Series XVII
XIII

Mayor's Court records Cont'd
Quarter Sessions (Vol 6)

7-1-1784 - 8-10-1784

25,000—4-5-32.

Block 7

Rack No.

Shelf No.

Serial No. 6

General No.

15
6

Wednesday 7th January 1784

Justices Present

Alexander Davidson Esqr Chairman

John Turing and Robert Barclay Esqrs

The Court is duly opened and Adjourned to Wednesday the 11th February Inst. for continuing the Sessions.

Wednesday 11th Feby 1784

Justices Present

The Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B. Chairman
Alexander Davidson John Luring
Robert Barclay and Robert Maunsell

The Court is duly opened agreeable to Adjournment

The Sheriff returns his Precepts and the follow
Grand Jury is then Sworn—

George Moubray Esq.r Foreman

Andrew Ross	William Wynch
Bryan Scotney	Henry Norris
Richard Gubs	Richard Dighton
Hen.y Alex.r Craig	Hugh Vaughan
Robert Harker	James Landon
Henry Michell	John Philip Burton
Walter Balfour	William Balfour
Josiah Dupre Porcher	and Thomas Cockburn

Four Bills of Indictment are delivered to the
against Colton Bowerbank Dent Esq.r for Misdemeanours a
one Bill against Locobandowloo otherwise called Lagoobund
for Felony—and they Withdraw, a Bailiff being first Sworn
Attend them during the Sessions—

One of the Grand Jury comes in to Court to
Sawny, Tondeay and Gungah Sworn on the Bill of Indictme
against Locobandowloo—An Interpreter is also Sworn—

The Grand Jury come into Court and having
Answered to their Names redeliver the Bill of Indictment a
Locobandowloo endorsed a True Bill—

The Sheriff on being desired to have Locoban
brought to the Bar informs the Court he is not Attending
and it appearing that Locobandowloo has been released fro
Prison

Prison and informally Admitted to bail, is called over on his
Recognizance, but does not appear—

Condapah and Ramakistna are called on as Sureties
for his Attendance and to bring forth Logobandowloo—but do not
Appear— a Capias is then issued by the Court to the Sheriff
for Securing the Person of Logobandowloo to be produced at the
next Sessions—

Ancha Pillah, Vencata Ramanjaloo and Pannangar
Mootayah are called on to give Evidence before the Grand Jury
on the Bills of Indictment against Mr. Dent and do not Attend—

After having Withdrawn some time the Grand
Jury return into Court and redeliver the four Bills of Indictment
against Colton Bowerbank Dent Esq.r all endorsed a true Bill.

Bill of Indictment against Mookaloo, Gungadoo,
Ballan and Dashen for Buglary and Felony is delivered to the
Grand Jury and they retire—

Colaberow and Angariah are Sworn to give
Evidence to the Grand Jury on the forementioned Bill—

Mr. Edward Ellis Addresses the Court as Mr. Dents
Attorney or Counsel, but is peremtorily commanded to Silence
by the Chairman— On being asked by what Authority he
Undertook to Officiate in this Court as an Attorney he produces
the following Certificate— viz.t

Upon Search being made in the Prothonotary's Office of
His Majesty's Court of Kings Bench in the Kingdom of Ireland
I find that Edward Ellis Gentleman was Admitted and Sworn
an Attorney of the said Court of Kings Bench in the Term of Saint
Hillary in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven Hundred and
Seventy Eight, which I certifie this Twenty fifth day of Feby
1778 Eight (Signed) Ja.s Hamilton D.r Pty.
Signed in the Presence
of James Poole.

James Poole of the City of Dublin Gentleman Clerk
in the Prothonotary's Office of His Majesty's Court of Kings Bench
in

in Ireland maketh Oath that he is a Subscribing Witness to the above Certificate and that he saw the same duly Signed by James Hamilton Esquire Deputy Prothonotary of the said Court of Kings Bench And that the Name James Poole unto the said Certificate Subscribed as a Witness is this Deponents proper Name and Hand Writing —

Sworn before me this 26 Day of February 1778. J. G. Annaly

James Poole

We John Talbot Ashenhurst and William Shannon Public Notaries by Royal Authority Admitted and Sworn Dwelling in the City of Dublin in the Kingdom of Ireland Do hereby Certify and Attest that we were present when the within Affidavit was made by the within named James Poole before the Right Honourable John Lord Baron Annaly Chief Justice of His Majesty's Court of Kings Bench in said Kingdom —

Given under our Hands and Seal of Office this 26 day of February 1778.

L.S

Ashenhurst & Shannon
Public Notaries —

The Court being Satisfied therewith —

Mr Ellis is permitted to proceed ——— He then Acquaints the Chairman, Mr Dent makes it his request that the Court will defer entering on his Trial until Tomorrow Morning when he shall be fully prepared for his defence — Mr Dent's request is Accordingly complied with and the Court is Adjourned till Tomorrow Morning at Nine o'Clock for continuing the Sessions —

Thursday the 12th February 1784 —

Justices Present —

The Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B. Chairman
Alexander Davidson John Tulloh
Robert Barclay and Robert Maunsell

The Court is duly opened

Mr Dent Attends at the Bar and is arraigned as follows —

Clerk of the Peace ..... You Stand here indicted by the Name of Colton Bowerbank Dent Esquire of Madraspatnam for that on the fourteenth day of August in the Twenty Second Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third King of Great Britain &c. then being one of the Justices of the Peace of our said Lord the King for the Town aforesaid, by colour of your said Office, Unlawfully and unjustly did extort receive and take of and from one Ancha Pilla of Madraspatnam aforesaid, through the means of one Sashachilla Chitty of the same place, the Sum of three Hundred Star Pagodas for and as a gift or bribe, to decide, in favor of the said Ancha Pilla, a certain matter then in dispute, and which was submitted to the decision of you the said Colton Bowerbank Dent Esquire as one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace as aforesaid in contempt of our said Lord the King and his Laws, to the great Damage of the said Ancha Pilla, against the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King, his Crown and Dignity and contrary to the Statute in that Case made and provided — How Say you do you Submit or traverse —

Prisoner ... I Traverse —

Clerk of the Peace ... You Stand here indicted by the Name of Colton Bowerbank Dent Esquire of Madraspatnam for that on the first day of March in the Twenty Second Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, King of Great Britain &c. then being one of the Justices of the Peace of our said Lord the King for the Town of Madraspatnam aforesaid, by colour of your said Office, unlawfully and Unjustly did extort receive and take of and from one Pannangar Mootiah of Madraspatnam aforesaid, through the means of one Sorbaroyaloo Chitty Dubash to the said

Cotton Bowerbank Dent, the Sum of Two Hundred and fifty Company's Rupies, for and as a bribe, to decide, in favor of the said Pannangar Mootiah, a certain Matter then in dispute between the said Pannangar Mootiah and his Brother Named Shumma=gary, and which had been Submitted to the enquiry and decision of you the said Cotton Bowerbank Dent as one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace as aforesaid in contempt of our said Lord the King and his Laws, to the great damage of the said Pan=nangar Mootiah, against the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King his Crown and Dignity and Contrary to the Statute in that case made and provided - How Say you do you Submit or Traverse -

Prisoner ..... I Traverse

Clerk of the Peace. You Stand here indicted by the Name of Cotton Bowerbank Dent Esq.r of Madraspatnam for that on the Tenth day of May in the Twenty Second Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the third, King of Great Britain &c. then being One of the Justices of the Peace of our said Lord the King for the Town aforesaid, by colour of your said Office, unlawfully and unjustly did extort receive and take of and from one Sonnancotty Pillah of Madras=patnam aforesaid, through the means of one Singana Chitty Book keeper to you the said Cotton Bowerbank Dent the Sum of thirty five Star Pagodas for and as a fee, for causing a certain matter to be Settled between the said Sonnancotty Pillah and one Yamana Modaly, as one of his Majestys Justices of the Peace as aforesaid in contempt of our said Lord the King and his Laws, to the great damage of the said Sonnancotty Pillah, against the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King, his Crown and Dignity and contra to the Statute in that case made and provided - How Say y do you Submit or Traverse -

Prisoner ..... I Traverse

Clerk

Clerk of the Peace. You Stand here indicted by the Name of Cotton Bowerbank Dent Esquire of Madraspatnam for that on the Thirtieth day of August or thereabout in the Twenty Second year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, King of Great Britain &c. then being one of the Justices of the Peace of our said Lord the King for the Town aforesaid, by colour of your said Office unlawfully and unjustly did extort, receive and take of and from one Baputtala Vencataramoodoo Chitty of Madraspatnam aforesaid, through the means of one Srevady Vencatachella Chitty of the same place, the Sum of Fifty Star Pagodas for and as a fee or bribe, to release him the said Baputtala Vencataramoodoo Chitty, as one of his Majestys Justices of the Peace as aforesaid, from an Imprisonment or Arrest by causing the said Baputtala Vencataramoodoo Chitty to be apprehended under pretence of his being an alien, Enemy or Spy, in contempt of our said Lord the King and his Laws to the great damage of the said Baputtala Vencataramoodoo Chitty, against the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King his Crown and Dignity and contrary to the Statute in that case made and provided - How Say You do you Submit or Traverse -

Prisoner ... I Traverse

Clerk of the Peace How will you be Tried -

Prisoner ... By God and my Country

Clerk of the Peace - These good Men whom you shall hear called and personally

personally do Appear are to pass between our Sovereign Lord the King and you upon your Trial, If you will challenge them or any of them, your time is to speak to them, as they come to the Book to be Sworn, and before they are Sworn.

Clk of the Peace — You good Men of the Town of Madraspatnam, Summoned to Appear here this Day, to try between our Sovereign Lord the King and the Prisoners at the Bar, Answer to your Names as you shall be called, every one at the first call on pain and penalty which shall fall thereon.

The following Petit Jury is then Sworn Mr Dent having no objection to any of them.

Richard Legge Willis Esq.r
Forester Rose William Carlisle
James Amos Erskine Simmo
John Tulloch Jno Chas Bartholma
Thomas Davis Anth. Frederick Swank
Michael Richold David Young
& Thomas Humberston

Clerk of the Peace — Gentlemen of the Jury look upon the Prisoner and hearken unto his Cause — you shall know that he Stands indicted by the Name of Colton Bowerbank Dent Esq.r of Madraspatnam, here the first Indictment is read as entered in the Arraignment upon this Indictment he hath been arraigned and put in his Traverse of not guilty — your charge is therefore to try and enquire whether he is Guilty or not — and hear your Evidence.

Ancha

Ancha Pilla is Sworn According to his Cast

Clerk of the Peace — Do you know Mr Dent and how long —

Deponent — I have known him two or three years —

Mr Dent then requests of the Court that the Witnesses against him may not be allowed to hear each other examined — which is immediately consented to

Clerk of the Peace — You have heard the Indictment read in which your Name is mentioned, therefore relate what you know concerning it

Deponent — There was a Dispute between me and my Brothers Widow respecting the family Estate and I complained to Mr Dent about two years ago through the means of Shashachilla Chitty — We brought an Award Settled before by Mr Sadlier and Mr Williams concerning it — Sashachilla Chitty Dubash to Mr Williams told me the same day that if I would bring 300 Pag.s Mr Dent would soon settle it, having no Money I offered an Obligation or Bond to Shasha-chilla Chitty if he would Advance that Sum — It was then Agreed between us, that if the matter was not Settled in my favor the Money should be returned — Two Days after I gave the Bond in favor of Shashachella Chitty for 300 Pag.s, he having told me the Money was paid to Mr Dent — a Day before this, Mr Dent sent for the Cast People and Confirmed the abovementioned Award — and gave an Order for the Things to be delivered to this Deponent Amounting to the value of about 3000 Pag.s — Some of the things were afterwards taken from this

Deponent

Deponent by Mr Dents direction. It was Inderstood by an Order of the Mayors Court that Mr Dent had the things delivered to me.

