concern and to know if he would refuse a good Offer —

Tanjore 6th Decr 1773 I am Dr Hewitt

your very affect. Servant

Wm Stevens —

To Coja Satur Hadey Jacob
at Masulapatam

Dr Sir

I wrote you the 1st Ulto inclosing several Copies of Letters from Capt Hewitt — I have been waiting for your Answer that I might write Capt Hewitt about the Vessel — however as I have put it off as late as I can I have told him if he has not heard from you to provide himself with One proper for his purpose lest that at Masulapatam should be too big —

As some sorts of Vessels I hear bear a good price and as I wish to dispose of my half of the Diana I have wrote Capt Hewitt if he can get me a good price to sell my Concern — What would you do in such a Case? would you dispose off your Concern or not —

I am not well pleased at your neglecting to answer my last Letter, as I have deferred writing to Capt Hew but its almost too late

I am Dr Sir

Tanjore 6th Decr 1773 your very Obedient Humble Servant

Wm Stevens

Dear Benfield

I have been long expecting to See you to the Southward but am at last informed you dont come —

Having been lately disappointed in the receipt of some Sums of Money which to Me are very considerable Ones, I am become very much distressed for want of a little Cash, more especially as the Death of Major Madge and Capt Collins brings on an unexpected demand of near four thousand Pagodas on Me. — If you are able and willing at the same Time to intrust Me with the Loan of four or five thousand Pagodas you would confer a great Obligation on Me or for any part thereof which you would let me have — any security I can give you which you may think worth your While shall not be wanting. — Indeed I know of none I can offer you but the half of the Diana, a House I have at Masulapatam, and my Tanjore Prize Money. — Now as for the Time I may be able to pay you its uncertain I am promised that near three thousand Pagodas I had in Pegue the greatest part of which is gone to the Straits of Mallacca will be on the Coast in January but I have to tell you that I do not depend on it — And a Sum of Money I expected at Masulapatam last October I find is as uncertain — Other Sums I have coming in there is no dependance — Now if after all this you are inclined to trust Me pray let me know and the same if otherwise — If you oblige Me send Me any papers you wish Me to execute and they shall be done

I am dear Benfield wishing you all Health and Happiness your very affectionate

Wm Stevens

Tanjore 6th Decr 1773

I have desired a Bond to be sent you for five hundred Madr pagodas which is to be paid on February. —

Dr Sir Tanjore 6th December 1773

Yours of the 20 Ulto which I received the 26th brought me the first Accounts of the Death of my late Friend Major Madge —

My accounts with the deceased was settled the 31st March Ulto when a Ballance was due from Me of Pags 2676.34.10 for which I gave him my Bond which you will of Course find among his Papers. — I will endeavor all I can to put the Mony into your Hands by the End of this Month as you desire but if I should not be punctual you must be kind enough to give Me a little more Time if you possibly can. — To tell you the Truth I have been disappointed in the receipt of some considerable Sums to Me during the Course of the two last Months which has distressed Me not a little without this unexpected Call of yours as Executor to Major Madge & not to mention a demand I expect every Day to be made of twelve hundred Pagodas I owe to Capt Collins

I am much obliged by your enquiries after my Health. I have been lately much out of Order but am now very well as I hope you are

I am Dr. Sir
your most Obedt. hble servant
Wm. Stevens

To
George Baker Esqr.

Dear Colonel

10th Decr. 1773

Comaroos Shroff at Comboconum has wrote a Cadjan to Oppoo telling him he has recd. Orders to pay you four thousand Pagodas on sight thereof, that he knows not where you are but desires to know whether the Money is to be sent here or to Nag

I have told Oppoo to write him to send it here, and that I would acquaint you of it

I have paid the Wounded Lascar who was at Vallam his last Months Pay he came here almost Starved last Night unable to walk and said his Money was all gone. — Get it from the Syrang if he is with you.

Five Lascars have been entertained to Day for the Vall which came from Nagore they seem to be pretty good Ones. One of the Tindalls I have reduced to a Lascar for having some time ago secreted a large Brass Pott and lately taken to his House out of the Fort. he was a good for nothing Fellow and I took that Opportunity of breaking him in order to provide for a better Man when I can find him. — Here are all the Casualties in the Lascars since you had the List.

Inclosed is a Letter from Dugood with a Copy of my Answer to him. — he is surely mad respecting Munro and Holmes. — What would you have done with Hawkins and Hudson?

I have recd. your favors of the 6th and 7 Instant, the latter inclosing Letters from Mr. Sutherland & Mr. Stevenson.

I cannot but think it Strange that Comaroos Shroff should have Orders in particular to pay 4000 Pagodas when you write Me he was to pay you what Sums you might want, Comaroo is expected there every Day from Madras. — this Intelligence is from the Man who brought the Cadjan

I am glad to hear of your Intentions in sending home your Journal of the Siege and sincerely wish it may turn out as you hope for.

The Fausebray is now levelled to the height of 18½ feet from the Water which was that of the lower part of the Cordon, and so it remains and will do so most probably till you see it.

The Bricks mend and I hope the Chunam will also. We have drizling Rain with small Showers all this Day, so much as will spoil all the Bricks on the Ground. We have about two Lack burnt and I fancy near as many more dry and Stocked but there was a great many on the Ground. We are scarce of Chunam but I expect larger Supplies in a few Days.

The Sick Lascar confessed he had recd. his Pay for Septemr. The Dutch Beer is very Flat.

I would have you engage for twenty Candy of the Tranquebar Iron and let it Stay there till I send for it. I may not Send for it all at once, that is I may possibly let some of it remain for a Month or two. — If the Square Iron is large I would have a quarter or a third part of it to be of that sort, if it is not large I care not how little there be of it—

Pray what prices is Coir Rope at
Nagore? I have got some from Comboconum from
whence they say they carry it to Nagore & Sea ports—
but its very dear I think— the following are the prices
I paid for what I had from thence—

Loose Coir in small Skeins @ 7lb a puccaseer 8 Skeins for 1 Gold fanam
A Small laid Rope @ 9 yards long 1½ in circumference 2lb weighing
about a puccaseer 5½ of them to 1 Gold fanam
A third Sort weighing @ 1lb of a puccaseer 21 yards 2¾ in circum
ference 1 Golde fanam each—
A fourth Sort 21 Yards long 2¾ in circumference weighs about
3¾ puccaseer a 2 Gold fanams each—

I wrote the above the Night before last— All
Yesterday was Rain— To day is rather Dry and
the People are at Work on the Glacis— The Army
is at Amiapettah & is expected here in the Afternoon
if it should be fair to get their Tents dry

I am dear Colonel
Your very affect.
J. Stevens

12th Decr 1773

Dear Colonel

Tanjore 16 Decr 1773

Yours under Date the 14th
received by the Hircarrah— I have this Evening
supply's of Cash— when I write Mr Stevenson shall if I
forget it not mention the Pay of the wounded Lascar & get
it from him for I fancy the Conicoply will have forgot it—
He has left Money with Oppoo to pay 43 Lascars 4 Mos
Stoppages & 67 3 Mos Stoppages which I am not pleased
at Oppoo for receiving as I had refused to have any Thing
to do with it as more Lascars are here intitled to
Cloathing Money.

I wrote you yesterday and then mention
I should have occasion to write you again in the Evening—
It was concerning some Orders sent by the Nabob to Nujiff
Cawn of which the following are the purport—

To pull down all the Churches, things burying Ground or other
Building, on the Glacis level with the Ground—
As far as Cannon Shot to cut down all Trees and Topes Gardens &c.
To level Lally's Water Course (which he calls the Old Ditch)
and some Walls which he hears are standing near where
our Battery was Last Siege—
That he hears the bottom of the Wall is bad & rotten where the
Breach was rebuilt the last Siege. to take the whole down &
rebuild it better
The part of the Ditch which has little or no Water to
be dug deeper, and made level so as to have an equal depth
of Water & as much as will prevent its being passable—
If the Ditch is too narrow to be made Wider— and the Sides of
the Ditch to be built up with Brick or Stone Work the Same
as Velloor—

I waited on Nujiff and told him the first and
2d part of these Orders were very good— That there were
no Walls standing on any part of the front attacked last
Siege but the Wall of an Old Mosque which would of Course
be levelled agreeable to the first Order— that the filling up
of Lally's Water Course was not an Object of equal Consequence
with levelling the Walls of Cortatangoody and the Hollow
Ways on the North and N West fronts— That the Ditch must
be drained to clear it out for though on the S E front there was
little Water yet it was very deep with Soft mud which
must be hardened before it could be moved. As he said it
was necessary to write the Nabob for leave to drain the Ditch
I have desired him to let him know the Ditch there is not
easily passed as the Counterscarp is very high part of it
cut out of Rock and the rest built up with Brick Work—
that I thought the Ditch was wide enough in any part &

too Wide in many — approved of Building up the Counterscarp but recommended Bricks as Cheapest and more expeditious — Nizeff said the Nabob liked to have it done with Stone and did not think Bricks were lasting, however I still Urged Brick work — That the Wall of the Fort where the Breach of last Siege was had been very well rebuilt, and no rotten or bad Stones at the foot of it as had been represented to the Nabob —

Permacoil is almost level with the Ground. to morrow will I believe bring it as low — the little Pagoda & the two near the Ditch are down — The Day after to Morrow we go towards the five Pagodas. — The front One next the Fort I think I can bring down at One blast — What Powder I have hitherto made use off has been very successful —

I dont think Hudson or Hawkins will be of any Service to Me — They are both drunken fellows & I had rather be damned than be troubled with such Chaps —

The Coolies are at Work on the Glacis to the Westward but come on very Slow — The famous Contractor wants to have a hand in it and if I can come to any tolerable agreement with him shall do so. —

I am Dr. Colonel

Your very affect. Servant

W. Stevens

I have been out Surveying and neglected to forward the above. — Nizeff Cawn spoke to Me respecting the Shott I think it was the Nabob desired to know if he had recd. them & how many and of what Sorts. — Shall I deliver them to him and take his receipt for them or have —

I hope you have not delivered my Tent into the Store. — What am I to do with the Tents I have here. — One or two of them I would keep as I make Use of them where the people are at Work. — If you should not want mine after you have the Southward and you have not delivered it up I should beg leave to keep it.

Kistnagee Punty has just sent Me four thousand Pagodas of which he wrote Me a

Ossoo a few Days ago — With it he has sent a Letter telling Me if he has Orders to pay more that he will do it. — I have Ordered an Answer to be prepared for him desiring to know whether a fresh Order from Madras or Comaroo is necessary for any further Supply as I understand by Mr. Benfields Letter to you that he ought to have Orders to pay any Money that may be demanded of him. — However that the Supply he has Sent is sufficient for the present

I am Dr. Colonel Sincerely yours

Tanjore 17th Decr. 1773 —

Wm. Stevens

To Comaroo

I have recd. your Letter of the 30th Ult. together with four Thousand Porto Nova Pagodas for which you have a Receipt inclosed

I shall have Occasion for fifteen thousand Pagodas more for my disbursements in this Month a part of which I shall want in a few Days and the whole by the 25th of the Month — Should you not be able to Supply I must beg you will immediately inform Me

I am Comaroo

Your very Obedient

Hble Servant

Tanjore 2d Jany. 1774

Wm. Stevens

To Carnam

Sir

Yours of the 6th from Tritchenopoly surprize
Me not a little — you say you have Orders from hi
Highness to pay Me but fifteen thousand Pagodas, and
yet you wrote Me with the Money as Agent for Mr
Benfield — Mr. Benfield wrote Col Ross That you wer
to pay him any Money he might demand of you I therefo
Concluded that you were acting for Mr. Benfield & not for
his Highness and that I was to have from you any
Supplies I might want for carrying on the Works hear
since Matters stand as they do I can only say I wished
I had known your Orders sooner, and must request you
will let me have the remaining Seven Thousand Pagod
as soon as you can —

Chuckrums will do for my disbursements,
but as I am obliged to exchange them into Tritchenopoly
Money some respect must be paid to the price you
pay them at that I may be no loser — I have desired Appo
to wrote you more particularly about the Chuckrums

Tanjore 8 Jany. 1774

I am Sir

Your friend & Hble Servt.

Wm. Stevens

To Ed. Stevenson Esqr.
at Tranquebar

Sir

Your favor of the 30th. Ult. I have received with
the Acct of things purchased on my acct for which you
have Credit — With respect to Canvas I shall inform you
if I want more in a Day or two

I am commissioned to purchase Saltpetre to
the Amount of an thousand Pagodas if you can procure it for Me
You would much Oblige Me and if Bullocks are
procurable please to forward it with all Expedition
otherwise please to inform Me by Bearer what
Quantity you can get Me and I will Send Bullocks
from hence

I am Sir

Your most Obedt.

Hble Servant

Tanjore 8th Jany. 1774

Wm. Stevens

To Edwd. Stevenson Esqr.

Sir

I wrote you the 8th Inst. by a Hircarrah respecting
a Quantity of Saltpetre I have now to request you will inform
Me whether any Bengal Paper be procurable at or about
Tranquebar, or any other kind of Paper which will serve to make
up Musquet Cartridges you would oblige Me by sending
Me a Sample of such as may be had and whether in any
Quantity — as I am in want of an hundred thousand Quires
I should be glad you would engage for any you think will
answer the Purpose — As soon as you answer Me either
about the Saltpetre or Paper Money shall be immediately
forwarded to you on that account

If three or four Pasteboards are procurable you
would oblige Sir
Your most Obedt. hble Servant
Tanjore 10th Jany. 1774
Wm Stevens

To Edwd. Stevenson Esqr.

Sir.

Herewith please to receive One thousand
Porta Nova Pagodas on Account

I am Sir
Tanjore 18th Jany. 1774
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
Wm Stevens

Since writing the above I have recd. your of the 14th with
the Muster of Paper — It is very bad and better can b
got here — If any proper Cartridge paper can be had
from Pondicherry I will want any Quantity as far a
One hundred Ream

I find you are not sure of getting the
Salt Petre from Pondicherry however I must req
you will endeavor by all Ways & Means to lay out
the above Money in that Article let the price be what
it will

I am Sir &c.
Wm Stevens

To Geo Baker Esqr.

Dr. Sir

I have by this Tappy wrote to Mr. Benfield
to take up my Bond to Major Madge — Should it prove
inconvenient to him to Pay the Amount immediately I hope
you will give him as much Time as possible and that
he will be able to manage it to your Satisfaction —

I am Dr. Sir
Tanjore 22d. Jany. 1774
your very affectionate
humble Servant
Wm Stevens

Dr. Sir

I find the Amount of the Six Pieces of Cloth by my
Attornies Accts are C Pag 65.24.52 but I have no
particulars of each — nor do I know whether they have
included any Charges of Sending however that cannot
be much and can break no Squares — therefore send
Me C Pag 5.24.52 and Accts shall be Ballanced

I am Dr. Sir
Tanjore 22d Jany. 1774
your very affect
Servant
Wm Stevens
Lt Nodler

To Capt Davis
at Tritchinopoly

Sir

I have been informed that you are Executor
or Administrator to the Estate of Capt Pulling Geo
Colins if you are please to inform Me whether you
have entered into the Bussiness of it that I may
take Measures for paying you the Amount of my
Bond to the deceased dated 7th Nov. 1772 for C Pag 120
payable at 8 Pr. % ⅌ Annum — your Answer will

will much Oblige
Tanjore 22d. Jany. 1774   Sir
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
Wm Stevens

Dear Bromley

Yours of the 24th December last I have recd. inclosing the Extract of the Minute from the Mayors Court — I am obliged to you for your attention to this Business and I must beg you will continue to do what may be necessary in the affair — ~~He~~ Nicaty has I believe two Vessels though of no great value I suppose yet I conclude he must have other property. — Do push this Business and bring it to a conclusion as soon as you can I am Dr Bromley

Tanjore 22d. Jany. 1774
Your very Affect Servant
Wm Stevens

To Arthur Cuthbert Esqr.

Dear Sir

I duly recd. your favor of the 20th Novr. acknowledging the receipt of One thousand Star Pagodas. And as I find that my attornies have not remitted you any further Money I have by this Pattamar desired Mr Benfield to pay you the remainder of Capt Lettles Estate in my Hands when you are ready to settle that Business being S Pag 3971.. 71.. 31 I remain

Dear Sir

Tanjore 22d. Jany. 1774   Your very Affect. Servant
Wm Stevens

My dear Benfield

Your much esteemed Favor of the 22d. ulto duly reached Me. my Obligations to you for your chearful compliance in my request are not easy to be expressed but I wish you had sent Me some papers ready drawn up as I am quite a Stranger to Business of that sort —

As I have been disappointed in a remittance not being made from Masulapatam to Mr. Cuthbert I shall have more Money to pay him than I expected and I have desired my money to be remitted from thence to you instead of him to whom I now write to call on you for S Pag 3971.. 7.. 31 this may not be immediately but I hope you will settle with him when he is ready. —

I shall then be Obliged to you if you will take up a Bond of mine to Major Madge dated the 31 March last for S Pag 2676.34.10 from his Atty Mr. Geo Baker

I am my dear Benfield
Tanjore 22d. Janry 1774   Your very Affect Servant
Wm Stevens

To Geo: Dawson Esqr

Dear Sir

I have recd your Favor of the 18th
respecting Vencaty but am sorry to say that I see not
how the interposition of your good Offices can render
any Satisfaction or be of any Service to him without
putting yourself to an Expence which I think he by no
means merits nor did your Inclination lead you to
relieve his Circumstances would I advise you to do
it for if I am not much mistaken they are in a most
distressed Situation — I was Vencatys Friend till I
was convinced by his Behavior he had no honesty
him — the Step I have taken I Could not by any Means
avoid but I am ready to do every thing I can consist
with my Office to settle the affair with him

I spoke to you on this Subject ma
ny Months ago and told you how the case stood betwee
us when you might have judged that there was a
Possibility of Vencaty being in the wrong but especially
had you applied to me on his Complaint to you
that he could obtain no Satisfaction I could better tha
Mr Marriott have given you the true State of the Affa

Vencaty has repeatedly allowed every
Charge brought against him by the Estate of Mr Raddo
but would never settle accounts unless he had Credi
given him for the amount of fifteen or Sixteen thousa
Rupees (a bill of Damages he had laid against the
Hanaca Rajah) — He gave out at Masulapata
that the Estate of Mr Raddon was in debt to him
Seven or eight thousand Rupees as I best recollec
and that I would not settle accounts with him —
Such a Report could be no ways advantageous to my
Character and if I mistake not in consequence
it the present Govr spoke to Me on the subject —

To Arthur Cuthbert Esq.

Dear Sir

Inclosed I send you a draught on Major Mitchell
for Pag 1338.38.79 which please to receive in part of the Ballance
in my hands belonging to the Estate of Capt Little. — Since drawing
the Bill I hear the Major is returned to Masulapatam so that if
he has not left directions with his Attornies to discharge a Bill
I might drawn on him I must request you will take the trouble
of doing the necessary with it. —

I meant ere this to have had the whole of
the Estate of Capt Little (in my hands) at Madras; but I have
not only had my whole Attention taken off from that Concern as
well as others but know not what Money I have had collected
at Masm. — I have wrote thither some Days ago to remitt all
they had but I fear it will not be so much as I expected. — I
looked for a remittance from Sizer also but I have neither had
a single Syllable about it. — In Short I know not of a single
Transaction since I left Masulapatam therefore I must entreat
your Patience till I have Answers to the Letters I lately wrote
[illegible] — the 1st of October before
I shall [illegible] yet. —

[illegible] must be longer
before [illegible] When you write your Brother [illegible] I now Send You
[illegible] to answer his Letter of December last [illegible]

[illegible]
I am dear Call
Sincerely yours
Wm Stevens

[illegible] 29 Septr 1793

Mr Jas. Call
at Fort St George

Pray how much Money did Adams pay
for the Draught on Masm. — If he gave you an Acc
Acct Sales of the Timber forward it to Me, if not
beg he will give you One for Me

D Douglas–

Inclosed I send your Account as it stands with Me which I hope you will find right.– I would have done this at Madras had my things come up in order to have compared it with yours.– I have drawn on you in favor of Mr James Call for Pag 37:41:48 which by Me ballances our Accounts

I hope the Diane is by this Time at Madras, She is freighted from and to Bengal at 7500 Rs. which I think is no bad price notwithstanding the dearness of Salt &c.

I am with the best of Wishes
D Douglas
Your very affect:
Wm Stevens

Tanjore 29th Sept. 1773.–

To Mr John Douglas
at Fort St George

D Call

Inclosed I send you a draught on Mr John Douglas for Pag 37:41:48 which please to receive and carry to my Account.–

John Gray [illegible] [illegible] any part of the Estate of the [illegible] able to adjust this point [illegible]

I propose [illegible] you can receive the Amount of remember Me to him [illegible] will give you my Bond if you can raise it [illegible] of the [illegible] d as you proposed provided you wish to [illegible] ed every first of October which as I best remember was the Time added mentioned but if a few Days make no difference you [illegible] better wait till I hear from Masulapatam

I am D Sir
Your very affectionate
humble Servant
Wm Stevens

Tanjore 23 Sept. 1773.

It was only after all this that I last attempted to bring him to settle accounts but he still had the same Objections I threatned then to prosecute him in hopes of bringing him to reason and told him I would forward the papers that very Night to Madrass: however it was three or four Months after this before I made any complaint and then not till I had sent a third Person to know if he still continued Obstinate–

You will excuse my having said so much of Vencatys Conduct, but I have thought proper to tell it you that you may perfectly Judge of the Case: for I make no doubt but he will make his own Story as good as he can and such has been his Influence that I am almost inclined to believe you thought I had refused him the Satisfaction which he complained he could not obtain if you did all that I can say is that you very much injure him who is with the greatest Esteem

Dr Sir
Your very Obedient
humble Servant
Wm Stevens

Tanjore 23d. Jany. 1774

Dear Major

Your favor under Date the 11th. Instant I have recd. and am sorry to learn from it the Cause of your resolution in returning to Europe perhaps you will hardly believe Me when I say I sincerely condole with you and feel for the Occasion.–

I make not the least doubt but the President & Council will grant you the requisites for being put on Lord Clives Fund but I did not understand it was in their power to enter any One on the List of it, and I believe I am not mistaken – I wish that they may consent to give you the Rank of Lt. Colonel but that is a point I fear you will not obtain you cannot have it without a

removal and it is the positive Orders [illegible]he Court of
Directors against it — I think you did right in first
communicating your Sentiments in private — Col Roſs
wrote Me of it in Confidence which I had two Days ago
but yours I did not receive till yesterday and would ha
acknowledged it by last Night's Tappies had I not bee
very busy

I am happy in what you say of Me (more
particularly as I have been sometime under your Direc
and I think I cannot have a stronger Proof of my Condu
having merited your Approbation than the Concern you
expreſs in having the Succeſsion fixed on Me before the
arrival of the Europe Ships but that is a matter that canno
be done without your previous Resignation — It does
but ill become Me to mention it. but I dare say you w
readily conceive it to be the case

If you are determined on returning in Octo
and mean to serve Me) which would be doing it effectua
the only Method I see is it. but that you may be no lo
you shall at any Rate continue to receive the same
Allowances you would have by retaining your Rank
And I should at the same Time hope the Governor
would let you remain at Masulapatam and act as y
desire — I do not at present see any impropriety in it and if it
can be done I make no doubt but he will for your Sake readi
concur in it

I am sorry to find your Brother has had an
Appointment in the Companys artillery for there was hopes of
obtaining him the Rank of Captain in the Nabobs Service whi
at his Time of Life was the more desirable Object for many
Reasons which will naturally occur — As soon as I heard of
his appointment in the Companys service I wrote the Govr
solliciting (in case he could obtain his other wishes) for leave
to retain his Standing in the Company —, and at the same Tim
Col [illegible] to back my application and if he could not obtain it
to procure him leave to remain with Me which would be of some

some advant[illegible] in having double Pay and full Batta — I have
had no answer from the Govr but Col Roſs writes Me he has
waited on him and that he is much afraid there will be more
difficulty in managing the matter than I imagined — that he was
out of all humor with such Applications from about thirty
people: but Col Roſs writes Me he will in the mean Time
endeavor to keep him with Me and wait a more favorable
Opportunity to push the rest — I have Col Roſs's aſsurances of
losing no Opportunity that may offer to do your Brother
Service and I have it my self warmly at Heart —