Cth of the Peace ... Did Mr Dent make you any promise of Settling your Cause or did he ever Ask you for any Money on that Account

Dept ..... No

Cth of the Peace. Do you know if Sashachilla Chitty received the Bond or Money from you by the desire or knowledge of Mr Dent

Dept ..... Sashachilla Chitty told me Mr Dent knew it and that the Money was paid to him.

Cth of the Peace .. Did you ever Acquaint Mr Dent of your having given a Bond or paid any Money to Sashachilla Chitty

Dept ..... No

Cth of the Peace .. Why did you not inform him of it

Dept ..... I did not pay the Money to Mr Dent and therefore did not ask him for it

Cth of the Peace. Is Sashachilla Chitty Mr Dents Dubash

Dept ..... He was not Mr Dents Dubash but Mr Williams left some Causes Unsettled with Mr Dent and he was therefore employed by Mr Dent sometimes

Cth of the Peace As the Matter was not finally Settled to your Satisfaction did you Ask Sashachilla Chitty for the Money again

Dept ..... Yes and he said how could you expect to get it from a Counsellor

Cth of the Peace Did you believe the Money was paid to Mr Dent

Dept ..... Sashachilla Chitty told me so and I believed it

Cth of the Peace Where did you give the Bond and pay the Money to Sashachilla Chitty

Dept ..... At his House in the Black Town

Cth of the Peace. Was any body present

Dept ..... No

Cth of the Peace. How do you know it was by Mr Dents Order some of the Things were taken from you again

Dept ..... The Saliars and People said so

The following Questions are put by Mr Popham as Counsel for Mr Dent

Question .... Did you expect any reward or Avantage from prosecuting Mr Dent here.

Dept ..... I hoped only to get what I paid to Sashacilla Chitty in case Mr Dent should be convicted

Question ... Did not any Person persuade you that you would get more

Dept ..... No

Question ... On what day did you pay the Money to Sashachilla Chitty

Dept ..... About the 28th January 1783 and the Bond was given about 18 Months ago

Question ... did you ever apply to Mr Jones an Attorney

Deponent .. Yes I told Mr Jones this affair Six or Seven Months ago

Question ... Why did you bring it before this Court

Dept ..... I thought it best to save Expence

Vencata Ramanjaloo is Sworn

Cth of the Peace How long have you known Mr Dent

Dept

Dep.t ..... Have known him and Served him about 14 years

Cth of the Peace What were you in Mr Dents Service

Dep.t ..... at Cuddalore I was his Dubash and lately have been employed here in writing Accounts and other things

Cth of the Peace Relate what you know

Dep.t ..... On the 24 August 1782 Sashachilla Chitty brought 300 Pag.s on Account of Ancha Pillah to Mr Dents House in the Fort and paid it to Soobrayloo Chitty as a bribe to Mr Dent from Ancha Pillah for having Settled his Cause – Sashachilla Chitty after paying the Money went away – In the Month of December following Soobrayloo Chitty told me to enter it in Mr Dents Account and give Mr Dent Credit for it as Money received from Ancha Pillah – In this Account there were Twelve Sums entered Amounting to 1500 Pagodas and all as money received for bribes for Settling Causes – I delivered that day in December the Account to Mr Dent in the presence of Soobrayloo Chitty it was not particularly expressed in the Paper for which he produces Copy of it as entered hereafter for what Account the Sum of 300 Pag.s was received from Ancha Pilla – but Soobrayloo Chitty explained it fully to Mr Dent – after this Mr Dent Signed a Bond to Sashachilla Chitty for the Amount

Cth of the Peace Did you ever hear Ancha Pilla say any thing to Mr Dent on the Subject

Dep.t ..... No but Sashacilla Chitty came to Mr Dents Gardens about two Months before the Money was paid and in the presence of Soomyloo Chitty and myself told Mr Dent he would give him 300 Pag.s to Settle Ancha Pillahs affair in his favor

Cth

Cth of the Peace What reply did Mr Dent make –

Dep.t ..... He said very well –

Cth of the Peace Did Ancha Pilla tell you he had paid the Money to Sachachella Chitty –

Dep.t ..... Yes –

Cth of the Peace How long ago

Dep.t ..... After I entered it in the Accounts –

Cth of the Peace Did Mr Dent know Sachachilla Chitty had received the Money from Ancha Pillah before you shewed him the Account

Dep.t ..... I cannot say for a certainty that he knew it before –

Cth of the Peace Are you sure this Sum was inserted in the Account you delivd to Mr Dent

Dep.t ..... Yes –

Cth of the Peace Was it explicitly entered as a bribe –

Dep.t ..... No – Soobaroyaloo Chitty told me to enter it only as Money received from Ancha Pillah –

Cth of the Peace Do you think it possible that Mr Dent might not know on what Account it was received –

Deponent ..... I do not think it possible – for all the Account was particularly explained to him by Soobaroyaloo Chitty –

Cth of the Peace How long was Mr Dent reading the Account when you delivered it to him –

Dep.t ..... An hour or more –

Cth of the Peace Did he seem to read it with much Attention –

Dep.t ..... Yes –

Questions

Questions from Mr Popham on the part of Mr Dent

Question ... Did you expect any reward or Advantage from prosecuting Mr Dent here—

Dept ... No

Question ... Did not any Person make you any promises of gaining by it

Dept ... Nobody

Question ... Did not Mr Jones incite or Advise you to prefer this prosecution—

Dept ... No

Question ... What was your motive for doing it then—

Dept ... Because I had been used very ill by Mr Dent and this Soobaroyaloo Chettys means—

Mr Popham then reads a Petition with Agreements annexed to the President and Council from the Deponent as follows—

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney Knight of the Bath & President and Governor &c Council of Fort St George—

The Humble Petition of Vencatarama-nojaloo Naick late Dubash of Mr Colton Bowerbank Dent—

Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioner most humbly takes the liberty to represent your Lordship &c that he had held Posts under Mr Dent as his head Dubash and Writer for these fourteen years past and have always exerted himself to the Satisfaction of the said Gentleman in every respect and more over your Petr accompanyed him to Cuddalore during his Chiefship there and some time afterwards returned with him again to Madras, when Mr Dent wanting a supply of Money desired your Petr to Speak to his friends and procure him a loan of Money, agreeable thereto your Petr was arguing with his friends for that purpose, which one Suncaraporam Soobaroyaloo being informed, came to your Petr and offered to Supply such Sums of Money as Mr Dent want provided your Petr introduce him as his Dubash and he further added that all the incomes which may arise by his means, shall be devided equally between your Petr and him, and likewise he said that he would Conduct all the business with your Petrs concurrence, on this your Petr consented to what he proposed and demanded of him a Writing or Agreement to that effect, which he readily complyed under date the 21st Octr 1781, whereupon your Petr carried him and recommended him to Mr Dent as his Dubash, and in the year 1782, the said Soobaroyaloo obtained a Writing from your Petr importing that he is

to

to manage the whole business of Mr. Dent at his own choice.

(Translations of this and the above Writing is hereunto annexed for your Lordships &c.a perusal.

Your Petr. begs leave to observe to your Lordships &c.a that some time afterwards he has been recommended as above, your Petr. demanded him (the said Soobaroyaloo) to Advance him a Sum of Money out of the incomes as was agreed on, when he has sent your Petr. 50 Pagodas by his Gomastah Singanah and further ordered one Ancha Pilla to pay to your Petr. 100 Pags. which he has brought to your Petr. to his house on the same day and paid him punctually, and some time after which a difference arising between your Petr. and the said Soobaroyaloo regarding the Settling of the Accounts, he persuaded and set up the said Ancha Pilla to demand of your Petr. the said 100 Pags. and at last got him to prosecute your Petr. in the Mayors Court through the means of his Brother in Law Vencatachellum Dubash to Mr. Jones an Attorney at Law, your Petr. thereupon waited upon the said Soobaroyaloo and Asked him the reason of his doing so to which he Answered, that as soon as your Petr. procures him a Bond from Mr. Dent for the Money due to him, he will in such case, cause the Suit of Ancha Pilla to be drawn from the Mayors Court as well as Settling your Petrs. Accounts and pay him what becomes to be due to your Petr. but your Petr. returned home dissatisfyed not trusting a single Syllable of what he said, upon which, he came to your

Petr.

Petr. to his house and assured him upon an Oath for the performance of what he promised as above, on this, your Petr. got a Bond from Mr. Dent for the full Amount of the Money due to the said Soobaroyaloo and delivered to him, and very shortly after which your Petr. asked him whether he has got the Suit of Ancha Pilla to be drawn from the Mayors Court, he Assured and declared that he did, your Petr. trusted to his Assurance and then desired him to Settle the Accounts of the incomes, he said that he would do so and so delayed for a long time by frivolous excuses and at last paid your Petr. a further Sum of 200 Pags. or upwards and five or Six Months after, which your Petr. insisted upon the said Soobaroyaloo for the Settling of the said Accounts, when he began to Say that your Petr. had nothing to do with the incomes, because he has himself managed the whole business of Mr. Dent and lent him a good deal Money so that, he would not keep up to his Promise or agreements and at length ordered his Brother in Law Vencatachellum to proceed with the Suit of Ancha Pilla, which has been laid adorment for this long time, and so got a fresh Summon to be issued and served against your Petr. whereupon your Petr. represented the whole case to Mr. Dent and required of him to do justice upon the Subject, who promised to do it shortly and at last by the instigation and persuation of the said Soobaroyaloo Ordered your Petr. to not come to him any more for if he does it, he the said Soobaroyaloo assumed to quit his Service from him and press him for the payment of the Money due from him and therefore he, Mr. Dent desired your Petr. to lay his case before any one and get it

it settled—

Your Petr further begs leave to observe to your Lordships that with respect to the Suit of the said Ancha Pilla in the Mayor's Court whom the said Soobaroyaloo has set up meerly to hurt and ruin your Petr and his family by putting him under unnecessary expences your Petr some time ago filed an Answer denying the Debt entirely and at the same time declared that he has received the said 100 Pagodas agreeable to the said Soobaroyaloo's order, on Account of the Accounts Subsisting between your Petr and him— Your Petr is credibly informed that the said Soobaroyaloo is forming all the schemes in his power to set up several of your Petrs Creditors to prosecute him in the Mayor's Court and thereby to hunt, ruin and distress your Petr in every respect by putting him under immense expences—

Your Petr further begs leave to observe to your Lordships &c in behalf of the Companys benefit and Advantage, that the said Soobaroyaloo has collected above than 9985. 11. 20 in the Scavengers duty from the Month of April 1782 to the 31st May 1783 and out of which he has only defrayed on Account of the Carts and other things very near about 2819. 35. 40. and converted the remainder of 7165. 15. 60 f his own use, but the Books of the Scavengers duty Decla that the whole Sum of 9985. 11. 20 collected as above, was defrayed towards the expences of the Carts &c your Petr has in his Posession a very particular and exact Accoun of the Sums collected and defrayed in the Scavengers du as well as an Account of 1084 5/8 Pag. which he the sai Soobaroyaloo has received from the Inhabitants that built new houses lately by promising them, to abat

and

and lessen the estimation of their Houses, your Petr has likewise in his posession a very particular account of about 6209 Pag. which the said Soobaroyaloo has received from different people by way of bribe on Account of Settling their disputes, your Petr is willing and ready to lay all the said Accounts before your Lordships &c when required—

Wherefore your Petr most humbly recommends the aforegoing to your Lordships &c serious consideration, hoping that you will not only think it just and reasonable to Sent for the said Soobaroyaloo and order him Strictly to get the Suit of Ancha Pilla to be drawn from the Mayor's Court, but also think fit to take immediate measure to recover from him the Company's property of 8250 Pag. which he has already cheated them as above, as well as the bribe of 6209 Pag. which he has extorted from the different People and at the same time inflicton him such punishment as the nature of his Crime may require and your Petr as in duty bound

Shall Ever Pray—

Translation of an Agreement given by Suncaraporam Soobaroyaloo to Canacapilly Vencataramanjoloo Naick Dated 25th of October 1781—

As We have Agreed to serve Mr Dent as partners and whatever benefit or Profit that may arise in any business or employ through the means of the said Gentleman, we are to devide the same equally between us without deceiving one another, I engage myself to Supply any Sums of Money which the said Gentleman will have occasion for but you have no occasion to do any thing with it and more over We are to Act in friendly manner in all business and consult together upon all occasions without having any intention of deceiving each other, Thus I have given this with my free will and Consent in the presence of Cottcampanchi Gruvapah Naick and Pocala Vencatarama Naick by their knowledge, drawn by Vencata-histnama— Witneses

(Signed
Suncaraporam Soobaroyaloo—

Cottcampanchi Gruvapah
Pocala Vencataramodoo—

Translation of an Agreement given by Canacapully Vencataramanjooloo to Tuncaraporam Soobaroyaloo Chetty Dated 5th January 1782.

That we are both united together in the Service of Mr Dent and with regard to the Sums of Money you have lent him (Mr Dent) if he allows you interest at the rate of 12 p Ct p Annum it is well, but if a abatement or difference falls in it, the same is to be devided equally between us, besides which, you are to manage the Settling of all the disputes unde the said Gentleman, and whatever profit that may arise thereby should be divided equally between us and moreover that whatever benefit that may arise by my means in my Office of Writer or by any other means, the same also should be divided equally between us, Thus I have given this Agreemen with my free Consent in the Presence of Gruvapah and Vencatakristnama by their knowledge drawn and Signed by

Vencataramanjooloo

Witnesses
Gruvapah
Vencatakristnama

The Deponent Acknowledges the Signature to be his own Hand Writing to the aforegoing Paper

There

There being no more Witnesses for the Prosecution Mr Dent desires the following Persons may be called on to give evidence.

Vencatachellum Chetty is sworn

Cth of the Peace. Do you know Mr Dent

Dept. Yes for some time

Questions from Mr Popham.

Question. Who kept Mr Dents Accounts

Dept. Soobaroyaloo Chetty keeps the Cash and Cash Account

Question. How was Vencataramanjaloo employed by Mr Dent

Dept. He used to write the bill Book but not Accounts

Cth of the Peace. Perhaps he wrote Accounts some times without you knowing it

Dept. I do not know that he did

Cth of the Peace Do you know that he did not

Dept. No

Alagapah Conicoply to Mr Dent is sworn

Cth of the Peace. Do you know Vencata Ramanjaloo

Dept. Yes

Cth

Ch of the Peace Do you know that he did not write Accounts sometimes for Mr Dent

Dept..... I do not know whether he did or not

Ch of the Peace Do you know any thing more?

Dept..... No

Ayah Pillah Conicoply to Mr Dent is Sworn.

Ch of the Peace How was Vencata Ramanjaloo employed in Mr Dents Service?

Dept..... He used to write the Bill Book of the Scavengers Employ.

Ch of the Peace Did he not write Accounts some times?

Dept..... Only House Expences and the Bill Book that I know of

All the Witnesses being examined Mr Dent is Asked if he has any thing more to offer and he Acquaints the Court through his Counsel that to Save delay and trouble to the Bench, he shall make a general defence at the final close of all the Prosecutions against him.

Ch

Ch of the Peace Gentlemen of the Jury look upon the Prisoner and hearken unto his Cause, you shall know that he Stands indicted by the Name of Colton Bowerbank Dent Esquire / here the Second Indictment is read as entered in the Arraignment / upon this Indictment he hath been Arraigned and put in his Traverse of not guilty - Your Charge is therefore to try and enquire whether he is guilty or not - and hear your Evidence -

Pannangar Mootiah is Sworn -

Ch of the Peace How long have you known Mr Dent

Dept..... Six or Seven Years

Ch of the Peace Relate what you know concerning what he now is arraigned for

Dept..... There was a dispute between me and my Brother Shummegaroy and I presented a Petition to Mr Dent the last of February 1782 - Soobaroyaloo Chitty sent Tolly Ninapah to me who said if I would give 250 Rupees for Mr Dent my affair should be Settled - In March 1782 I carried 250 Rupees to Soobaroyaloo Chitty's House in the Black Town - and went into Soobaroyaloo Chitty's Room and by his desire I put the 250 Rupees into a Drawer of his Beaureau he Reckoned it and Ordered me to

go

go- after paying the Money Soobaroyaloo Chitty told me my Cause should be Settled by means of his Master Mr. Dent and I went away.

Ch.o of the Peace. Who was present when you delivered the 250 Rupees to Soobaroyaloo Chitty.

Dep.t ..... No body.

Ch.o of the Peace Did not Soobaroyaloo Chitty tell you that your Cause should be Settled before you paid the 250 Rupees.

Dep.t ..... No it was after I paid the Money

Ch.o of the Peace How do you know Soobaroyaloo Chitty sent Tolly Ninapah to you.

Deponent ... Tolly Ninapah told me so.

Ch.o of the Peace Did Mr Dent ever make you any promise of settling your Complaint or ask any Money from you.

Dep.t ..... No.

Ch.o of the Peace Do you know if Soobaroyaloo Chitty received the Rupees from you with Mr. Dent's knowledge or by his desire.

Dep.t ..... No- I don't know.

Ch.o of the Peace. Have you ever Acquainted Mr Dent of your having paid 250 Rupees to Soobaroyaloo Chitty for such a purpose.

Dep.t

Dep.t ..... No.

Ch.o of the Peace. Was the affair decided in your favor as was promised you.

Dep.t ..... No, it has not been Settled yet.

Ch.o of the Peace. As the affair was not Settled did you ask Soobaroyaloo Chitty for the Money again.

Dep.t ..... No- I was afraid.

Ch.o of the Peace. Why were you afraid.

Dep.t ..... Because of his Power and he was Head Dubash to Mr Dent.

Ch.o of the Peace Did you ask Tolly Ninapah for the Money.

Deponent. No.

Question ... Why did you not Attend the Court yesterday Morning.

Deponent. I was coming- and Soobaroyaloo Chitty's People came and told me all the affair was Settled very well and that I must go to Chitty's house in the Black Town.

Questions put by Mr Dent's Counsel-

Question .... Did you not first offer yesterday Morning to Settle this matter.

Dep.t ..... No.

Question ... Who did you see at Chitty's house.

In reply the Deponent is guilty of a Contradiction by first Saying three Persons and afterwards five-

Question .... What Advantage or Reward did you expect to obtain by

by this Prosecution

Deponent.... I expected to get my own Money again

Question..... Did not any Person tell you that you would get more.

Dep.t..... No

Question..... Were you not incited by any Person to prosecute Mr. Dent by promises of Gain

Dep.t..... No I was not

Question..... Did you apply to Mr. Jones the Attorney and were not the Informations drawn out by him Sworn to before Mr. Davidson

Dep.t..... Yes I applied to Mr. Jones The Informations were drawn out by his Writer and Mr. Jones dictated to him

Venkata Ramanjaloo is Sworn again

Clk of the Peace.. Do you know Pannangar Mootiah

Deponent..... I have known him four or five years

Clerk of the Peace. Relate what you know

Deponent.... In December 1782 Soobaroyaloo Chitty told me to enter in Mr Dents Accounts 50 Pagodas for 250 Rupees received from Ponnangar Mootiah Soobaroyaloo Chitty on my delivering the Account as mentioned in my former Evidence, explained to Mr Dent that 50 Pagodas was received from Ponnangar Mootiah for Settling his Cause

Clk

Clk of the Peace Did Soobaroyaloo Chitty tell you it was 250 Rupees paid by Ponnangar Mootiah

Deponent.. He told me so

Clk of the Peace. Soobaroyaloo Chitty informed Mr Dent it was 50 Pagodas

Dep.t..... Yes he did

Clk of the Peace. Did Ponnangar Mootiah ever tell you he had paid this money

Dep.t..... Yes some time ago

Clk of the Peace. Was it by Mr Dents knowledge or desire that Ponnangar Mootiah paid the Money to Soobaroyaloo Chitty

Dep.t..... I don't know

Clk of the Peace Did Mr Dent know the circumstance before you delivered him the Account

Dep.t..... I cannot tell

Clk of the Peace Don't you believe it might have been entered in the Account without Mr Dent knowing for what is was received

Dep.t..... No for it was explained to him by Soobaroyaloo Chitty

Clk of the Peace Did you know you were doing an improper thing when you made the Agreement with Soobaroyaloo Chitty

Dep.t..... Yes I knew it was improper but Soobaroyaloo persuaded me to it

Clk of the Peace Did you Acquaint Mr Dent of it at the time

Dep.t..... No

Clk of the Peace When Mr Dent was informed of it was he displeased with you in consequence

Dep.t

Dep^t . . . . : Yes he was displeased at it

Mr Dents Counsel . . . Shew him the Petition and Agreement again and he Acknowledges the Signature to be his own writing.

The Court then enter upon the third Prosecution.

Cl^k of the Peace. Gentlemen of the Jury look upon the Prisoner and hearken unto his Cause you shall know that he Stands indicted by the Name of Colton Bowerbank Dent Esquire / here the third Indictment is read as entered in the Arraignment upon this Indictment he hath been Arraigned and put in his Traverse of not guilty. Your charge is therefore to try and enquire whether he is Guilty or not. And hear your Evidence.

Sonnancooty Pilla, Aumildar, is Sworn.