He deserves every Thing I can do for him
for his aſsiduity and Diligence; and he may depend as well
as any one else that Merit will ever engage my utmost to reward
it — He is at present at Nagore on a little Buſineſs for Me
I expect him back in a Day or two. — My best Compliments
attend Mrs Mitchell and I remain Dear Major

Tanjore 23d Jany 1774 —
Your very Affectionate
Wm Stevens

Dear Colonel

Yours of the 19th and 22d I am duly favored
with but I find it will be impoſsible for me to get ready
the plan I meant of the fort with the Ground about it by
the 5. of February to be at Madras — I am so frequently
obliged unavoidably to be among the Bricklayers who have
no Idea of Parapet Work that mostly all the Forenoon is
spent with them. and on the above mentioned plan I have
no Aſsistance whatever — I must therefore give over all
thoughts of furnishing you with it — Mandeville is doing
One of the Ground of the North front from the Redoubt
Battery to the five Pagodas on the same Scale with the

the large plan of the Attack. which shall be dispatched to you the 31st in the Evening — It shall if possible be sent the 30th — you must contrive to make these two Serve your present purpose as I hope from your last Letter you will be able with Ease to do

The Diameter of the round Redoubts were 30 and 40 feet each the Distance from the Bloy Arons were the same as our Lines. but how much I dont exactly recollect — I think about 200 yards & their Distance from eachother was to be from 200 to 240 yards. in Short their places were to be nearly answerable to your Redans —

I have not answered your Orders yet, though I promised to do it the next Day — howe I suppose it is a Matter of no great Moment

All the Wall that is absolutel necessary to be down (except the planks of some of the Towers to the Northward, and parapets of so here and there where the Artillery used to divert themselves) is now up again with Brick Work as hight as the Rampart and We are going on briskly with the parapets of the upper Wall The fronts of Cavaliers are cut down far enough to make room for the parapets on the Works in front of them — Two of the platforms in the fausebray are done and filled in — and shall begin on the parapets there in a few Days — We are also clearing away for the Retaining Wall of the Rampart behind the Breach — and as soon as all these are fairly on an advance I shall begin on the Revetem

Revetement of the Quarters

All the above Works will not employ us briskly a long Time provided We meet with no Interruptions. for want of Money or from Disturbances in the Country therefore if the Nabob means to do any thing more its time to resolve and make some provision for the Disbursements. — The Gateways are what I would most Seriously advise to be turned into good Defences for the Ditch if not on the Angle of the Front between the East Gate and little fort to Streng then the Works in the Manner of the Breach — These are points that ought speedily to be determined that I may either Stop my progress of making Bricks or go on agreeable to what may be wanted — We have now at the Kilns 2 Lack of Bricks: 1 burning — 3 ready to burn — Wood ready for 6 Lack — and about 1½ or 2 Lack in the fort — Chunam we have a Stock but how much I cant Say — however the Steps for providing it are not so extensive as the Bricks & can more Speedily be put a Stop to — Without Money all these Things must be immediately put a Stop to — And it will be a Work of u Time to put them in Train again so that if any Thing is to be done further than what we are about you must have a Supply of Money immediately: if Money is not to be had I must do what I can till it is in getting the Breach in Order. — The Money of the Nabobs is all gone And I have not much remaining of all I have scraped together except 1500 Pagodas borrowed of Nezough Cawn

Before your Orders arrived a great deal of the Ground at little Tank near the

Indented Battery – the Hill on which it Stood – the Hills in front of it and that where the adv.d 4 Gun Battery stood have been considerably lowered – several risings on the West face lowered & the Earth carried to the Glacis – All the high Ground from the Mortar Battery (that was in the Water Course between the left of the Attack and the five Pagodas) to the five Pagodas was lowered and levelled so that the bottom of the Lake or Old River that lay behind it is now seen from the Fort and the Ridge that run from the said Mortar Battery to the little Swamp that was at the foot of the Glacis on the left of the Attack was lowered and Sloped so as to be commanded from the North face of the Fort – And the high Ground on which Stood the Pagoda where our Post was is also levelled and the Tank between it and the five Pagodas filled up. –

Nizeff Cawn has desired the parapets of the Towers to be put in Order. I am therefore thickening the Parapets of them to 12 feet all round the large fort and making good Embrasures and Banquettes with Mud Walls – The whole of this will cost between 4 and 500 Pag.s which I think will be well laid out for many of them are very ill done & those that are not too high may serve till things of more Moment may be executed

I am also at Nizeff Cawns request repairing the Gun Carriages of half the Fort in the best Manner that we can – much they needed it I must

and even when they are done they will be but sorry things. – I have got in some thousand Bundles of Wood for Fascines & about 6 thousand Bamboos which I have put into a Tank to keep Green in Case they may be wanted for Gabions &c. – I shall make up the Fascines in a Day or two more and lay them by – Will not two thousand think you be a good Stock – The Gabions have been but ill used & many destroyed however they shall be repaired and Means taken for preserving them: – I will also get a few thousand Pickets and a Stock of Baskets and then have at your Morattas & all the Troops you can bring I am D.r Colonel

very affect.ly yours

J W Stevens

Tanjore 27 Sept. 1774

To Edw.d Stevenson Esq.r

Dear Sir

I have been favored with yours of the 22d by the peons and of the 25th by Mr Mitchell

I dont know whether you mean I should send Bullocks for the Saltpetre till I hear from You of its arrival from Pondicherry – As the three Candy with the Bullocks are not arrived I hope you have kept them. –

I am obliged to you for your Care of the Things left by Mr Mitchell but I wish you would dispose of the Baggage for the most it will fetch as it will cost as much bringing here as it is worth –

Mr Mitchell tells Me that the Bullocks which came for Iron the second time had no Letter from Me – I conclude they lost it at a feast to which they went and staid some Days after their Dispatch. – I shall send twenty more

in a Day or two which I hope you will be able to
lade with either Saltpetre or Iron

Tanjore 29th Jan.y 1774

I am D.r Sir
Your most Obed.t Hbl.e Serv.t
Wm Stevens

To Mr Charles Bromley

Dear Sir

I was duly favored with yours of the
22d Ult.o inclosing the Copy of Ancata Vencataramadoo
Answer to the Bill of Complaint which I should have
replied to sooner had not a Multiplicity of Business
prevented Me —

The particulars of the Bill of Complai
as you have drawn it up I am unacquainted with how
from the Answer it appears some things must have been
there ~~sett~~ set forth which I should have known to be Erroneo
— such as his serving Mr Raddon as Dubash and
transacting his Business to the Day of his Decease, neith
did he keep his accounts except for a small space of
Time — and that he had very little or nothing to do in t
Sales of any Goods or Merchandise — however as I im
all this foreign to the purpose of Debate betwixt Us
I shall only make my Remarks on the material Obje

That I certainly did call upon Vencaty
to settle Accounts with Mr Raddon and his Estate
both before and after Mr Raddons decease and tha
Vencaty always allowed every thing to be just which I
charged but wanted to be credited for the Amount of
fifteen or Sixteen thousand Rupees which he said had
been decreed by the Mayors Court at Calcutta in hi
favor but of which he could not bring any Papers rel
to — All Mr Marriotts Letters I examined (I believe

I believe in his Presence) and as I would not allow this Charge
of his, he would not settle Accounts — I never saw any Acc.t
of his in my Life tendered to Me as set forth in his Answer

— The relation respecting the Sloop Adeveratte is true
excepting the final Settling with the Carnatic Rajah, and
upon this rests all our dispute — My Letter to you
dated the 15th April last sets forth in few Words the
Transactions respecting the Adeveratte and is confirmed
by Mr Marriotts Letters which you have in your
Possession — to save you some Trouble I herewith
send you a Relation of the most material Circumstances
and for further particulars I refer you to the Letters —
Vencaty had no Goods of Mr Raddons at the Time of his
decease: the Cutchee he mentions was part of his own
Cargoe imported from Bengal by the Sloop — Add to this
I am pretty clear he did no Business for Mr Raddon for
some Time before his decease — At that Time there were
some Muggadooties and Saddies among the deceaseds
Effects and some Tincal and Lack at Madras which
belonged to Vencaty and were a part of the said Cargoe
delivered to Mr Raddon in some Measure as Security
for a part of the vast Sum of Money Vencaty was
indebted to him on account of this Law Suit about a
Cargoe taken with his Vessel — I sent to Vencaty to know
if I might dispose off them with Mr Raddons Effects and
to the best of my Knowledge he said I might do with them
as I thought best — I remember they lay a Day or two
during the Sales without any reply from him respecting
them — In my a/Currents as Ex.r to the Estate of Edw.d
Raddon with Vencaty I have credited him for the Amount
of these Goods — and for the Amount Sales of Goods
seized in the Sloop at Calcutta — The other Credits

Credits explain themselves and are nearly the same as in Vencaty's Acct. except the 16891.8.9 and the 500 Rs. for freight on Goods of which I know no

— In my Account I have debited Vencaty for two Sums paid on Account of the Law Suit chiefly by Mr. Marrott And I have to observe that by Mr. Marrotts last Letter to Me there are yet some Sums unpaid and not inserted in my Accounts— My Acct Current I left with you dated Fort St. G. 20 Febr. 1773— By Vencaty's Credit for 3000 R. for the Adeweratte I should suppose he means to make the whole Transaction as Mr. Raddons own Property, but if he did he ought to have credited him also for the other Snow Stores Goods &c. Money found in her which he has cunningly enough forgot to do— This Credit for the dry Ginger and Cautchu I know nothing off as the Goods were his Own and not Mr. Raddons.—

I have to request you will get Me an Indulgence from the Mayors Court respecting the Time of delivering in the Papers I have taken my Oath to do— The Inventory of the Effects I will very Speedily forward and am truly ashamed it was not done in due Time— Many Circumstances prevented Me, so I hope I shall Stand excused

I am Dr. Bromley
Your very Obedient
hble Servant
Wm. Stevens

Tanjore 3d Febr. 1774

To Randolph Marrott Esqr.

Sir

Your favor of the ~~22~~6d June last I was duly favord with during the siege of Tanjore which prevented my replying thereto in due Time— I have since expected to hear from you finally of any further Claims (if any) on the Estate of E Raddon — If you have got in all the Bills I should be glad you would draw out your Accounts and draw on Me for the Ballance payable either at Madras or Musulapatam.— The Account you give Me of the Bills not being presented to you nor of having the least knowledge of them And the Steps taken to get the Amount of them amazes Me not a little— If you cannot draw on Me Send Me your Acct Current and I will remit the Ballce but I would rather Pay it at Madras—

I am Sir
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
Wm. Stevens

Tanjore 3d Febr. 1774

The Affair with Me and Vencaty is still in Debate in the Mayors Court— Should I want any other Papers I shall take the Liberty of troubling you for them, and please to Accept my thanks for those you have Sent—

To Mr. John Peter Boilcaw

Sir

Your Letter of the 31st of December last I was duly favored with which I would have replied to much Sooner had my Time not been wholly taken up with Matters of an unavoidable Nature—

With respect to the Charge of the Stores I did not before understand that you were under a necessity of writing to Mr. Alcock to know whether he had paid Mr. Raddon for them but that you would

have ascertained it by a reference to some of your Pap
— I have therefore at present only to request your Sen
=ments on the other Articles of the Charge against you

I am undoubtedly ready to allow of
Charge of yours that may appear due from the Estat
of Mr Raddon — The Subject of the Bills you drew in
his favor on Mr Droz at Bengal you promised to
write about as I told you I did not find by any of
the deceaseds
Papers that he had recd the Amount of them either
Account, or any way else — And I think on Shewing
the Copy of his Letter to Mr Droz we were neither of
certain that the Bills had been remitted by him — If you
have recd any information on this Head I must (unde
the foregoing Circumstances) request such Assuranc
as will enable Me to render a satisfactory Account of
Same to the deceaseds Heirs — Therefore if you will p
out to Me who received the Amount of the said Bill from
Mr Droz I will again examine his Bengal Accts ~~[illegible]~~
or whether the Bill ought have been indorsed and
negociated by him — In short any information you
can give Me I shall be glad off and if any Thing furth
be necessary I will acquaint you —