Cl^k of the Peace. How long have you known Mr Dent

Dep^t . . . . . Two or three years

Cl^k of the Peace You have heard the Indictment read therefore relate what you know

Deponent . . I presented a Petition to Mr Dent through the means of one Sevengiah Pilla about three years ago concerning a House and Ground in Charles Street in the Black Town that was Mortgaged by one Yamana Moodaly to my Father in law. Mr Dent referred the matter to

to Soobaroyaloo Chitty. but he did not Settle it afterwards Advertisements were fixed for the Sale of the House. The House was Sold for 355 Pagodas about 30 Months ago Singana Agent to Soobaroyaloo Chitty carried the Money to Soobaroyaloo Chitty's House and I went with him. Singana counted out the Money and paid me 300 Pagodas he afterwards went and talked to Soobaroyaloo Chitty and came back and paid me 20 Pagodes more. Singana told me Soobaroyaloo Ordered him to keep 35 Pagodas as fees to Mr Dent

Cl^k of the Peace You received the 320 Pagodas at Soobaroyaloo Chitty's House.

Dep^t . . . . Yes

Cl^k of the Peace What conversation passed between Singana & Soobaroyaloo Chitty during the time you were there.

Dep^t . . . . I could not hear them talk.

Cl^k of the Peace. Did Soobaroyaloo Chitty Ask you for any Money.

Dep^t . . . No. I saw Singana go and Speak to Soobaroyaloo Chitty and afterwards came and told me that Soobaroyaloo Chitty ordered him to keep 35 Pagodas for Mr Dent

Cl^k of the Peace Was it against your inclination that he kept the 35 Pagodas

Dep^t . . . . Yes.

Cl^k of the Peace. Did you tell Singana so

Dep^t

Dep^t ..... No I was afraid

Ch^s of the Peace. Why were you afraid

Dep^t ..... Because I thought it was received by Soobaroyaloo Chitty's brea and for Mr Dent

Ch^s of the Peace. Did you ever Ask Soobaroyaloo Chitty or Singana for the Money before you thought of this prosecution

Dep^t ..... No

Ch^s of the Peace. Do you know if the 35 Pagodas were kept by Mr Dent's desire or knowledge

Dep^t ..... I do not know - but Singana told me it was for Mr Dent's Fee.

Ch^s of the Peace Have you ever informed Mr Dent of the Circumstance

Dep^t ..... No

Ch^s of the Peace Did Mr Dent at any time make you a Promise of Settling the matter

Dep^t ..... No - when the Petition was presented to him he ordered Soobaroyaloo Chitty to Settle it

Questions from Mr Dent's Counsel.

Question ..... Why did you not prefer your Complaint sooner

Dep^t ..... I waited my opportunity.

Question ..... What do you mean by that

Dep^t ..... On Account of the troubles of the War and all the Families and House People coming in from the Countries.

Question ..... Who excited and persuaded you to undertake this prosecution

Dep^t ..... Nobody -

Question ..... Why did you not prosecute Mr Dent in the Mayor's Court

Dep^t ..... On Account of the Expences.

Question ..... Did not Mr Jones the Attorney persuade you of your gaining by appearing here

Dep^t ..... No - I expected only to get my own Money.

Vencataraman sooloo is Sworn.

Ch^s of the Peace Do you know Sannacooty Pillah

Dep^t ..... I have known him since the latter end of the year 1782 - In Dec^r 1782 Soobaroyaloo Chitty told me to enter in the Account which I mentioned before of 12 Sums received as bribes thirty five Pag^s paid by Sannacooty Pillah for settling his Cause - And Singanah Told me he received that Sum from Sannacooty Pillah -

H

It is not inserted in the Account I have delivered to the Court but Soobaroyaloo when the Account as I mentioned in my former Evidences, was delivered to Mr Dent told him the 35 Pagodas was received from Tannacooty Pillah for Settling his Cause.

Cth of the Peace. Why was not this Sum entered in the Account now before the Court

Dept. Soobaroyaloo told me not to enter it in that Account.

Cth of the Peace. Are you sure that Mr Dent knew of this Sum being received from Tannacooty Pillah as a bribe.

Dept. Yes. on delivery of the Accounts in December 1782.

Cth of the Peace. Had he any knowledge of it before that Period

Dept. I am not certain that he knew it before.

Cth of the Peace. Do you know if Mr Dent ever made any promises to Tannacooty Pillah of Settling his affair.

Dept. I dont know.

Cth of the Peace. Did Mr Dent desire Soobaroyaloo Chitty to take the Money from Tannacooty Pillah as a bribe.

Dept. Not in my hearing or to my knowledge.

Questions from Mr Dents Counsel.

Question. Did not Soobaroyaloo Chitty keep Mr Dents Accts

Dept. Yes he kept the Cash and Accounts and used to write

write Accounts, when Soobaroyaloo Chitty desired me.

Question. Did Mr Dent send a Chubdar to you some time ago.

Dept. Yes.

Question. And what did you tell him.

Dept. That I could not come without Mr Jones's Permission.

Question. Did Mr Jones persuade you not to go to Mr Dent or what was your reason.

Dept. I had put my Cause into Mr Jones's hands and therefore would not go without his knowledge and Permission.

Question. Did any body Advise you to Apply to Mr Jones.

Dept. No body.

Question. Were you not persuaded of obtaining some Gain by appearing here to prosecute.

Dept. No.

The Deponent is again asked if the Signature to the Petition and Agreement is his own Writing and he Answers in the Affirmative.

The Third Prosecution being closed the Court enter upon the fourth and last against Mr Dent.

Cth.

Ch.of the Peace. Gentlemen of the Jury look upon the Prisoner and hearken unto his Cause, You shall know that he stands indicted by the Name of Colton Bowerbank Dent Esq.r / here the fourth Indictment is read as entered in the Arraignment / upon this Indictment he hath been Arraigned and put in his Traverse of not guilty - Your Charge is therefore to try and enquire whether he is Guilty or not - And hear your Evidence -

Baputtala Vencataramaoodoo Chitty is called to give Evidence on the Prosecution but does not Attend - and it has been omitted to bind him under any Recognizance for his Appearance at this Sessions -

The Clerk of the Peace then produces Baputta Vencataramoodoo Chitty's Deposition taken on Oath before Alexander Davidson Esq.r as a Justice of the Peace - on which Mr. Dent's Counsel object to it's being read in Court, and it is accordingly laid aside -

Vencata Ramanjooloo is Sworn

Ch.of the Peace. Do you know Baputtala Vencataramoodoo Chitty

Dep.t . . . Yes I have known him since the year 1782

Ch.of the Peace. Relate what you know -

Dep.t

Dep.t . . . Baputtala Vencataramoodoo Chitty was sent to the Governor by Mr Dent's order and afterwards confined under pretence of his being employed by Hyder and as a spy - some time after he was released - Soobaroyaloo Chitty told me in the Month of December 1782, the time I mentioned in my former Evidence, that 55 Pagodas was received from Baputtala Vencataramoodoo Chitty by Trevody Vencatachella Chitty for Settling his Cause and desired me to enter 40 Pagodas in the Account which I entered Accordingly and Soobaroyaloo Chitty on my delivering the Account to Mr. Dent / which is now before the Court / told him that it was received from Baputtala Vencataramoodoo Chitty for Settling his Affair -

Ch.of the Peace. Who was Baputtaloo Vencataramoodoo confined by -

Dep.t . . . He was confined by the Town Major's Order -

Ch.of the Peace. Do you know how long he was under Confinement -

Dep.t . . . Not many Days I believe

Ch.of the Peace. Who released him -

Dep.t . . . The Town Major - I heard he had paid Fifty five Pagodas to Trevody Vencatachilla Chitty as a bribe for Mr. Dent and that Soobaroyaloo Chitty got him Released

Ch.of the Peace. Did Soobaroyaloo Chitty tell Mr. Dent the 40 Pagodas was received as a Bribe from Baputtaloo Vencataramoodoo Chitty -

Dep.t . . . . Yes - he told him the 12 Sums I mentioned before were received

received for Settling Causes and this Sum of 40 Pagodas was one of them ~

Ch of the Peace. Are you certain Mr Dent after reading the Account you delivered to him Understood this Sum was received as a Bribe from Vaputtala Vencataramoodoo Chitty ~

Dept. . . . Yes he certainly understood it was received for Settling his Cause ~

Ch of the Peace. Did Mr Dent appear satisfied with the Account ~

Dept. . . . Yes - he said very well ~

Ch of the Peace. Do you know if Mr Dent ordered the Sum of 40 Pagodas or any other Sum to be received from Vaputtala Vencataramoodoo Chitty ~

Dept. . . . I do not know ~

Ch of the Peace Had Mr Dent any knowledge of the Matter before you delivered him the Account ~

Dept. . . . I am not certain ~

Ch of the Peace Do you think he had ~

Dept. . . . Yes - I think he must have been informed of it ~

The Grand Jury come into Court and hearing Answered to their Names deliver Two Presentments ~

Major William Sydenham is Sworn ~

Ch of the Peace Was there one Vaputtala Vencataramoodoo Chitty sent to you some time ago on a Suspicion of his being a Spy ~

Dept. . . . a Person was sent to me as a Spy, I do not recollect his Name, some time last year or the Year before by the Governor with a Letter from Mr Dent - which Letter imported that the man had been engaged in a treacherous correspondence with the Garrison of Chingleput and requested that it might be enquired into - The matter was enquired into and he was released from the Governor's Orders ~

Ch of the Peace. Did you receive any Message from Mr Dent about releasing him ~

Dept. . . . No - and if I had it would not have procured his releasement - he was released by me from the Governor's Orders after full proof of his innocence - I discovered that he had carried on a Correspondence with the Garrison of Carringoly, but it was an useful and friendly correspondence ~

Ch of the Peace. Did Mr Dent's Servants ever apply to you concerning

concerning the Man —

Dept. ..... No. I dont recollect that they did —

The Witnesses being all examined and the Prosecutions finally closed

Mr. Popham one of Mr. Dents Counsel mak the following defence —

The Right Honble the Chairman then addrest the Petit Jury as follows —

This Case Seems to lie in a very narrow Compass, Venkata Sashayloo & Venkata Ramanjalos, two Servants of a Gentleman in high Station enter into an agrument to make a property of their Master, & take the advantage of his Situation for their own Benefit, & extort Money from Several Persons under various pretences, but particularly under colour of Settling by their Influence over their Master such Causes or Suits as might come before him in the Capacity of a Magistrate, or Justice of the Place —

It appears that Several Sums of Money were received by Satanayalos on this Account — Venkata Ramanjalos kept the Accounts, and Sabanayalos kept the Cash — They quarrell'd & the matter is brought to light, by some of the Persons coming forward who had paid the Money to these People on Account of the Settlement

Settlement of Lawsuits by their Master Mr Dent — This is positively Sworn by Several Witnesses —

The points for your Consideration are the Testimony of the Witnesses, the probability of the Fact with regard to the Prisoner charged, how far he was likely to be Guilty of it, together with the Circumstances attending the Transactions —

Neither the Evidence of Annapilly, Pommarooty Pilla, now of Pommaiger Moodiar go home to Mr Dent, but clearly to Subroyaloo who has absconded. — The only positive Evidence the Accounts, perused & approved by Mr Dent, in which Accts are Several Sums Charged to a particular Head or Letter, which is understood to mean Lawsuits — So far the Evidence goes to Criminate Mr Dent, and upon his Testimony, depends the principal Stress — If you believe that he entered into the agreement with Subroyaloo also unknown to, or unapproved by Mr Dent, his Conduct is doubly injurious & Wicked — If that point is clear to you & that you are of opinion that Mr Dent was totally unacquainted with these practices, that he was abused by his Dubashes & that no part of the Money was received for his use — The Prisoner must be acquitted — The matter is fully before you in Evidence & you will Judge of it according to Law, Justice, and your own Consciences —