Supposing that Mr Raddons Atto
did receive the Amount of your Draught or that it wa
Received by him in any other Way If Mr Raddon as
Agent for Messrs Pyne Alcock &c yourself accounted for
the Goods sent to Bengal he ought of Course to have
debited your Account Proper with the Amount of
Them and in that Case you can have no demand on
him for the Amount of the Bills — But as I find not
the least Trace of an Account among his papers as

as Agent for the above mentioned Company it is a point I am
unable to determine and must therefore request your good
Offices in this Particular also —

In Mr David Alcocks Account Current with the
Estate of Edwd Raddon he Charges Ms 231.27.1 for Sundrie
bought of him belonging to Messrs Pyne Boileau and him-
self. — Should you have these Accounts you would Oblige me
much by Selecting from them what Things they were as
Mr Alcock omitted to Send Me a Bill of the same

I am Sir
your most Obedient
humble Servant
Wm Stevens

Tanjore 5th Feby 1774

To Edwd Stevenson Esqr

Dear Sir

your favor of the 3d Inst. I have duly recd

My Dubash I have this Moment found out has sent [illegible]
for the Iron unknown to Me

Capt Maule writes Me that he is in wan
of Money to the amount of 500 Pagodas for which he says
he will give a Bill on Madras but as it is inconvenient for
to Spare Money just at this Instant I have told him I wi
in a short Time send you the Money if you will Credit Me
for that space and in the Interim will take his Bill —

I have this Morning forwarded Bullocks
for the Salt Petre

I am Dr Sir
your most Obedt
humble servant
W Stevens

Tanjore 7th Feby 1774

Dear Sir

I have rec.d yours of the 4th Inst. and am sorry it is not in my power at present to send y 500 Pagodas but I shall be able shortly to send as much to Tranquebar therefore if Mr. Stevenson will give m Credit and take your Bill negociating it to Me I will as soon as possible forward the Money to him — I hope this will suit you and him as I should be glad to have the Bill in Madras

Tanjore 7th Febr. 1774 I am Dr Sir

Your very affect Servt

Wm Stevens

Capt Maule at Tranquebar

To Saml Johnson Esqr
at Fort St George

Dr Johnson

Your favor of the 25th Ult I yesterday rec.d and am sorry it is inconvenient for you to receive the Ballance of our Accounts at Trichinopoly for I can assure you it is out of my power at present to pay you at Madras.— If you can get Money for Bills on Calcutta I will send you them for the Amt and if this wont suit you you must either draw on Me or wait till I can remitt Money to Madras — the Ballance is C Pag 775.9.33 Seven hundred and seventy five Pagodas nine fanams and thirty three Cash.—

Pray what was the Date of our last acc was it not the 31st Decr 1769 for you must know I fear I hav them all to draw over again for I have been looking for those I had done and cant find them.— I remember bringing them to Madras in my Scrutore and kept them to insert the Amount Sales of some Muggadooties which I expected at Madras had I staid a few Days & what can have become of them the Lord knows [illegible]

Saml Johnson

Tanjore 9th March 1774 your very Obed Hble Servt

the Bills [illegible] you at Calcutta one on
Mr [illegible]
Pagodas

To Arthur Cuthbert Esqr

Dr Sir

Your favor of the 25th Ult.o I have rec.d and have this day wrote Mr Benfield to settle with you for the Ballance of what I owe to the Estate of our deceased Friend Capt Little.—

Shall I make an Account of my Disbursements for the Children and forward you

I am Dr Sir

Tanjore 7th March 1774 your very Obedt Hble Servt

My dear Benfield

I wrote you the 22d January since which I rec.d One from you to which mine was an Answer—

A Letter I had from Mr Cuthbert under date the 25th Ult.o tells Me he had applied to you some time ago respecting the Money I was to pay him but that he had rec.d no part of it — May I once more reque you will adjust that matter with him

Mr Duff writes Me he has sent you a Bill for C Pag 595.17.39 for the Principal and Interest of his Bond to Me till 10th Instant — please to send him the Bond when you have done with it

I expect very shortly to have ten or twelve thousand Rupees payable in Bengal — I would wish to get Bills for it if you think you can negociate them at Madra but I apprehend this will be difficult — I shall be oblig to you if you will let me know your Sentiments, and if that cannot be done I shall take it as a favor if you will let me know what Goods I shall order it to be invested in for Madras and whether I can have them out before Augt

Tanjore 7th March 1774
I am Dr. Benfield
your very Affect Servant

To Paul Benfield Esqr.

To Edwd. Stevenson Esqr.
at Tranquebar

Dr. Sir

I was duly favored with yours of the 13th and 27 Ulto – the former with Eighty Bags of Saltpetre and the latter with 6 Bolts of Canvas

I am obliged to you for the little Box which you bought for Me, but am not in want of Sugar Candy nor any thing else which I recollect at Present, that is I believe I shall have enough to Serve Me should my Stay to the Southward be for a few Months only which I apprehend may be the Case therefore shall avoid laying in any large Supplies

Tanjore 7th March 1774
I am Dr. Sir
Your very affect humble Servt

To Coja Satur Padry Jacob

Dr. Sir

your Letter of the 16th Ulto. I have received, and since that have received Capt Hewitts accounts by which you will see the Diana Charges have been very heavy at Calcutta – That Capt. Hewitt has only left Six thousand Current Rupees behind him at Interest with Mr. Bristow – and has taken with him Arct. 788.7..9 the Ballance due to Us. –

I inclose you Copies of his Accounts and Papers you will observe hes not to come to Coring. – What do you about Insurance if you chuse to insure let me know and how much that I may write to Madrass –

Inclosed you have also my Accounts with you Closed to the 31 December last and as they Stand Since open The Ballance due to Me I have not drawn for as I have wrote to Madras to endeavor to get Me the Amount of the Six thousand Current Rupees for Bills and if I succeed can then settle Accounts with You

I think you had better sell the Boat for the Most you can get – Either put her up at Outcry, or make a Raffle and Mr. Pringle will take a Ticket for Me if you tell him I desire it

I think I have nothing further to Say till I know whether I can negociate my Bills at Madras for our Mony at Calcutta – On this Head I expect also to hear from you in consequence of a Letter I wrote to Mr. Hughes some Since ago –

Dont fail to let me hear about the Insurance –

I am Dr. Sir
Your very Obedt.
humble Servant

Tanjore 22d. March 1774

To Saml. Johnson Esqr.

Dr. Johnson

Your favor of the 18 Inst. I am duly favored with and am sorry to hear of the difficulty of procuring Money for Bills on Calcutta, as I have a Sum there which I want much to get away.—

Since writing you last I have found the Accounts which I had drawn out for You among some Papers of our deceased Friend Raddons where more than almost directed Me for look for them.— And I have the Pleasure to find that the Ballance is exactly as in my Books after correcting them for a Small Loss on the of Muggadooties and which only prevented me giving them to you in Madras in July last

Inclosed you have the said accounts which are not so clean as I could wish however you m excuse them as I have not leisure to Copy nor any pe who I could trust in such a piece of Business— And they also accompany a Bill payable at Six Day's for Pag Seven hundred and Seventy five Nine fanams and thirty three Cash the Ballance due to you

After you have examined the accou and Satisfied that they are right I should be glad you would reverse Me the Account Current by lett have it signed by you for I have nothing to shew that any Accounts have between Us and of Course I am obliged to preserve almost a Trunk full of Papers and Vouchers which I should venture othe wise to distroy and depend on my Journal & Ledg for the Charges—

I have heard with what chearful the whole Board of Council agreed to my late promotion and of the uncommon Satisfaction they

they seemed to fid on the occasion. I therefore take this Opportunity of telling you my Thanks are due and of promising that I will continue to deserve as far as in my power lays the Sanction of you all— I am Dr. Johnson with great Sincerity Your very Obedt. and

Affect: Servant

Tanjore 24th. March: 1774

Wm. Stevens

Extract of Letter to Col Ross. 27th March 1774.—

At the end of February the Ballance due from the Nabob is SP Pag 7165. 2.75 if I have made no Mistake in that Month's Accounts which I am very apprehensive off though I cannot find any & have delivered them to Appoo to reconnoitre.— Since which I have recd. fifteen thousand Pagodas the Amount of the last Order from Comarro at the End of this Month there will not be above three thousand Pagodas due to the Nabob— The Breach at the End of ~~January~~ February stands Charged at SP Pag 12272. 12. 79 however You may from the Accounts I gave you the beginning of the Month see it was pretty far advanced and in fact more then done than could with propriety be called the Breach— The Cavaliers excepted— The Parapet of the upper Wall is now done all to the Banquetts the Length of what I mentioned in my last about the Works, however I shall soon give you a full Account— The Parapets are going on in the Fausebray and the retaining Wall of the Rampart in the Fort— half of the Revetmt. of the large Cavalier is about 8 or 9 feet above Ground but the foundation is not yet begeen upon— The Earth is now clearing away for it and I should not have raised any part of it so high till the whole had been ready had it not been to facilitate the whole — The Revetement of this Cavalier will contain 2395 Cub. yards of brick Work which I compute at 36/p Tanj Currt. Pg. will cost P N P 2065: 20 exclusive of removing Earth or the Parr[illegible] therefore you could not Mean the two Cavaliers to be included in fifteen thousand Pagodas for the repairs of the Breach —

As these Cavaleirs are not light Works they ought not to be undertaken lightly and merely because there was One there before The Situation of the Smallest of the two Cavaleirs at the Breach I by no means approve off and shall therefore shortly take the liberty of pointing out my Reasons to you

I am about to begin the Buttresses at the Granery with some of the Circars monthly Servants who as Nizeff Cawn informs Me have at present nothing to do —

I meant to have said a great deal more, but have been prevented by a long Visit from the Doctor who I find a great Gossipper and if he continues his frequent & long Visits I must fall on Some plan to avoid losing so much Time

I am Dr. Colonel
Your very affect. Servant
Wm. Stevens

Tanjore 27th. Mar: 1774

To Arthur Cuthbert Esqr.

Dear Sir

Your Letter of the 26th. Ulto. I have received which has given Me no small Concern I assure you, for had I not depended on Mr. Binfields paying you long ere now I could have done it myself — It was for Expedition sake that I requested of him to pay you, and as he very readily promised to do so and wait my Convenience I did not pay that Attention to it which I otherwise should have done

Inclosed I send you a Draught on Mr. Binfield for the Amount (payable in five Days) which is due from Me to the Estate of the deceased Capt. Little — the Account of the Childrens Disbursements you shall have either with this or to Morrow but I fear I shall not find the Account particulars, should I have them, which I am just now much in doubt off — If they are wanted please to let me know that I may endeavor to get them

I am Dr. Sir
Your most Obedt. Hble Servant
Wm. Stevens

Tanjore 4th. April 1774

My dear Binfield

I have recd. yours of the 29th. Ulto. and am very sorry to learn by it & One I recd. from Mr. Cuthbert two or three Days ago that you have not satisfied him — As you say you will do it Shortly and have received some Sums on my Account I have ventured to draw on you on this Day at five Days Sight for CPag 3971„7„31 which I hope you will duly honor — If you will do this which I hope you can without any Inconvenience to yourself — you will much oblige Me —

With Baker I can easily Settle therefore if you will do the other for Me & wait for what may be due to you till I can have some Accounts at Masulapatam settled you will lay Me under infinite Obligations to you

I am Dr. Binfield
Sincerely yours
Wm. Stevens

Tanjore 4 April 1774 —

Dear Colonel

Having some Time ago marked the inner Wall from the Breach to the East Gate with a white Line to the Levell of the Works lately done, I desired Nizeff Cawn to look at them which he did on Saturday Evening and approves very much of lowering them and thickening the Parapets; thinks it a Work of much mo Consequence and better to be done now than levelling the exte Ground which may be easier done in the hott Weather.— He then asked Me whether We could drain any part of the Ditch and clean it out before the Rains I told him I made no doubt but it might be done from Vellum Gate to the North Gate before the Rains set in to obstruct us—