The Petit Jury then retire an Officer being first Sworn to keep them —

The Gentlemen of the Grand Jury attending by the desire of the Bench, the Two Presents delivered in by them are publickly Read as follows —

We The Grand Jury of the Town of Madraspatnam Sworn to enquire for our Sovereign Lord the King for the Body of the said Town being justly and truly Sensible of the many Advantages arising to this Place by the gracious Dispensation of His Majesty's Royal Charter, as it has conveyed with it the Laws of England and prescribed the proper Methods for putting those Laws in Execution —

Do present that it is common knowledge that the Goal or Prison-house in which Criminals and Debtors are Confined is so inconveniently constructed that those of both denominations are either lodged or under the Necessity of mixing together promiscuously and

and that there are not the means of Seperating Convicts from the other Prisoners or permitting the Prisoners to enjoy the fresh Air without intermixing with each other. That the Goal is at present much out of Repair - That the Well is in danger of falling in, and the Water reported by Doctr Anderson the Principal Surgeon of the Settlement to be unfit for Use, and to such a degree as to endanger the lives of the Prisoners, which matter has been repeatedly presented by former Grand Juries without the remedy being applied -

And we do further present that it is come to our knowledge that the Crimes of Champerty and Barretry by stirring up and carrying on vexatious Suits in the Honble the Mayors Court in consideration of some Bargain to have a part of the thing in dispute or some profit out of it, is become so frequent and pernicious a practice as to be Attended with consequences highly detrimental to the Public, not only from the distress which it produces to many Individuals, but from the great Incitement which it affords to the heinous Crime of Perjury And that the Crime of Barretry in particular is practised by several Dubashes in the Service of the Attornies of the Honble the Mayors Court, which Dubashes busy themselves or are imployed in fomenting

fomenting and Stirring up Disputes, Strife and Contention amongst the People by procuring of Suits and Prosecutions in the Courts both Civil and Criminal, to the great Detriment and Annoyance of the Inhabitants - And that one Vencatachella Chitty, who now is, or has lately been Dubash to Mr Thomas Jones one of the Attornies of the Honble the Mayors Court, has been a common Barrator, a practise in which the Jury believe he has continued with the knowledge and connivance, if not with the Support of his said Master

And we do further present that it appears to us that Soobaroyaloo Chitty, Dubash to Cotton Bowerbanks Dent Esqr has been Aiding and Abetting his said Master in procuring certain Bribes as set forth in Bills of Indictments which have already been found by this Grand Jury

And further that one Seravedy Vencata-chella Chitty, Gomastah under one Soobaroyaloo Chitty, both Servants of Cotton Bowerbanks Dent Esq/ did receive the Sum of five Pagodas as a Fee or Bribe for furthering the Release of one Bapalla Vencata Ramdoo Chitty, who had been Confined by

by the aforesaid Colton Bowerbank Dent Esqr. in the Capacity of one of His Majesty's Justices, on suspicion of being a Spy, which is Stated in the Information upon Oath of the said Rapalla Vencata Ramdoo in Support of an Indictment which has already been found by this Grand Jury.—

And we do further present that it is come to our knowledge that the duty of the Scavenger, which Office is at present held by Colton Bowerbank Dent Esqr. has for some time and still is greatly neglected, particularly in the Black Town, by suffering the Streets and Passages to remain covered with Filth and Dirt to the great Nuisance and Annoyance of the Inhabitants which is highly obnoxious to them, and may prove prejudicial to the Health and Safety of their Persons And we are of opinion that when Presentments are made of Offences without a due Attention being paid to such presentments and particularly in respect to Champerty and the duty of the Scavenger, which have been heretofore presented, that it gives Encouragement to Offenders not only to continue in but even to encrease these anal practices—

All which Matters and things are contrary to the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the

King, his Crown and Dignity.—

Town Hall
12th February 1784.

Geo. Moubray Foreman
Andrew Ross
Willm Wynch
B. Scotney
Henry Norris
R. Guy
Richd Dighton
Hc A. Craig
Hugh Vaughan
Robert Harker
James Landon
Henry Michell
[illegible]
Walter Balfour
William Balfour
Jos. duBré Poocher
Tho. Cockburn—

We the Grand Jury of the Town of Madraspatnam Sworn to enquire for the body of the said Town being justly Sensibly of the many Advantages arising to this place by the gracious dispensation of His Majesty's Royal Charter, as it hath conveyed with it the Laws of England, and prescribed the Method of

of putting those Laws in to Execution.

Do Present that it is come to our knowledge that the Prices of Provisions are greatly enhanced by the practice of forestalling, regrating, and monopolising, as well as by Combinations and Exactions of certain persons to this Jury at present unknown, and to such a degree in most Articles as to raise their prices to double and in some to treble the rates at which they may be procured in the Suburbs of this Place, or within the distance of three or four Miles, and especially in such Articles as are brought into the Fort for Sale. And in particular that the high prices of Fish, is in some degree owing to an exclusive right which has been assumed by Mr. Thomas Jones, an Attorney of the Hon^ble the Mayor's Court as Proprietor of an Island Situated near the Mouth of the River at St. Thomé.

And further that the Officer commanding the Troops at present cantoned at St. Thomé has lately levied a Tax or Duty for his own Use and Profit on the Shopkeepers of that Place for permission to Sell their Wares.

All which Matters and things are contrary to the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the

King, his Crown and Dignity.

Town Hall
12th Febry 1784.

Geo. Moubray
Foreman.
Andrew Ross
Willm Wynch
B. Scobney
Henry Norris
R. Guy
Richd Dighton
H. A. Craigg
Hugh Vaughan
Robert Harker
James Landon
[illegible] Mitchell
P. Burdon
Walter Balfour
William Balfour
Jos. DuPré Porcher
Thos Cockburn.

Gangaloo, Baller and Dashen are brought to the Bar and arraigned as follows.

Clk of the Peace. You Stand here indicted by the Names of Gangaloo Baller and Dashen late of Madraspatnam Inhabitants for that on the Thirty first day of December in the Twenty fourth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the

the Third Thing of Great Britain &c. about the hour of Eleven in the Night of the same day, by force and Arms &c. at Triplicane within the Jurisdiction of the Town of Madraspatnam aforesaid the dwelling house of one Goolaberam, feloniously and burglariously, did break and enter and certain Joys and Cloaths and a Bag containing Money, Value altogether about Twenty Pagodas, of the Goods and Cattels of the said Goolaberam in the dwelling house aforesaid, then and there being feloniously and burglariously did Steal, take and carry away against the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King his Crown and dignity- and the Jurors aforesaid upon their Oath aforesaid do Say and Present that the said Dashen, Servant of the said Goolaberam before the Burglary and felony aforesaid was done and committed, as aforesaid, feloniously, burglariously and Voluntarily did incite, abet and Counsel the said Gungaloo and Ballen the said Burglary and felony to do and commit, against the Peace of our said Lord the King his Crown and Dignity-

How Say you Gungaloo, Ballen and Dashen are you guilty of the Crime whereof you Stand here indicted or not Guilty-

Prisoners . . Not Guilty

Cl. of the Peace. How will you be Tried-

Prisoners . . . By God and our Country-

Cl

Cl. of the Peace God send you a good deliverance-

The Prisoners chuse a Jury of Six Englishmen and Six Natives on which the following Persons are Sworn

Cl. of the Peace. Gentlemen of the Jury look upon the Prisoners and hearken unto their Cause- You shall know that they Stand indicted by the Names of Gungaloo, Ballen and Dashen late of Madraspatnam Inhabitants/ here the indictment was read over again as in the Arraignment/ upon this Indictment they have been Arraigned and thereunto have pleaded not Guilty and for their Trial have put themselves upon God and their Country which Country you are, your Charge is to Enquire whether they are Guilty of the Burglary and Felony whereof they Stand indicted or not Guilty if you find them Guilty you are to enquire what Goods and Chattels, Lands or Tenements they had at the time of

of the Burglary and Felony so Committed or at any time since - If you find them not Guilty you are to enquire whether they fled for it if you find that they fled for it you are to enquire of their Goods and Chattels, Lands or Tenements the same as if you had found them Guilty if you find that they are not Guilty and did not fly for it - You are to say so and no more and hear your Evidence -

Golaberow Sweetmeat maker is Sworn -

Clk of the Peace. Do you know the Prisoners -

Dept. . . . . Has known Dashen Two years and the others about three or four Months -

Clk of the Peace Relate what you know concerning the Crime they are accused of -

Dept. . . . . About one Month and an half ago this Deponent lost some Joys, Cloaths and Money out of his House at Midnight - he observed in the Morning these things to be missing and an hole made with an Iron Crow in the house - Three days afterwards this Deponent heard the Poligar at Vipery had found the Thief - he went to his house and the Poligar told him to come the next day and he would shew this Deponent the

the Prisoners - he went the next day and the Poligar shewed him his Joys, Cloaths and the Prisoners - they were then all taken before Mr Dent the Justice -

Clk of the Peace. Was it your dwelling House -

Dept. . . . Yes - the hole was made in my dwelling house and the things were taken out of it -

Clk of the Peace. Was any Person in it at the time -

Dept. . . . Three or four People -

Clk of the Peace How do you know it was at midnight the things were taken out of your house -

Dept. . . . I believe it must have been done about that time -

Clk of the Peace. Did any Person in the house hear a Noise of digging in the Night

Dept. . . . No - we did not hear any Noise -

Clk of the Peace. How large was the hole -

Dept. . . . Large enough for a Man's body to pass through -

Clk of the Peace Was the hole made in a Mud Walle -

Dept. . . . Yes -

Clk of the Peace - How do you know it was made with an Iron Crow

Dept. . . . It appeared so by the hole - and the Poligars People found

found a Small Iron Crow in Dashen's house

Ch of the Peace Did they find any thing else in Dashen's house

Dept.... No None of my things

Ch of the Peace Was not Dashen your Servant

Dept.... Yes

Ch of the Peace did you suspect he had Stolen your things

Dept.... No

Ch of the Peace Who told you the Vepery Poligar had found the Thief

Dept.... I heard so at General Lang's house from the Servants

Ch of the Peace Where did you first see the Prisoners after you had lost your things

Dept.... at the Poligars house Gungadoo & Ballan and also my Joys Cloaths and bag Containing Money

Ch of the Peace Should you know your things if you were to see them

Dept.... Yes They are then shewn to him and he declares all the Joys and all the Cloaths except two pair to be his own and the same were Stolen out of his house. The Deponent Says also the Bag containing some Pagodas, Rupees and fanams to be his and the the Money agrees with what was in it when taken

Ch of the Peace What did the Poligar Say to you

Deponent He told me that Ballan, Gungaloo, Dashen and one Mootaloo had Stolen my things

Ch of the Peace What became of Mootaloo

Dept.... They could not find him

Ch of the Peace Have you any other reason for supposing the Prisoners Stole your things besides what the Poligar told you

Dept.... I know nothing more about it than what the Poligar told me

Ch of the Peace What are Gungaloo and Ballan

Dept.... I have seen them several times at Triplicane but dont know what they are

The Petit Jury after having Withdrawn about an hour and half return into Court - Verdict having been first proclaimed

Ch of the Peace Gentlemen of the Jury are you Agreed of your Verdict

Jury.... Yes

Ch of the Peace Who shall Say for you

Jury.... Our Foreman

Ch of the Peace Is Cotton Bowerbank Dent guilty of the Misdemeanours whereof

whereof he Stands indicted for extortion from Ancha Pillai
or not guilty -

Foreman ... Not Guilty

Cth of the Peace Is Colton Bowerbank Dent guilty of the Misdemeanour
whereof he Stands indicted for extortion from Sannangar
Mootiah or not Guilty -

ditto

Foreman ... Not Guilty -

Cth of the Peace Is Colton Bowerbank Dent guilty of the Misdemeanour
whereof he Stands indicted for extortion from Sonnancotty
Pillah or not Guilty -

Foreman ... Not Guilty

Cth of the Peace Is Colton Bowerbank Dent guilty of the Misdemean
whereof he Stands indicted for extortion from Baputtala
Vencataramoodoo Chitty or not Guilty -

Foreman ... Not Guilty

Cth of the Peace Gentlemen of the Jury hearken to your Verdict as th
Court have recorded them You Say that Colton Bowerbank
Dent is not Guilty of the Misdemeanours whereof he
Stands indicted for extortion And so you say all -

Jury ... Yes -

Mr Dent is then discharged

Ingariapah Taliar Sworn -

Cth of the Peace Do you know the Prisoners -

Dept ... Yes Since they were brought to the Poligars at Vipery -

Cth of the Peace Relate what you know

Dept ... I had observed Gungadoo for several days at Vipery
and that he was Idle and doing no Work and therefore
Suspected him - I enquired about him and found that
he had a Quantity of Joys and things - I went to
Gungadoo's house and told him to Shew me all these
things - Gungadoo then brought a bag containing some
Money and some Joys and said another man had
given it to him - I then carried him to the Poligar
and he said there were two others - The Next day Gungadoo
and the Poligars People went and brought Ballan
and Dashen to Vipery and they were all carried
to Mr Dent -

Cth of the Peace At what house did you find Gungadoo

Dept ... Not his own house - but I understood from the
People of the house he had lived there some time -

Cth -

Cth of the Peace Did you enquire how he lived

Dept.... No they said he had been with them some time and paid for his living

Cth of the Peace. Where did you find Ballan

Dept.... at Vipery - he had some Joys and Cloaths also

Cth of the Peace. Are these the things / shewing what Golaberow before declared to be his property / you took from Ballan and Gungadoo

Dept.... Yes.

Cth of the Peace did they say where they got them

Dept.... They said a Man had given them the things

Cth of the Peace Do you know what the Prisoners are or how they maintain themselves

Dept.... I understood Dashen was Golaberow's Servant - I don't know what the others were.

Cth of the Peace. Where did the Poligars People take Dashen

Dept.... at his house at Triplicane.

Cth of the Peace. did you find any of Golaberow's things there

Dept.... No - They only found an Iron Crow with which it was supposed the Prisoners had made the hole in the house

Cth of the Peace did you hear where he got the Iron Crow or what use he made of it

Dept.... No

Cth of the Peace How long ago did this happen

Dept.... I don't remember exactly - I believe about Six Weeks ago

Cth of the Peace. Do you know any further particulars concerning this matter.

Dept.... No. I don't know any thing more

Narsemjee Naig Poligar Sworn

Cth of the Peace Do you know the Prisoners

Dept.... Not before they were brought to me at Vipery about Six Weeks ago

Cth of the Peace Relate what you know

Dept.... When Gungadoo and Ballan were brought to me with the things they confessed that one Mootealoo had stolen them and they had divided them with him and that Dashen was also to have a share

Cth of the Peace What became of Mootealoo

Dept.... He could not be found

Cth of the Peace. What did you in consequence

Dept.... I sent some People to Dashen's & he was brought to me afterwards they were carried to Mr Dent the Justice

Cth of the Peace Do you know any thing of the Prisoners

Dept.... I have no knowledge how they lived.

Cth -

Clk of the Peace. Do you know any more particulars respecting what they are indicted of

Dept. ... No

There being no more Witnesses to Examine The Prisoners are asked if they have any Evidences to call upon or any thing to offer in their defence

Prisoners ... Say they are innocent and have nothing to offer

Being asked whether they had not confessed at the Polligars that they had divided the things with one Mootealoo although they knew it had been Stolen -

Prisoners ... Answer in the affirmative, but Say that the Poligar's People flogged them and therefore they had told them so

The Petit Jury then Withdrew and soon after return into Court - Verdict being first proclaimed

Clk of the Peace. Gentlemen of the Jury are you Agreed of your Verdict

Jury ... Yes

Clk of the Peace. Who shall Say for you

Jury ... Our Foreman -

Clk of the Peace. Gungaloo, Ballan and Dashen hold up your Hands [illegible] the Prisoners at the Bar, How Say you? are

are they Guilty of the Burglary and Felony whereof they Stand indicted or not Guilty -

Foreman ... Not Guilty -

Clk of the Peace. Gentlemen of the Jury hearken to your Verdict as the Court have Recorded it - You Say that Gungaloo, Ballan and Dashen are not Guilty of the Burglary and Felony whereof they Stand indicted - And so you Say all -

Jury ... Yes

One of the Petit Jury observes to the Court that notwithstanding the Prisoners Stand Acquitted of the Burglary and Felony, yet there is great reason to Suppose they are not free from guilt and Misbehaviour and Submits to the Bench whether they ought not to be reprimanded and Warned against any future bad Actions - which is accordingly done - They are then discharged by Proclamation

There being no more Records, the Grand and Petit Juries are dismiss'd with Thanks for their Services and the Court is adjourned until Wednesday 7th April next for holding another Sessions -

Wednesday 7th April 1784.

Justices present

Alexander Davidson Esq.r Chairman

John Turing Collon Bowerbank Dent

and

Robert Maunsell.

The Court is duly opened And the Sheriff returns his Precepts -

The following Grand Jury is then Sworn -

George Proctor Esq.r Chairman -

Andrew Ross William Harcourt Torriano
Henry Norris John Mitford
Valantine Fitzhugh Edward Thomas Bayly
Robert Carter John Philip Barlton
George Webster Thomas Cockburne
Joseph Shaw Forrester Rose

and

William Brown -

Bill of Indictment against Henry Williams for Felony and Murder is delivered to them and they Withdraw, an Officer being Sworn to Attend them during the Sessions -

Mr James Baxter
Terapudy
Ponan
Paduvatam

} Are Sworn on the foregoing bill of Indictment to give Evidence to the Grand Jury -

Grand Jury come into Court and redeliver the bill of Indictment endorsed a true Bill -

Henry Williams is then brought to the bar and arraigned as follows -

L.S. of the Peace. Henry Williams hold up your Hand, you Stand Indicted by the Name Henry Williams Private in his Majestys Twenty third Regiment of Dragoons for that on the Twenty fifth day of March in the Twenty fourth Year of the Reign

Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the third, King of Great Britain &c. by force and Arms, at Saint Thome, within the Jurisdiction of the Town of Madraspatnam, in and upon one Sonderoy, Horsekeeper, in the Peace of God and our said Lord the King, then and there being, feloniously wilfully and with Malice afore thought, did make an Assault, and that you the said Henry Williams with your clinched Fist in and upon the Side, near unto the Belly, of him the said Sonderoy, then and there wilfully, feloniously and of your Malice forethought did Strike giving unto the said Sonderoy, with your clinched Fist aforesaid, one mortal blow, of which said Mortal blow, the said Sonderoy languished about the Space of one hour, and then died And so the Jurors aforesaid, upon their Oath aforesaid do say that you the said Henry Williams, the said Sonderoy in manner and form aforesaid, feloniously wilfully and of your Malice afore thought, did kill and murder against the Peace of our said Lord the King, his Crown and Dignity - How say you are you guilty of the Felony and Murder whereof you Stand here Indicted or not guilty -

Prisoner. Not guilty -

Pl. of the Peace. How will you be tried

Prisoner. By God and my Country -

Pl. of the Peace God send you a good deliverance -

The following Petit Jury is then Sworn, the Prisoner having no objection -

Mr. Adam Turnbull Foreman.
John Tulloch — William Gowland
Angus Mackentosh — Robert Henderson
James Stringer — David Young
John Winter — Alexander Melvin
Webster Manning — Thomas Weston
and James Collings -

Pl. of the Peace Gentlemen of the Jury look upon the Prisoner and hearken unto his Cause you that shall know that he Stands indicted by the Name of Henry Williams, here the Indictment is read as in the Arraignment upon this Indictment he hath been arraigned and thereunto hath pleaded not Guilty and for his Trial hath put himself upon God and his Country which Country you are, your Charge is therefore to enquire whether he is Guilty of the Felony and Murder whereof he Stands indicted or not Guilty and hear your Evidence -

Terapiedy, Horsekeeper Sworn -

Pl. of the Peace. Do you know the Prisoner

Dept. Yes -

Pl. of the Peace Relate what you know

Dep.t

Dept. ... About 15 Days ago I two and other Horsekeepers were at St Domi- Sonderoy took his Victuals and came there- The Prisoner asked him if it was not his duty to Watch there and Sonderoy replied yes- The Prisoner then Struck him with a small Stick three or four times on the back- Sonderoy ran away a few feet and the Prisoner followed him and Struck him on the right Side- Sonderoy fell down - we carried him to the Colonel who said he would enquire into it- Sonderoy soon after died

Cth of the Peace. Did you see the Prisoner Strike Sonderoy with his fist

Dept. ... Yes one blow on the right Side -

Cth of the Peace. Was any provocation given by Sonderoy before the Prisoner Struck him -

Deponent. None

Cth of the Peace Why was the Prisoner angry with Sonderoy -

Dept. ... For staying away so long -

Cth of the Peace How long had Sonderoy been absent

Dept. ... About Two hours and an half -

Cth of the Peace Was it not Sonderoy's turn to Attend in the Line that day -

Dept. ... Yes it was his turn and his duty- there were six of us always ordered to Attend- Sonderoy and two others went to eat their Victuals -

Cth of the Peace How long did the other two return before Sonderoy -

Dept. ... about an hour -

Cth of the Peace Who gave them leave to go away -

Dept. ... No body- Three of us Staid and the other three went to take their Victuals -

Cth of the Peace Was the Prisoner angry with Sonderoy before he came for Staying so long -

Dept. ... Yes -

Cth of the Peace Did the Prisoner Strike Sonderoy immediately after he came to the Tent

Dept. ... immediately -

Cth of the Peace Did Sonderoy often neglect his business -

Dept. ... No. he had only been one Month there -

Cth of the Peace. Do you know if the Prisoner and Sonderoy had any dispute before that time -

Dept. ... No -

Cth of the Peace After Sonderoy fell down did he complain of any Pain -

Dept. ... No -

Cth of the Peace Was he sensible or did he Speak -

Dept. ... He Appeared insensible -

Cth of the Peace How did you carry him to the Colr and was it far

Dept. ... He was carried softly and so that he could not be hurt- it was very near

Cth of the Peace. How long did he live after he fell down -

Dept. ... about two hours -

Cth

86.