Nizeff Cawn last Night wrote the Nabob to have the Ditch cleared out and the Works lowered and finish as the Breach from Vellum Gate to the North— You will I suppose of Course hear of it and if to be done what Br Breadth would you have for the Ditch for I would by all Means lay the foundation of the Counterscarp whil we have it Dry—

You must press the Nabob for another Order fo Money— If he orders this Work to be done I must pre our Brickmakers a little harder for my Stack of Brick is but a trifle & when I get to Work on the remainder of the Cavalier will soon make a great hole in them—

Herewith you have a plan of the North Gate a I would have it altered— Nizeff Cawn seemed averse Saying any Thing of it to the Nabob till the Works he ha recommended was carried on as far As the Gateway, however on representing to him the Consequence it woul be of to the defence of greatest part of the North face and that We could begin with a few people by opening and compleating the new Gateways before any other pa

part was begun upon so as not to hinder the Passage of the ~~Grand~~ Old Gates for Materials &c— He said he would write the Nabob his Sentiments on it as I requested, having told him I would Send it to you for to make any Alterations you might think proper and lay it before the Nabob—

I also inclose you a plan in some Measure Shewing the present State of the Works.— only with this addition that the two Extreme Towers of the upper Wall have One flank and the Face finished which are not Represented in the plan— The large Cavaliers is begun on from 1 to 2 & 3— Its Rear is very high & from 2 to 3 is about 8 feet above Ground— It is now cleared away in front for the Foundation & retaining Wall of the Rampart— The Bricklayers are at Work on the Parapets of the Fausebray from b to c which are about 2/3 done— The Fausebray Wall is perfectly repaired as high as the Rampart from b to c which is the whole of what was damaged— The Flanks of the Tower at 2 is much shattered and the Curtain from it to the finished Works being very rotten & damaged with a few Stragling Shot I have taken down as low as the Rampart & mean to lower it to the level of the Fausebray Rampart before I rebuild it — The Shattered Works in the little fort are repaired to the height of the Rampart and I have lined out the Parapets of three of the Towers One of which has a large Flank towards the S.W. and is to have three Embrasures in it with a parapet of 18 feet— Some 2 Bricklayers have been employed this last month repairing the Fausebray Wall on the S.E. between the East Gate and Little fort where you may remember it was in many places undermined at Foundation— A good deal

of it is mended, and they Shall continue at it till it is
all done. —

Whilst I was referring you to the plan I for-
-got to tell you that the place of the little Cavaliers was
at A and if One be executed there again it will be very
near the other now in Hand; — If one be necessary at all would
it not be better placed some where about the penciled
design — I think by comparing the Direction of the Fore
with the interior Ground you will think it better there and
as to its defence against that Weak part of the Fort I do
not see that the moving of it about a hundred yards will be
of the least disadvantage in any other Respects — But
Quere whether it be at all necessary?

You will see by the plan that only three
Embrasures are left open in each Curtain and four are
filled up — I do not foresee the least Use of having above two
or three in each Curtain when they fall for any Distance
nearly in the same Direction, as it does to the Southward
of the new Works to Nellum Gate and to the Eastward as far
as the North Gate — Let me have your Opinion on this
and about the other Cavalier — If there be no Cavalier placed
near the pencil Line I shall make a Ramp commence at
the Extremity to which I have carried the retaining Wall of the
Rampart. —

Shall I lay Stone platforms in the Towers of
the Upper and Fausebray Wall — They must be filled up as
I wrote you before must be made as near a Flat as possible
other wise they will be so broken that One side of the
Carriages will have no rest

I hear the Gentleman at Masulapatam
intend recommend the setting about some of the interior
Buildings very Shortly — pray will it be necessary for
Me to go thither on that account? I wish you would see
what the Governor says about it —

The Weather is so hott that I am almost

almost afraid of going about to make the Estimate of levelling
the Ground on the Outside — I have put it off lately in hopes
of having a little Rain to Cools us — I do not suppose there
can be any very pressing Occasion for this Estimate —
— I could have wished to have formed an Estimate for the
North Gateway & compleating the Works from Nellum Gate
to it: but the uncertainty of finding the Revetements good
or bad would cause a considerable Difference and of
course render it very precarious — I am Dr. Colonel

Your very Affectionate
and Obedient Servant

Tanjore 5th April 1774

J Wm Stevens

Dear Colonel

Answer is come to the Letter Nizeff Cawn wrote
the Nabob — He agrees to the Works being compleated from
Nellum Gate to the North Gate — And that the Ditch shall
be done as I may think proper raising a Glacis to cover
the Works. — I shall therefore impatiently wait your
Sentiments respecting the breadth of the Ditch for I shall
being bailing it to Morrow — I mean making preparations
us. and I am in hopes the next Day that the Water
Bailers will be actually at Work —

I am Dr. Colonel
Your very affectionate

Tanjore 9th April 1774

I am very uneasy at not hearing from
you as some of my Letters require an Answer — I
hope you are well & that its only Bussiness that
deprives Me off the pleasure

My dear Hall

It is an amazing long Time since I did
myself the pleasure of writing you but as it is much
longer since I heard from you I conclude a great and
large Apology is unnecessary therefore after the long
Silence shall only request to know how you have been
spared and how you are.—

I hear a Dividend of Mr Pyne's Estate is
going to be made.— I hope you did not neglect in pro-
per Time to lay in my Claims on my own Account as well as
Executor to Mr Raddon — The Accounts I sent you for that
purpose.— Please to do any Thing that may be further
necessary and receive your Share in those two Concerns

Believe me with best wishes for your
Health and Happiness Dr Hall

Your very Affect Slave
Wm Stevens

Tanjore 14th April 1774

To Arthur Cuthbert Esqr
Dr Sir

Your favor of the 9th Inst: I have recd and perfectly agree with
you in your Sentiments respecting the Interest — but it is a matter I am
not well acquainted with shall take it a favor if you will adjust it for Me and
as it will be more I readily conceive than the Sum due to Me for the
children I will on your informing Me how much immediately order it
to be paid You.—

I hope this years shipping will bring you
some Account from our deceased friends relations that every Thing
may be adjusted before you leave India

I am glad to hear that so large a Dividend
is going to be made of Mr Pyne's Estate — I very much feared
that little or nothing would have come from it. I am Dr Sir

Your most Obed hble Servt
Wm Stevens

Tanjore 14th April 1774—

Dear Colonel,

I have been favoured with your Letters of the 11th, 14th
& 15th instant and am glad by the last to hear the Nabob
has consented to the Alteration on the North Gate, having
been told some Days ago that he would not agree to it,
and in consequence had in a great Pett made a plan
for reforming the last Gateway which I meant to have
sent you in a formal Manner with my opinion on
Both to have laid before him with your own thereon,
however ..... I am now a little better pleased.

The best place for an Arsenal I think will
be within the Walls of the Palace or at the Granary,
however for the present I dare say some of the
Buildings in the Palace might serve that purpose
very well; It being my Opinion that Powder
Magazines are much more requisite and ought
to be the first interior Buildings of Consideration.

I shall immediately begin upon the
North Gateway, but for that purpose must request
a Copy of the Design I sent you as I have not a
Duplicate of it.

The Ditch I hope soon to have dug and

shall make immediate preparations for setting about the Counterscarp, I observe what you say respecting its Breadth, and the Draw Bridge I think the best place for it will be opposite the Shoulder of the furthest Projection of the Gateway, I do not suppose it is meant to make any other Alteration in the Paſsage.

The Workmen are at present going on with the Repairs towards Vellum Gate, at the large Cavalier and building the Buttreſses against the interior Wall of the Granary – this last piece of Buſineſs will be done in the Course of the Month, but was obliged to employ my own Bricklayers about it – I before wrote you that Nijiff Caun's were to execute it, however he found other Employment for them – The real Reason I dare say, is, that they did not choose to work under me.

We have been very much diſtreſsed for Wood of late for the Brick kilns, however having been on a Consultation with Nijiff Caun on the Subject I hope we shall soon have plenty; We have now upwards of 15 Lack of Raw Bricks and no Wood to burn them and not above 7 Lack

of Burnt Bricks; Exertion must be used in this Buſineſs, otherwise Matters will soon be at a Stand.

I am much in want of Money, you say you have asked for a Supply, but don't tell me if any is order'd – The getting a large Quantity of Bricks made, will require a few thousand Pagodas, so that you should not merely confine yourself for a present Supply – When I get the fifteen thousand I hope to have a five of them laid out in a Stock of Bricks by the time the other Ten is expended.

I have thought there are still too many Embrasures open and frequently about ordering two of the three in the Curtains to be shut up – In the Works Carrying on to Vellum Gate I only propose to have three Embrasures near the Center, as you will see by the inclosed Design, My Reasons will naturally occur to you from the Direction being nearly the same – In this Design You have two Plans for Vellum Gate – The One which I most approve of is that which widens the Fauſse Bray, the Front of the Gate Way serves

for the Retaining Wall of the Rampart of the C. Bay
and the Traverse of the Gateway for the front of the
Inner Tower — I think the Flank of the Gateway
whole as it is in the other Plan is of no very
material Consequence for they do not flank the
Ditch well — Let me know which you approve
off or if You can make any Alteration.

You have also inclosed two Designs
for the said Gateway; If either are approved off
I think it ought to be done the first opportunity
as no Time ought to be lost in getting both
this and the North Gateway done they being a
great Defence to a considerable part of the Fort.

My Reasons for not Delivering the
January and February Accounts are in
some Measure obviated by the Acct. Current
being Drawn out each Month on the Back of them
however those of March shall attend you as
soon as I have Leisure to sit down to them

The Job of Levelling the Water Way
from the River to the Fort must be postponed
for some time as I shall have enough in my

Hands for the present.

Tritchinopoly is a Fort, I do not much
admire; it wants great things doing to it and
from a Cursory View of it, I am at a Loss to say
or surmise what can be done to it, Great part of
the outward Wall is in a tottering condition, the
Ditch is bad and in short I think it wants but
every thing; I could wish to have some Idea
of what is meant to be done there, after which I
would pay it a Visit and be able to answer your
Queries respecting the management of it.

There is a Cavalier on the Rampart of this
Place in the Rear of the second Tower from Vellam
Gate to the Northward, which being in the Way,
in bad Condition and as I see but of little Use
have told Majr Cawn, I think it's better to levell
it, which he approves off — I mean to make
a Sally Port at Vellam Gate into the Fausebray.

Will it be best to make steps or a Slope
for a Communication from the Covered Way to
the Ditch opposite the Sally Port into the Ditch

from the Causeway — If I am not mistaken you proposed nothing in Brick Work, but if wanted a Temporary thing of Wood that could be pulled away. My Memory has fail'd me very much in this Point, therefore I shall be obliged to you for your Sentiments again, If it was a lasting Communi:-cation done in the Counterscarp, a Barrier Gate might be fixed, which would when fastened make it as difficult for Spies to come into the Ditch as if there was none, and I think an Enemy could hardly avail themselves of any other advantage from it.

Mr. Read has begun the Survey of the Town and seems to go on very well, The practice He will have before he has done, will make him, I believe tolerably expert.

I am Dr. Colonel

Tanjore 20th. April 1774.

Your very affect. Servant

Inclosed I also send you Receipts for all the Shott, the damned perverse Scoundrel will give me, having extorted a great many more than was at first delivered to him as Grape or Shell &c which he had no right to, however I will remain by his

and am very sorry I gave him a receipt for Powder &c. before I required his Receipt for the Shott.