Oth of the Peace Did you see any bruise or marks of violence on his body

Dept ..... No

Oth of the Peace Was Tonderoy in good health before this happened

Dept ..... Yes

Oth of the Peace Was the Prisoner on duty at the time

Dept ..... Yes - it was usual for one European to stay by the line

Oth of the Peace How many Horses were then at the Tent

Dept ..... There were two Lines - in one there 22 Horses and the other 40

Oth of the Peace Did they send for a Surgeon

Dept ..... Yes - but Tonderoy was dead before he came

Ponan Horsekeeper Sworn -

Oth of the Peace How long have you known the Prisoner

Dept ..... About two Months - Three of us watched about 10 or 15 Days ages at the Tent at St Thomé and three other Horsekeepers went to take Victuals - Tonderoy came an hour after the other two Men - The Prisoner asked Tonderoy if it was not his duty to Attend at the time and the Deceased said yes - The Prisoner then Struck him three or four times on the back with a small Stick about the Size of ones little finger Tonderoy ran away a little and the Prisoner Struck him with his fist in his right Side - Tonderoy immediately fell down and we carried him to the Colonel - The Colonel told us to carry him back to the Tent which was done Accordingly - Tonderoy lifted up his head and looked round him and soon after died

87.

Oth of the Peace Did you see the Prisoner Strike Tonderoy with his fist on the Side

Dept ..... Yes

Oth of the Peace Did he Strike him with much violence

Dept ..... Yes - with his fist

Oth of the Peace Was any Provocation given by the Deceased

Dept ..... None but Staying away from his duty

Oth of the Peace Did Tonderoy Complain of any Pain after he fell down

Dept ..... Yes - he Complained of a pain in his Side

Oth of the Peace Did he Speak much

Dept ..... No - about an hour and half after he fell down he said he wanted to go to Stool - he was carried a little way & soon after having had a Stool he died

Oth of the Peace Was Terapeedy present at this time

Dept ..... No - he went away and came afterwards

Oth of the Peace Do you know if Tonderoy often Neglected his business or was the Prisoner ever displeased with him before

Dept ..... I believe not

Oth of the Peace Did you see any bruise or Marks of Violence on Tonderoy

Dept ..... There appeared a Swelling on his Side

Oth of the Peace Do you think it was occasioned by the blow

Dept ..... Yes

Oth of the Peace Was Tonderoy in good health before this happened

Dept ..... Yes

Oth of the Peace What Age was he

Dept ..... he was a Young Man

Oth of the Peace Was the Prisoner on duty at the time - Dept

Dept.... Yes- one Trooper always Staid by the Tent to take care of every thing

Pth of the Peace. Who generally punished the Horsekeepers when they Neglected their duty

Dept..... Some times the European who Staid at the Tent

Pth of the Peace. What did he punish with

Dept.... With a Small Stick that was kept there.

Pth of the Peace. Was it the same Stick the Prisoner Struck Sonderoy with

Dept.... No

Pth of the Peace. Was it by order of the Officers that the European who Staid at the Tent use to punish the People

Dept..... I don't know

Questions from the Court

Question... Was it not Sonderoy's turn to Attend at the time

Dept..... Yes it was his turn and his duty

Question... Was it not usual to punish them who were Absent

Dept..... Yes

Question... Were not some Horses loose at the time Sonderoy came

Dept..... I did not see any horse loose

Question... Should you have known if any Horse was loose

Dept.... Yes- I was at the Tent

Question... Was there not a heap of Straw which prevented you seeing all the Horses under the Tent

Dept.... There was a heap of Straw about breast high.

Padavalam

Padavalam Horsekeeper Sworn

Pth of the Peace Do you know the Prisoner

Dept... Yes

Pth of the Peace Relate what you know

Dept.... Sonderoy went to take his Victuals and Staid longer than the other two Horsekeepers- The Prisoner when he came asked him why he Stayed so long and Struck him three or four times on the back with a Small Stick- Sonderoy ran away & the Prisoner after him and Struck Sonderoy on the side with his Fist he fell down and we afterwards carried him to the Colonel.

Pth of the Peace Did the Prisoner Strike Sonderoy immediately on his coming to the Tent

Dept.... Yes

Pth of the Peace Did you hear that Sonderoy had Neglected his duty before that day

Dept.... No

Pth of the Peace Was it the blows from the Stick that hurt the deceased Sonderoy.

Dept.... No- it must have been the blow given with his Fist

Pth of the Peace Do you know why the Prisoner Struck Sonderoy

Deponent... For Staying away so long- I don't know any other reason

Pth of the Peace Do you know if any Horses were loose during the time Sonderoy was absent

Dept..... I do not know there were any loose

Mr James Barber Surgeon Sworn.

Pth of the Peace. Do you know the Prisoner

Dept.

Dept.... Yes~

Pth of the Peace Did you Examine the body of a Horsekeeper lately at St Thome

Dept.... Yes, I was sent for at St Thome to see a Horsekeeper the latter end of last Month - when I came I found the man dead in the Tent where the Horses belonging to 23. Regt are kept - I saw the Body and found a general Swelling on the Stomach~

Pth of the Peace. Did you see any outward mark of Violence on the body.~

Dept.... No~

Pth of the Peace Do you think the Swelling you perceived could have been occasioned from any internal cause~

Dept.... Yes - and I understood he had eaten a large quantity of something~

Pth of the Peace. Would a blow given when the Stomach was very full be attended with worse Effects than usual~

Dept.... No. I think not~

Pth of the Peace - had you opened the body dont you think you would have been able to have perceived the cause of his Death~

Dept.... Yes - I think so~

Pth of the Peace Did he appear to have been a young and healthy Person

Dept.... He appeared to have been a young man and I believe healthy~

Pth of the Peace Did you make any other observations~

Dept.... No other that I remember~

The Witnesses being all examined for the Prosecution the Prisoner desires his Officers may be called on to give their Evidence~

Col

Col. Floyd Sworn.

Pth of the Peace Do you know the Prisoner~

Dept.... Yes - Williams has belonged to the Regiment two years during which time he has always behaved as a quiet man and a good Soldier and I understand he is a remarkable good tempered fellow

Colonel Floyd then Acquaints the Court it was usual to have one European Trooper to Attend at the Tent to take care that the Horsekeepers did their duty and that it was the Prisoner's turn on the day the Accident happened~

The Colonel also observes that Sanders's going away at the time he did was contrary to Orders as it was regulated that the Horsekeepers should always be Attending at the Tent and he was one of them when he absented himself - for so long a time~

Cornet John Jeffries Sworn -

Pth of the Peace Do you know the Prisoner~

Dept.... I have known him two years and a half - and he belonged to the same Troop as myself - he is a remarkable quiet and good Soldier - has always behaved soberly and with good Temper~

The Petit Jury withdraw - and an Officer is Sworn to keep them - In a short time they return into Court - Verdict being first Proclaimed~

Pth of the Peace Gentlemen of the Jury are you Agreed of your verdict~

Jury.... Yes -

Pth of the Peace Who shall say for you~

Jury.... Our Foreman -

Pth

Ch of the Peace Henry Williams hold up your Hand

Ch of the Peace to the Jury Look upon the Prisoner - how say you is he Guilty o the Felony and Murder whereof he Stands indicted or not Guilty.

Foreman ... Not Guilty of Felony and Murder, but Guilty of Manslaughter

Ch of the Peace Gentlemen of the Jury hearken unto your Verdict as the Court hath Recorded it - You Say that Henry Williams is not Guilty of the Felony and Murder whereof he stan indicted but Guilty of Mans Laughter and so you say all

Jury ... Yes -

Ch of the Peace Henry Williams hold up your Hand - You Stand here convic of Mans laughter, what can you Say for yourself why the Court sh not proceed to give Judgment against you as the Law directs -

Prisoner has nothing to offer

The Chairman after exhorting the Prisoner to be more guarded and cautious in his future behaviour pronou the following Sentence which is immediately inflicted

You shall be burnt in the Brawney part of your left ha with a hot Iron having the Impression of the Letter M.

Henry Williams is then discharged

The Grand Jury after having detained the Court about an hour and half, deliver the following Presentment which is publickly read

We the Grand Jury of the Town of Madra Patnam

Madraspatnam Sworn to enquire for our Sovereign Lord the King for the Body of the said Town being justly and truly sensible of the many Advantages arising to this place by the gracious Dispensa= tion of His Majesty's Royal Charter as it has conveyed with it the Laws of England and prescribed the proper Methods for putting those Laws in execution

Do present that on the North Esplanade between the Glacis and the Black Town there are several Kilns wherein Chunam or Lime is burnt which from its Noisome offensive and Stinking Smoke infects the Air with an offensive Stink and Smell and proves a great Nuisance to the Inhabitants both of the Fort and of the Black Town - And we do further present that in the Black Town and Environs of Madras there are several Wells without any Parapet Walls to them, and others which are greatly out of repair and the Walls not sufficiently high by which Passengers going to and fro are exposed to great Danger and Risk of their Lives -

All which Matters and things are contrary to the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King his -

74.

his Crown and Dignity

Town Hall
April 7th 1784.

George Proctor Foreman
Andrew Ross
W.H. Torriano
Henry Norris
Jnº Mitford
Val. Fitzhugh
C.J. Bayly
John Snow
R. Harker
J.P. Burlton
Geo Webster
Thos Cockburn
Joseph Shaw
Forrester Ross
Wm Brown

There being no more business, the Grand and Pet
Juries are dismissed with thanks for their Services an
the Court is Adjourned until Wednesday the 7th
Next for holding another Sessions.

Wednesday the 7th July 1784

Justices present

Anthony Sadlier Esqr Chairman

Alexander Davidson John Turing

and

Robert Maxwell

The Court is duly opened and the Sheriff
returns his Precepts the following Grand Jury is then sworn

Two Bills of Indictment against Coonan and John both for Murder are delivered to the Grand Jury and they withdraw an Officer being sworn to attend them—

The following Witness are sworn to give Evidence before the Grand Jury—

Cooty, Scooty } on the Bill against John

Veery, Veery, & Andiappen } Do Do Coonan

Grand Jury come into Court and deliver Bill of Indictment against John indorsed a true Bill

John is then brought to the Bar and arraigned as follows—

Clerk of the Peace John hold up your hand You stand indicted by the Name of John of the Town of Madraspatnam for that not having the fear of God before your Eyes but being moved and seduced by the instigation of the Devil on the Twenty ninth day of April in the Twenty fourth Year of the reign of our Soverign Lord George the third now King of Great Britain &c with force and Arms at Poddu Parachery within the Jurisdiction of Madraspatnam aforesaid, in and upon one Pavady in the peace of God and of our Soverign Lord the King, then and there being, feloniously wilfully and of your malice aforethought did make an Assault, and that the said John with both your hands & feet the said Pavady to and against the Ground, then and there feloniously wilfully and of your malice aforethought, did strike, cast and throw, and the said Pavady upon the Ground lying, You the said John with both your hands and feet aforesaid, in and upon the Stomach, back and sides of him

him the Pavady did beat, kick, and bruise, giving to the said Pavady, then and there, as well by striking and throwing to the Ground aforesaid, as also by beating and bruising the said Pavady upon the stomach, back & sides with both the hands and feet of you the said John in manner aforesaid, several mortal bruises, of which said several mortal bruises the said Pavady languished about the space of two hours and then died and so the Jurors aforesaid upon their oath aforesaid do say that you the said John the said Pavady in manner and form aforesaid, feloniously wilfully and of your malice aforethought did kill and murder, against the Peace of our Soverign Lord the King his Crown and Dignity—

Clerk of the Peace How say you John are you Guilty of the Felony and murder whereof You stand indicted or not Guilty!