Col. Ross

Dear Colonel

Since I wrote you I have altered my design respecting the Depth of the Ditch, instead of making it six feet deep from the Water as you saw it I have made it near Eight — By this Means I shall have all the length of the North Front seven feet of Earth to take out, the greatest part of which will be wanted to fill up the Vacancy where Earth could not be by any other Means procured — Inclosed you have a Section of what I have now determined on which will give you every information better than I can other-wise describe it, and it is only necessary to tell you that the Water Line is that to which the Water has been in the Ditch. —

The greatest part of the Foundation will be on good Ground, but what is not good is very bad especially near the North Gateway and there I have not been able to find a bottom yet however there is luckily a great deal of Rubbish near and Well Bricks are making. — ~~He Days~~ ~~after to morrow~~ To Morrow I expect to begin cutting the Foundation as I have now a conside-rable length cleared out as low as I intend the Bottom of the Ditch

The following is an Estimate of the Expence which I have calculated for clearing the Ditch from the North Gate to Vellum Gate to the Depth in the Section & raising the Counterscarp Six feet high above the Foundation, as also to compleat the Counterscarp without the Covered Way.—

To clearing the Ditch four thousand feet long One hundred broad and at a Medium Seven feet deep — — — — — — Pag.s	5725
To cutting Foundation for the Counterscarp —	1400
To Bailing the Ditch — — — — — —	150
To laying the foundation of the Counterscarp and raising it Six feet high — Fifty One Lack and four thousand Bricks at Seventy fanams p thousand — — — — — —	16617
Pagodas —	23892
To compleating the Counterscarp to the hight of the Covered Way Forty nine Lacks and twenty four thousand Bricks at Seventy Tanjore fanams — — —	16031
Total Pagodas	39923

I think if We can before the Rains set in compleat the Counterscarp to Six feet it will be as much as we shall be able for I am much afraid We shall want Bricks owing in a great Measure to the opposition the Country people make ~~[illegible]~~ against the Firewood Cutters.— As great a Stock of Bricks as can must be preserved from this heavy Work that something may be doing on lighter Work to keep the people employed till fresh Materials can be got next Year.

I am now obliged to borrow Money from every person I can meet with; and if Comaroo has not

already received Orders to furnish Me with Money I know not what I shall do — He is expected here soon.— You must press the Nabob for a timely supply of Money for on the present occasion for it there is no dallying —

To morrow or the Day after I shall forward you the accounts for January February and March and remain for the present

Dear Colonel
Your very affect. Servant
Wm. Stevens

Tanjore 30th April 1774 —

At the beginning of this Letter I told you that the greatest part of the Foundation of the Counterscarp will be on good Ground; It is a kind of Rock, in some places like that we met with at the bottom of our Gallery but principally like the Lumps (that we once supposed to be chunam Stone) which had been thrown out of the Ditch about the little fort — But this hard Ground or Rock does not continue farther inwards than a Line which you may suppose drawn nearly parallel to ~~the~~ our Foundation from 10 to 15 feet distant from it where it falls away quickly (nearly perpendicular) and all within it to the Fausebray Wall is soft Mud the Depth of which I have not yet found; but I have tried it in many places and find no fast Ground at 15 feet deep (that is between 7 and 8 feet deeper than I propose the bottom of the Ditch) neither can I find the Foundation of the Fausebray Wall. — I wish you to understand this perfectly — If you do; you will readily conceive that there has originally been a deep Ditch in general from 85 to 90 feet broad; that it has probably been cut out of this rocky Ground and that it has been filled up with Mud to its present state.— Where it has been ~~broader than a hundred Feet~~ (~~as it is near the North Gateway~~ and at the rounding of the North west Angle) our intended Foundation of course falls among the soft mud and is what I call as above very bad— As I am yet a stranger to the Depth of the mud and nature of the Bottom (wherever it may be found) I cannot say much about it at present—

As I conjecture that at the rounding of the North west Angle that the foundation will fall nearly on the Shelving part of this hard Ground, it may be difficult or perhaps impossible to get a horizontal foundation for Walls; and in order to secure the foundation of the Counterscarp otherwise it may be necessary to clear away to a very considerable Depth, and which we may not have Time to do; Would it not be better in such Case to make the Ditch 10 or 15 feet broader thereabouts in order to obtain security more easily

Near the North Gate We are forty feet within the hard soil, and there may be no obstruction to sinking Walls, however about this part I shall be able to inform you more fully in a few Days.—

I believe that from Villum Gate for some Distance to the Northward the Rock is firm and compact so as to be built upon; the Fausebray opposite this Part has its Foundation laid upon the Rock somewhat above the present height of the Ditch.—

On compleating the Section I think I have made the Counterscarp too high and

consequently the [illegible]
left Blank as I can [illegible]
breadth the Covered Way ought [illegible]
think the better, as the Glacis will be closer [illegible]
however I at the same Time dont see it can be left
18 feet within the Pallisadoes for the Banquet will
take up 4 feet of it and leave only 14 feet clear Passage.—
From the nature of the place I dont suppose that Guns
would ever be mounted in it, or that any Traverses
(unless Temporary Ones) will be necessary.— Would it
be useful to break the Revetment of the Parapet of the
Glacis from Distance to Distance so as to have a
passage round the End of any temporary Traverses that
might occasionally be erected in the Covered Way?—
Be so kind as to settle the breadth of the Covered Way
and the points appertaining to it, or let me know
your Opinion about it to enable Me to do it.—

I dont know whether you will approve
of giving the Counterscarp so much Slope as a Sixth
part of its height my motive for giving it so much
was on account of the Quality of the Ground that
will be filled behind it, being chiefly soft mud;
Had it been the natural Soil ten inches ~~[illegible]~~ might have
been taken out of the thickness below with all the
Safety in the World.— I shall proceed with my
Foundation agreeable to the Section I have made
till I have your Judgment on it.— As I am
pretty certain it must not be so high as I have mad
it by a foot or two; I think the odd four Inches
may very well be taken out of the thickness
of the Revetment at the bottom and give it the
same Slope it now has.— After I have forwarded
the accounts I will ascertain the utmost height the
Glacis can be made so as to have the Guns in the
[illegible] it as I wish to have it as

cut out of this but the utmost I can make it
filled in cover the Works so well as I could wish &
cannot avoid thinking that the Works are yet too
high, more especially that those of the upper Wall are
more above those of the Fausebray than are necessary
by a great deal – I wish really you would sit down
& consider the Section in every respect and take the
Trouble of marking down your Sentiments

Thus far I wrote 2 Days ago and
now inclose you the Accounts for January February
and March, also Pay Notes the Amount of which
please to receive

Mandeville has asked leave to come
to Madras on account of his Health which I have
granted him & I believe he is set out – Mr Mitchell is
much out of Order as he has been for some Time: he is gone
out to the Painted Choultry for the Benefit of the Country Air

The Buttresses at the Granary have
been erected during the Course of the last Month as soon
as they are dry and Settled I shall plaister them
to keep the Weather out of the Joints (which are on a
Slope) and repair the Cracks in the Roof which had
opened as much or more than they were in October last
from the Weight of Grain now lodged in the Building –
The large Cavalier is pretty far advanced the rear &
One Side is within 3 feet of the intended height of the
platform & the remainder is about four feet lower –
The foundation of the retaining Wall of the Rampart
in front of the large Cavalier is laid and above Ground –
The upper Wall is cleared away from the New Works
to Vellum Gate and such part as was necessary rebuilt,
it is all as high as the Rampart – The Fausebray
Wall in front of it is partly cleared away as low as
necessary & the Earth filled in for the platforms for the

Guns – The [illegible]
[illegible] Towers of the Fausebray to [illegible]
executed which extends as far as the [illegible]
Cavalier – The Yard where the Elephants were
the Pallace has been levelled and some pointing
done to the Building &c which needed it. –
The people that were employed in repairing the
Fausebray Wall to the Eastward have gone from the
East Gateway as far as the first Batterdeaux and they
are now going on towards the little Fort – This Wall
is in very bad Order but they repair it completely as
they go. – On a representation of the Doctor regarding
the insufficiency of the Hospital Nujeff Cawn desired Me to
visit it with him when I observed to him that it was too
confined to have such a One as the Doctor wanted for 180 or 200
Men – that at best it was but a bad Situation And I thought
it would be better to build a new One on a more proper Spot
and told him 2500 Pagodas would build a compleat One
with a Tyled Roof. – The Nabob has ordered One to be
built but wishes to have it Bombproof and allows 500 Pag
more for that purpose and to be as far from the Pallace as
possible – I have acquainted Nujeff Cawn that the Sum
is insufficient for a Bombproof and that particularly if
it is to be so heavy a Work that it would be improper to
begin it at this Juncture when I am very apprehensive
that we shall want Materials for the Ditch which is a
Work must be immediately attended to and cant be
done at any Time as any of the other Works may – this
he has wrote the Nabob. –

I mean to have the Sally port
into the Ditch opened for present conveniency therefore
if you Mean the Timbers should be brought into
the Fort We had better embrace the Opportunity
of that Conveyance – however to give you my Opinion
I look upon all these Timbers & Plank as your own

cut out of it [illegible] not much the Folks here
by ll I have had Hints more than Once that they
-ould be better in the Fort.— I have used 7 of the
Timbers 3 for Gun— 2 Nizaff Cawn requested & 2 for
the Gentlemans House next mine—

The foundation in the Ditch is opening
and the Day after to morrow I shall be at Work at it
with Bricks & Chunam—

The Colleries are become so saucy and
troublesome I have been obliged to get a guard of 12 Seapoys
to the Brick kilns to take Care of the Bullocks and
twenty horse Men from Nizaff Cawn to support the wood
Cutters getting wood however I fear I shall be obliged
to ask for some Seapoys on this Business also

Money I want & Money I must have
or the Work must Stand Still

I am Dr Colonel

Tanjore 2d May: 1774

Your very Affect. Servt.

Wm Stevens

I am impatient for your Answer to
the necessary Parts of my late Letters—

To Coja Satur padry Jacob
at Masulapatam

Dear Sir.

I am sorry to inform you that I can
-not get Money at Madras for the Six thousand Rupees
at Calcutta I have therefore (in Case they dont hear from
Me to the contrary) ordered the best Rupees than can be got
proper for the Coast to be sent to Masulapatam or
Madrass in September, but I have in some Measure
recommended Masulapatam as I believe they will
Sell better at that Season than at Madras.—

If you can get Money at Masulapa=
=tam even on Conditions of its being paid after the Money
is received in Bengal I will send the Bills to Mr
pringle payable at twenty or thirty Days according
as you can Agree.— And you had better lose a little
in the Exchange for I have heard that Arcot Rupees
cannot be had at Bengal for less than 16 ℔ Cent
Batta

I am Dr Sir

Your very Obedt hble Servt.

Tanjore 4th May 1774

Wm Stevens

cut
rin Ferguson
at Calcutta

Sir

I have recd your Duplicate of the 6th Ulto The Tin plates I would have you dispose off by all Means for the Most you can get for them, if you cannot sell the paintings please to send them to Masulapatam in September directed for Me to the Care Mr Hughes or Mr pringle.

If you cannot remitt the Six thousand Current Rupees By Bills on any part of the Coast and the Money for the Tin plates I must beg if you hear nothing further from Me ere that Time that you will procure the best Rupees you judge for the Coast and consign them to Messrs pringle and Hughes at Masulapatam or to Mr Paul Benfield at Fort St George. — but I believe Masulapatam will be the best Market for them in September

I am Sir
Your most Obedt hble Servant
Wm Stevens

Tanjore 9th May. 1774.

Dear Morley

You stand indebted to the Estate of Mr Raddon deceased in the Sum of Nine Madras Pagodas which Sum be pleased to Pay to Mr pringle or if you have accounted for it be pleased to let me know how

I am Dr Morley your very
Affect Servant
Wm Stevens

To Capt Buck

Dear Sir

as I find by a Letter from you in Europe to my late worthy Friend Mr Raddon that you may possibly be able to give Me a Direction to Mr James Leigh or Mr Thomas Calverly I take the Liberty of requesting your Friendship in either or both if you can — All that I find of the latter is that he lives in Southwark — The former directs his Letters constantly from London — your Answer will much
him who is D Sir

your Affect hble Servant —
Wm Stevens

Tanjore 10th May 1776 —

To Archibald Palmer Esq

Dear Sir

On my leaving Masulapatam you told Me that you believed there was an Account unsettled between you and Mr Raddon of some Standing; And that you would write Mr Bromley for Information

I have therefore to request you will furnish Me as soon as possible with it being very desirous of bringing the Matters of Mr Raddons Estate as near a conclusion as possible

I am Dr Sir
Your very Obedt hble Servt
Wm Stevens

Tanjore 10 May 1776 —

To Capt. Donald Mackay

Dear Mackay —

As I am impatient to have the final
Stroke put to the Affairs of our deceased friend Mr Radoon
I must beg you will as soon as possible Charge the Sums which
you have told Me are due to you. — Inclosed you have an
Account of such Debits as have been Made to You by him
before his Decease.

I am Dr Mackay

Tanjore 10th May 1774

Your very Affect. Servant

W. Stevens

I have also inclosed you the best State-
-ment I [illegible] make of the profits from the 1st of March 1772 to
the End of the Year 1774 out of which you will Select such
as you think you are entitled to and Charge to the Estate
And I should be glad after you have [illegible]
in the best Manner you can that you will Sign it and make
a declaration to the following Effect before some Creditable
person which I could wish to have certified by them at
the foot thereof — Such as that you declare the said Account
to "be to the best of your knowledge a true one between
" You & Mr Radoon deceased —

There are some other small profits
arrising from the [illegible]
Deceased Mr Radoon told Me you were to have no Con-
-cern with them — I have therefore left them out of the
Statement I have now Sent you —

The Dungaree you told Me
was for the Service of the Tents made up by you — I also
then was only twenty five so made — It appears to Me that
you had forgot to charge the Amount in your Calculatio
for the Tents for I have seen a Mem.m of Yours which I can-
-not find now: making them each Ms 3 9 and 12
Annas, which corresponds exactly with the price of the

20 Tents Sent to Madrass to Mr Mor [illegible] — In short I have
given you all the necessaries I can find for adjusting your
Accounts with the Estate, which you must endeavour to
do in the most equitable manner you can. —

I shall by the End of the Month
be able to deliver in my Inventory & Statement of the
Estate, and I hope by that Time to have your Account
returned that I may enter it accordingly

I remain as above

11th May 1774 —

W. Stevens

Dear Colonel

Yours of the 11th Instant I was yesterday
favored with. — You say the Nabob wishes to have "an
"Estimate of the Expence of continuing the Ditch on the
" same Level as far as the Angle of the little Fort" but I
suppose you mean all round the Fort from what follows
and when I make out the Estimate shall conclude
it is so if I hear nothing farther from You. — I see
an Inconvenience should the Nabob persist in his
Resolution that perhaps neither occurs to him or you
Viz ~~By taking away all the Batterdeaux a great~~
~~part of the Rock on which the fort is built will be in~~
~~the high place exposed to the Air~~ By taking away
all the Batterdeaux and bringing the Water to a
Level, that the Rock on which the Fauscbray is
built will become a considerable height above
the Water and entirely exposed to the Air and
Weather which I do not think it will Stand without
a

casing of [illegible] of its toue (if the Rock continues to the
Depth he wants the Ditch) that a very thin One will
do (and perhaps even a plaistering might do but I
doubt it much) but Should the Rock fail and you
come at loose Ground it is almost impossible to Say
what might be the consequence without incurring
a very heavy Expence indeed, and especially Should
an unskilful person be trusted with the Execution.—
—So many Batterdeaux as at present I would not
have — I cannot Say just now what Number may
be taken away or which of them are necessary or
whether some may not be better placed, I will
therefore leave all this till I make out my Estimate
and then I will give you my Opinion fully—
However I can now Observe what harm in the World
can a Batterdeaux be of at Vellum Gate?

Part of the Counterscarp might be
done with the Stone, but it would be tedious, and
I shall not think of it just now if I find a possibility
of going on without— I have now 580 feet of the
Counterscarp about three feet and a half above the
Base, and 250 more at the Bandwit— ~~and~~ I have determined to save a great deal
of Masonry to the Westward by making use of the
Rock, for should I think when the Ditch is a little
cleared away (to See how the Side looks) that it will
require any thing to assist it. ~~I am pretty [illegible]~~
a thin Wall run up against the Berm and bound to
it with a terrass over it will effectually secure it
against any Injury whatever.— however I am
almost ~~[illegible]~~ clear that nothing is necessary; but
of this I shall be able to Judge perfectly when

I get the Earth out of [illegible] of the Ditch

I did not mention the Circumstance
of the Firewood cutters particularly to be related to the
Nabob but only as information to you

The Scheme of making a mud Wall
and facing it with Night Masonry ~~would~~ would answer
in many Cases very well where there is good hard
Ground such as we have about Tanjore Vizt the Red
Soil — The Bastions of Samuteotah are executed in this
Manner and whilst I was to the Northward they
stood very well and I make no doubt would answer
~~but they require~~ in many Cases as I say here.— But
the Works of this Sort require constant Care to keep
Water from lodging upon them, for Example the
retaining Wall of a Rampart done upon this plan
where the Water runs to the Rear might suffer
considerable Damage in One rainy Night of a
Monsoon were they not daily examined—
I have made the Rampart here to throw all the
Water forwards, and I am much of Opinion that
the Scheme might answer for that purpose.— In
the Ditch I dont know what to say about
practiseing it; but I think was such a thing
to take place it ought to be above the Water only
~~where Damage~~ might be easily Repaired, but
~~in the Case the Facing would not be a great~~
~~deal as I would~~ have the Revetment as high
as the ~~Water [illegible]~~ of the proper thickness the
same as if it was to be carried on to its full
height.—

I observe what you say
respecting the Covered Way

As I naturally would
suppose a general Reform of the Rampart
is in Time to take place else what is

the F[illegible] from[illegible] one Quarter preferable to the othr.
and though ~~whether~~ the Nabob may not think of it I
am pretty sure it is the Intentions of Nizuff Cawn to
recommend it as soon as What is in hand be finished
I therefore think the Section ought to be made the
best it can for what will shortly be carried on–

Though we are ~~studying~~ planning
to save Masonry, I have to tell you that an accident
has happened to ~~the~~ the where Masonry has not been suffict. to
spring rear Wall of the large Cavalier,
It is rent from Top to Bottom but whether it be a fault
in the Foundation (which was ~~[illegible]~~ carefully examined)
or from the Manner of building in Peice Meal I cant say
I am inclined to beleive from the Nature of the Crack it is
the latter Cause, but otherwise should have expected a
failure nearer the Angle or rather in the Flank.–
however as it is its no great matter, and it carries no
Appearance of any thing material; this Lesson it has
taught Me however ~~that~~ is to build fair if it can be
done and to fill in so likewise, for I have seen a thin
Wall very much twisted by ~~[illegible]~~ filling behind it at ~~[illegible]~~ different Times
– The Cavalier I have not raised so high as was
intended by three feet and I think its now full high
enough–

~~I shall~~ ~~I have [illegible] for the plank~~
~~[illegible] by and by [illegible] 25 or 30 [illegible]~~
~~to be made [illegible] and I will then pay~~
~~myself for the Timber and plank.–~~

I shall by and bye recommend
the making of 25 or 30 Compleat platforms for Store
and I will then pay myself for the Timber and
plank – I fancy you will never get much for
the Shott   I am Dear Colonel

Your very Affect: Servant

Wm Stevens

Tanjore 16 May. 1774

To Geo. Westcott Esqr. at Ellour–

Dear Westcott –

On my leaving Masulapatam last year
I left you a Statement of our Accounts and a Note desiring you
would [illegible]deavor as soon as possible to adjust our accounts and
pay th[illegible]ance to Mr Pringle, but you have neither done that
or have favored Me with a single Line from you which I
cannot but Say is very unkind indeed

Inclosed you have my Account as it
Stands open with You with a Memorandum on the Dr Side
of some Sums you were to receive on my Account which you
have never been kind enough to tell Me whether you have or
have not done– In my account with Mr Turing I find he
has received from Mr Davies twenty four Pagodas for Sey:
Major Cox which you will be pleased to pay him if you
have recd the Amount of his Note of Hand, or such difference in
Case of part Payment as may be due to him – If you have
not recd any, give him his Note of hand for a receipt for the
Twenty four Pagodas.– (If you have not recd any Money)
from Lavale let me know if any may be expected.–

Have you given any Directions
about disposing of our Sett or do you neglect it as you
do your [illegible] if I may judge from your Usage of Me.–
Let me once more request of you to settle our Accounts and
if you can, pay the Ballance to Mr Pringle.– If quite
inconvenient then at least send Me a Bond for it till such
Time as it will suit you to pay it And youll Oblige Me
who would not neglect your Business as my dear
Westcott you have done that of Your very Affectionate

Wm Stevens

Tanjore 17 May. 1774–

To Lt Col Ross Chief Engineer at [illegible]

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Dear Colonel

I wrote you last Night from Tritchinopoly & am sorry to ~~inform~~ tell you that on my arrival here this Morning I find the Dubier has sent Nizitt Cawn word that he has no Money therefore I am in as much Distress as ever. How can his Highness think of dallying away Time when I have already represented that I fear so much has been wasted that the Ditch cannot be compleated and that nothing but a speedy and large Supply could by any Means make up for what We have lost.— I dare say his Highness knew very well that at least it was a great Chance if the Dubier could supply Me and that he ought to have fell on a more sure Method of furnishing Me.— You may assure his Highness that I have done every Thing in my power to forward the heavy Work now in Hand; that I shall continue to use my Endeavours to keep it going but I see little prospect of being able to continue it even in the Train it is.— And that he has nobody to blame but himself for a Miscarriage— Nizitt Cawn has exerted himself very strenuously in the Cause but all that he has been able to do is far from being equal to the Work; what further assistance he may be able to give Me I cannot pretend to say; neither therefore can I tell how much more I shall be able to do.—

The 3d of June I have two thousand Pagodas to pay the Soucar, the Time will be at hand by the Time an answer may arrive to this; and if I am not enabled duly to pay it I wish my Fingers may be cramped ere I ever Sign another Receipt for any such purpose

I am Dr Colonel

Tanjore 26th May 1774

Your very affectionate Ser:

Wm Stevens

Since writing the above I have learnt that Nizitt Cawn the 26th dispatched to the Nabob a representation on the Subject of the Works and Weather, in order that thirty or forty thousand Pagodas at once may be ordered immediately in order to forward the Work now on hand and to lay by Materials for the rainy Weather &c— I have only to remark that I very much doubt his immediate compliance; and should it happen as I do not expect. I fear all my Endeavours will avail but little; In Case he furnishes the Money I wish his Highness to be acquainted with my Sentiments and at the same time assured that all I can do shall be done; but Brickmakers that have been discharged are to collect; Carts to be collected for bringing a proportional Quantity of Wood and in short every Thing almost to begin in unfavourable Weather— It has rained every other day since the first of this Month

Yours as before

Wm Stevens

25th May 1774

Dear Colonel

Some Days ago Mr Salmon and myself looked over a part of the pallace and found a place which will answer very well for a Magazine of Arms; at least for the present.— Some Windows must be broke out, Mud Walls cleared away, and Stands for the Arms erected all which Nizitt Cawn has agreed is to be done when I get Money.— Mr Salmon tells Me that in your Armoury at Madras the firelocks lay horizontally at (he judges) three feet distance between the Rows I should be obliged to You for a plan of the Method of stowing them away.— All I have seen are set perpendicularly.—

Last Night I have recd. Orders to

clean out one of the Tanks however I shall do nothing to it till Money comes

If it proves probable that I may be enabled to go on here, I shall be glad you would procure Me a good Table Clock as I am much in want of a Regulation for the Workmen — I would have it with Steel Chains but without any Sawyers or Gimcracks

Whilst I was at Tritchinopoly I took a look at the Works of that place but I find the plan in Cambridges history too small and incorrect for designing any Thing upon. — A great fault in Tritch^y is that the inner Wall is too high; the fausebray Wall may very easily be covered; the projection of the North Gate and the Gate to the River is too great ~~by a great deal~~ — There are many flanks which may be made good Ones for the defence of the Ditch; and two or three Angular Bastions may be wanted; One I particularly noted on the N East Angle. — The general plan which occurs to me for the best ~~for procuring here~~ is lowering the inner Wall to a proper height, & destroying the Cavaliers; with the Rubbish of them, and what other Earth can be got to form a Rampart in rough — The Glacis is the next Thing, if not done at the same Time (as it ought to be) then the Counterscarp, Rampart or Parapets as may afterwards appear first necessary. — Several parts of the fausebray Wall is fell out near the Foundation, and I much fear it will want a support all round, particularly if any Thing be taken out of the Ditch. — It was my Intention had I got Money as I expected and Things fairly in Train here, to have gone to Tritchinopoly to have begun a Survey of the Fort and that Reid should have come to finish

it as soon as he had com[illegible] his Survey here — But this Scheme is entirely disconcerted —

26th May. —

Last Night we have had a great deal of Rain which has laid 15 Inches of Water in the Ditch where it was compleated — The frequent Rains we have lately had is a great hindrance to making of Bricks — We use daily what are brought in (and of course the Bricklayers cannot use so many as if they were regularly supplied) and how long the Brick Kilns will be able to supply as many as at present I dont know but I fear they will soon be out. —

The Crack in the Cavalier which I told you of goes no farther; I shall therefore Stop it up. —

I have had a thousand Chuckram from Nizif Cawn yesterday, but I owe as much to the Shroff who pays the daily Workmen. —

I hope you will be able to procure Me a good Theodolite this Season either of the Companys or on my own Account. —

Capt Jeffry Jackson (I believe of the Speak) is a very particular friend of mine; if it is in your Way to be of any Assistance to him you will oblige Me in a very peculiar Manner. — If you have an Opportunity of speaking to the Governor in his behalf you will Oblige me. —

I have just now received yours of the 22^d and am glad to find M^r Benfield has ordered fifteen thousand Pagodas to be paid Me — I wish I had it

I am D^r Colonel
Yours very affect^y

Wm Stevens

To Mr David Young

Dear Sir

I have now by Me your Letters of the 7th 8th & 12 Instant — The Cooly delivered all the Things safe — I have debited you for the 300 Rupees Pag 86. 40. 16 — Mrs Gomas has had a Letter from her Daughter — and I have had One from Isherwood — he desires Me to Send him Some things wh I must beg you to get and charge to my Account — and forward them by the first Opportunity; ere they will be ready I shall Send you Letters for him — he wants

A compleat case of Instruments
A full Regimental Coat
Ten or Twelve pair of Country & Europe Shoes for Mr Isherwood and three or four pair of Europe Shoes for himself —

My small wants in the Europe Way will be as follows
Vizt Some Cheese I would prefer a few prime Apples
A few Hams, if very good, otherwise none
Three or four Casks of Tongues
Some pickles
Some Salt Beef or porck, or if to be got a small cask
each of thirty or forty pieces —
of thirty or fifty pieces —
Two or three pound of Castile Soap —
A Paper of Shaving powder
Three or four hundred Quils

I recollect nothing Else but

I can occasiona[illegible] for & may be had at any Tim

I hope shortly to be able to send you Some Bills, but I ~~am~~ am at present so distressed for Money that I do not know which Way to turn myself —

I am Dr Sir

Your very Affect. Servant

Wm Stevens

Tanjore 27th May 1776

If you should meet with a Bundle of newspapers or any other publication that will give an Idea of what has been doing at home I should be obliged to you to procure them and Send Me —

Dear Colonel

By Capt. Brettons Accounts with Me I observe you have paid him the 13 Inst. was a twelve month the Sum of M Pag. 69 & 6 fanams as it is unknown to Me what this is for may I request the favor of a Line from You to tell Me I am with my best Respects to Mrs Flint

Dear Colonel

Your very Affect. Servant.

Wm Stevens

Tanjore 29th May 1776 —

To Col Flint
commanding at Ellore

My dear Pringle

Yesterday I was favored with yours of the 19th and now inclose you Greenways receipt for MPag. 62„37 – I shall be happy when I hear you have settled Accounts with him; which pray do in the best manner you can, and give us any little points you think proper. – Whatever you do I shall chearfully thank you for. –

Brutton Sent Me his Accounts last Night; the Ballance against him is MPag 592„65„13 part of which he said he would pay in two or three Days – I am Dr Pringle

Your very affect. Servant

Tanjore 29th May. 1776

Wm Stevens

To Capt Wm Brutton at Mas:

Dr Brutton

Tanjore 31 May. 1776

Yours of the 18 Inst: I have rec enclosing your Acct Current to 31 Decr last by which I have adjusted my Accounts – Ballance against you MPs 592: 65.13 – As I suppose every thing is now Sold off and as I judge We shall get but little of the outstanding Ballances, or in such Sums as is hardly worth while to keep a head Apen for; I have wrote off my Share of the deficiency which Amounts to no less than CPag 1093.3.29 – And being Curious to know how it laid I have made out an Acct which I inclose for your

Speculation, supposing that the Oyl Sold at Madras and the Paddy at Jaggernautporam to be off the Poondy concern – We are amazing Sufferers by the Lombardy Concern if there be nothing of it remaining as I naturally conclude. –

As to the Salt, just charge what you will for it. Let it be 2½ p Garce & as for the Quantity take it from your Bengal Sales or any other Way you can best adjust it

Wintes has the Charge & management of the Salt – I wrote him Some Days ago & mentioned it to him

Never mind the Brick & Chunam acct

– I have no Commands at present for Bengal If I have hereafter I will let you know

Althoughe had no will – I hear Major Alexander has administered to his Estate: he is at Madras I therefore return his Letter to You & remain

Dr Brutton Affectly Yours

Wm Stevens

To Mr Adam Isherwood

Dear Sir

Your Letter from Balambangan of the 25th Feby 76 reached me the 22 Ulto – but that you speak of from Persia I never received or any other from since you left the Coast. – I am glad to find You are well and that Mrs Isherwood holds it out. – The things you write for I have desired Mr Young at Madrass to provide on my Account and send You by the first Opportunity – I am glad to hear of your Prosperity in Rank as well as Emoluments; should your Colony remain I hope with Care you may be enabled to get forward in the

World for you— I perceive by your Accounts that you are a great deal behind hand— You desire Me to draw on You for my Ballance but I neither imagine it is practicable, nor would You be able to pay it if I could— I shall therefore not do it of Course I shall expect you will fall on some Method of making me such remittances to Fort St George as you may be able to do Mr James Call is my attorney there.—

Several of your outstanding Ballances you may perceive are not recovered nor do I suppose that any of them ever will— Some people are dead and others gone the Lord knows where— Joguepuntaloo gave Me a hundred Rupees on your Account as a consideration for your pandals &c about his House— The poor Man died very Shortly after— Your Garden House I compleated and I found it was the only Chance of Selling or letting it; And I soon afterwards sold it to Mr Palmer for 650 Madras Pagodas— Your Bond to Col. Hart is paid off & is in the Hands of my Attorney at Madras.—

As for Political News, I am not able to give you any with certainty, as all I hear is distilled considerably I shall therefore expect you will have it much better from other Hands— indeed to say the Truth I hardly have leisure enough to consider what parts might be inting enough to be worthy of being communicated.— Other [illegible] too numerous for me to enter upon— I shall therefore only tell You that I have been here these 8 Mo and may possibly remain some Time longer— Mrs Gomes is with Me and is well.— She has been very uneasy at not hearing more frequently from Mrs Isherwood, and I have done all I can to direct her Attention and make her easy— but she is of so odd a disposition that I have been obliged to withdraw part of the Freedom I gave her such as of being constantly at my Table &c however as long as she approves of her present Situation, she will always find an Asylum, in my House.—

I beg to be remembred most Affectionately to Mrs Isherwood Mr Herbert and Alcock, and wishing you all Success Health and Happiness remain your very affectionate Servant

Tanjore 1st June 1776.—

My dear Call

Col Ross informs Me that there is Pag 22„3„40 to receive on my Account for last half Years Gratuity as Major— I fancy he has not drawn it with the part that was due to Major Mitchel and if he has not please to receive it.

I inclose you a draught on Narrain pillah for C Pag 19:21 which please to receive on my Acct—

I have recd your Letter of the 28th Ulto— and am glad you have got so much from Mr Pynes Estate; to tell you the Truth it is much more than I ever expected — Copies of the Bonds is quite unnecessary — If you will let me know in your next what the Dividends you have recd are (that is in Principal & Interest) you will Oblige Me— I dont know that the 800 Pag on receipt was actually borrowed on a joint Acct but whether it was or not is of no moment if the Receipt does not Specify it; and even in that Case, I do not apprehend that the Partners are answerable, any further than as their Accounts may Stand with the Acting Manager—

I shall draw on you in favor of Mr Doglas for C Pag 73.13.70— which please to pay on my Account—

Could you be kind enough to procure Me a Bill in Europe for 50 or a hundred poun if you can you will infinitly oblige Me—

Pray how am I to remitt home Mr Raddons Estate— I have about three thousan three hundred Pagodas in my hands to send home— If Bills can be got let me know &

I may get the [illegible] — Your advice on this head will much oblige Me

I am my dear Call

Your very Affect.

Tanjore 3 June 1774.

Tanjore 3 June 1774.

Dear Mackay

Yours of the 29th May I have received & know my good friend you desired Me to settle your Account with Mr Raddon before His Death, which I endeavored to do but then the want of knowing what profits you were to be credited for, put it out of my power and these I could not obtain either from him or the Conicoply

With respect to the Eighty peices of Dungaries you must know better than I can. The Conicoplies charged it to you (but I believe not till I had found a deficiency in their Accounts, however I am not sure) and brought me a Bill to sign near the Time of Mr Raddons decease which Bill you have herewith inclosed together with your Chitt (which I before mentioned) casting up the Value of each Tent to Star Pag 63.6.64—

I should naturally conclude that the Dungaries must have been used in making up Tents but whether in the 25 of which your Chitt is an Estimate I cant tell, but I understood so from the Conicoply: If the Dungaries was used in these 25 Tents and included in the 600 Pag charged for Cloth

more th

you [illegible] If they were used for the said Tents and not charged in the said 600 Pagodas the amount is a loss which in that Case I think should be bore by you equally – If the Dungarees [illegible] used in any other Tents, you can have nothing to do in the Payment; but this I must leave entirely to yourself as I am quite a Stranger whether you inspected the making up of any other

You mistake the account in supposing that 20 Tents sold the Company at Masulapatam which cost only 43.4.64 for all the Tents formerly made by him was either on the Companys Account or agreed for with the Conicoplies at 50 Currt Pags each and he had only a profit on them of seven and a half Pagodas each and not Pag. 14.13.16 and therefore it appears to Me that the Statement of profits I sent you must be increased by 5 times the difference of 14.13.16 and 7.18.– (6.31.16) or 34.12.–

When you make out your Statement of the profits you had better alter the Article in December 1770 – 5 Officers Tents @ 14.13.16 is 71.30 which put down in lieu of 37.18. as I have made it out And then all will be right

The profit on the Tents sent to Madras is very right, they were charged to Mr Stratton at 43.4.64 and commission at 5 per Cent

If you think you paid the Amount of any of the Bills from the [illegible]

× as you suppose – however 5 of them you made which cost only 43.4.64 must have remained at Masulapatam and Sold to the Company at 57.18 each and the profit on them must be 14.13.16 and

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[illegible] you go to Nellore [illegible] say you may be able to ascertain it otherwise I could wish you would endeavor to [illegible] this Account at Madras and carry them with this Letter to my Attorney Mr James Call, who will [illegible] or receive any Ballance – Should any ceremonious declaration be necessary on your side I hope you will perform it as it may prevent me trouble hereafter –

I would make out the Account with a great deal of chearfulness but it appears to Me there would be some impropriety in it – What I have furnished you with I have done in consequence of your application – The Debts I have made to you are as they appear to Me from the deceaseds papers and accounts – The Credits you are to have are profits which you claim such as you are entituled to, you must know best, for I do not know perfectly the Conditions you made with the deceased, only that on endeavoring to settle your Accounts for him, he allowed that profits were due to you but did not tell Me either how much they came to, or on what Articles they were to be calculated, any further than Civil Stores were out of the Question – – You must therefore take such as you think your due, and make Objections to any Charges I have made, — which you may have paid him, or more pro=

[illegible] Credit for such Money as you may find yet in the same [illegible] And for the Eighty Peices of Dungaries you will be able to judge from what I have said how it ought to be settled

In your Letter you say Mr Raddon's Servants made all Disbursements concerning the twenty-five Tents of which we speak; but if they did it must have been for You — Mr Raddon drew a Bill on Mr Stratton for 602 Madras Pag the 2d October 1770 which Money he did not receive by his Cash account, I therefore conclude that you received it; And Vincaty in his account with Mr Raddon gives himself Credit by 380 Mad Pagodas paid to You — These Sums and the 980 which you make out to be Amount of the Tents

I thank you my dear Mackay for your kind Congratulations and am your very Affect. Servant —

Wm Stevens

To Capt. Donald Mackay