Prisoner Not Guilty

Clerk of the Peace How will you be tried

Prisoner By God and my Country

Clerk of the Peace God send you a good deliverance

The Prisoner is informed of her privilege as a native, but chooses a Jury of 12 Englishmen — they are accordingly sworn is as follows—

Cooly Pariah woman Sworn

Clerk of the Peace — How long have You known the Prisoner

Deponent — Five or six months

Clerk of the Peace — relate what You know

Deponent — About two months ago the Prisoner beat most the mother of the deceased at Ponder Parrichery near Vepery – the deceased had been sick for sometime but found himself better that day – the Prisoner was much in Liquor at the time the deceased asked the Prisoner why he beat his mother about an hour afterwards and the Prisoner answered what is that to you – they then closed together and both fell down upon the Ground – there was a wooden pin fixed to fasten Bullocks – after that they both rolled about and the Pavady got up and wiped his mouth with his Cloth and about an hour afterwards he dies

Clerk of the Peace — did Pavady see the Prisoner strike his mother

Deponent — no

Clerk of the Peace — did Pavady give no other provocation before the Prisoner struck him

Deponent — no – he only asked the Prisoner why he beat his mother and if he maintained her –

Clerk of the Peace — how many blows did the Prisoner strike Pavady before he fell down

Deponent — I dont know they closed together and then fell down –

Clerk of the Peace — was Pavady hurt by the blows or falling down –

Deponent — I dont know which

Clerk of the Peace — did you observe if Pavady fell upon the wooden Pin

Deponent — no

Clerk of the Peace — did the Prisoner appear to hurt Pavady much when he got upon his body –

Deponent — I dont know they were rolling about together for some minutes

Clerk of the Peace — was the Prisoner much in liquor at the time

Deponent — Yes

Clerk of the Peace — did you hear of any dispute between them before that day

Deponent — no – they were always Friends and lived together

Clerk of the Peace — had Pavady been very ill

Deponent — he had been ill about 14 days – but eat some victuals every day

Clerk of the Peace — do you what Pavadys illness was

Deponent — a fever and head ache I understood –

Question — did the deceased complain

Deponent — no

Question — was there any mark of blood or violence on Pavady

Deponent — I did not see any

Question — did they send for a Doctor whilst Pavady was sick

Deponent — no

Question — In what manner did they fall

Deponent — when they fell the deceased was under

Question — did You see the Prisoner stamp upon the body of Pavady

Deponent — no

Question — did you think Pavady in danger after what had happened

Deponent — No.

Question — did they send for a Surgeon

Deponent — No.

Question — was the Prisoner relation to the Deceased

Deponent — yes his Cousin

Question — what became of the Prisoner when Pavady got up from the Ground

Deponent — He was carried away

Question — what you think occasioned the death of the deceased

Deponent — I cant tell

Question — did not Pavady speak after he rose from the Ground

Deponent — Yes he said he wanted to go to stool after which he laid down upon the Pyal –

Question — did he rise from the Ground without any assistance

Deponent — Yes

Question — did not Pavady complain of any pain or say any thing of the Prisoner

Deponent — no

Question — did you suppose he would die

Deponent — No

Question — how long did Pavady lie on the Royal before he died

Deponent — about half an hour

Question — were you present when he died

Deponent — Yes – and his Mother mother came just before his death –

Question — where did the Prisoner go

Deponent — he went away intoxicated and laid down – and when Pavady died they carried him before the Justice

Question — was there an English Surgeon sent for to examine the Body

Deponent — No

Moses Pariah Woman Sworn

Clerk of the Peace — do you know the Prisoner

Deponent — Yes since he was born – he is my Cousins Son

Clerk of the Peace — relate what you know

Deponent — about two or three months ago my Son Pavady had been confined of a fever and head ach ten days – about six o'Clock in the Evening the Prisoner came drunk to this Deponents house at Rudy Parade next to Jury – the Prisoner was much dissatisfied being intoxicated and seized this Deponent by the Cloaths and struck this Deponent on which this Deponent ran away when I returned an hour or two afterwards this Deponents Son was easing himself and we put him on the Pyal and he died very soon after that –

Clerk of the Peace — did You see the Prisoner strike your Son Pavady

Deponent — no I was not present

Clerk of the Peace — do you know of any quarrel between the Pavady before that time –

Deponent — no

Clerk of the Peace — why did the Prisoner beat Pavady

Deponent — I dont know

Clerk of the Peace — did your Son appear to suffer much pain when You put him on the Pyal

Dep.t

Deponent — Yes he appeared to be very sick

Clerk of the Peace — did your Son speak after you returned

Deponent — no

Clerk of the Peace — was your Son very much indisposed before this happened

Deponent — He was ill of a fever and head ach but used to eat his Victuals one meal a day –

Clerk of the Peace — what Victuals did he eat

Deponent — Conjee

Clerk of the Peace — was Pavady worse on the day he died

Deponent — no he was something better on that day

Clerk of the Peace — did the Prisoner often beat you or Pavady

Deponent — no –

Clerk of the Peace — did the Prisoner appear much intoxicated

Deponent — Yes.

Clerk of the Peace — did you see any mark of violence on the body of Pavady

Deponent — I did not see any

Clerk of the Peace — did any Doctor visit your Son before he died or examine the body afterwards –

Deponent — no

Clerk of the Peace — what age was your Son

Deponent — He was a young man about 18 Years old –

There being no other Evidence for the Prosecution and the Prisoner having no witnesses to be examined – the Petit Jury withdrew, Officer being Sworn to keep them, and in a very short time returned into Court verdict having been first proclaimed –

Clerk of the Peace to the Jury — Gentlemen of the Jury, are you agreed of your Verdict

Jury — Yes.

Clerk of the Peace to the Jury — who shall speak for you

Jury — our Forman

Clerk of the Peace to the Jury — John, Hold up your Hand

Clerk of the Peace to the Jury — I Ask upon the Prisoner how say you is he Guilty of the murder whereof he stands indicted or not Guilty

Dep.t

Forman — Not Guilty

Clerk of the Peace — Did he Ply for it.

Forman — No

Clerk of the Peace — Gentlemen of the Jury hearken to your verdict, as the Court hath recorded it, you say that John ~~is not Guilty of murder but Guilty of~~ is not Guilty of the murder, whereof he stands indicted, and that he did not Ply for it and so you say all —

Jury — Yes.

The Grand Jury came into Court and deliver Bill of Indictment against Coonen for murder endorsed a true Bill —

John being then removed from the Bar, Coonen is brought to it and arraigned as follows —

Clerk of the Peace — Coonen hold up your hand indicted by the name of Coonen of the Town of Madraspatnam for that not having the fear of God before your Eyes, but being moved and seduced by the instigation of the Devil on the fifth day of May in the twenty fourth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George now King of Great Britain &c. by force and Arms &c. at Chapauk within the Jurisdiction of Madraspatnam aforesaid, in and upon one — Paravata in the peace of God and of our Sovereign Lord the King then and there being feloniously, wilfully and with malice aforethought did make an assault and that the said Coonen with your clenched fist in and upon the Face of her the said Paravata then and there wilfully feloniously and of your malice aforethought did strike giving unto her the said Paravata with his clenched fist aforesaid several mortal blows of which said mortal blows the said Paravata languished about the space of a few hours and then died and so the Jurors aforesaid upon their Oath aforesaid do say that the said Coonen the said Paravata in manner and form aforesaid feloniously, wilfully and of his malice aforethought did

did kill and murder against the peace of our Sovereign Lord the King his Crown and Dignity —

Clerk of the Peace — How say you Coonen are you Guilty of the Felony and murder whereof you stand indicted or not Guilty —

Prisoner — Not Guilty —

Clerk of the Peace — How will you be tried

Prisoner — By God and my Country

Clerk of the Peace — God send you a good deliverance

The Prisoner chusing twelve Englishmen the following Jury is again sworn he having no objection to any of them —

The 4th of the 4 Gentlemen of the Jury took upon

Nina Pariah woman sworn —

Clerk of the Peace — As you know the Prisoner

Deponant — I have known him 5 or 6 years

Clerk of the Peace — relate what you know

Deponant — about months ago the Prisoner went to Chipauk to bring his wife to his mothers house — when he returned his mother asked him if he had brought her and he answered that unless he gave her one piece of Cloth her mother would not let her return with him — at this time Paravata came out of her house ~~and quarrelled~~ and gave the Prisoner bad language and told him he was a lazy fellow and that the reason the

his wife would not come with him – The Prisoner was provoked and used bad language also on which the deceased seized him by the Cloaths and told him to prove what he said – The Prisoner then struck her on the face with his hands Paravata went a few yards and fell down. I lifted her up and she was not able to stand and fell down again but she got up afterwards and walked a little way and fell down senseless – we brought her to her house and her belly – this happened about 7 and she died at 8 o Clock that Evening –

Clerk of the Peace how many blows did the Prisoner strike her –

Deponant Three or four blows –

Clerk of the Peace on what part of the face did he strike her and was it with his fist –

Deponant It appeared to be with his open hands and on the left Temple –

Clerk of the Peace when Paravata seized the Prisoner by the Cloths did he endeavour to extricate himself before he struck her

Deponant The Prisoner told Paravata several times to let go his Cloaths before he struck her –

Clerk of the Peace had the Prisoner and Paravata any disputes before that day –

Deponant None that I know of –

Clerk of the Peace Did the Prisoner seem to strike with much violence

Deponant not much violence

Clerk of the Peace do you think Paravata received any hurt in falling down – or did the Prisoner strike her on the Ground –

Deponant Paravata was not hurt in falling and the Prisoner did not strike her afterwards –

Clerk of the Peace did Paravata complain of any pain after she fell down

Deponant Yes she complained of a pain in her belly –

Clerk of the Peace had she no pain in the head or was there any bruize or mark of violence on her face –

Deponant I saw no mark of violence on her face and she only spoke of a pain in her belly which seemed to be swellon –

Clerk of the Peace did the Prisoner strike her on the belly –

Deponant no I believe not –

Clerk of the Peace what occassioned its being swelled

Deponant I don't know –

Clerk of the Peace what did Paravata say about it

Deponant She only complained of a pain and we it –

Clerk of the Peace how long did Paravata live after the Prisoner struck her

Deponent not quite an hour –

Clerk of the Peace was Paravata in good health when this happened

Deponant – Yes –

Clerk of the Peace was the deceased any relation of the Prisoner

Deponant No relation but his neighbour

Clerk of the Peace What is the Prisoner and how did he maintain himself

Deponant He used to live with Gentlemen as a Matty Boy

Clerk of the Peace how long had the Prisoners wife been absent from him and why did she object to return with him

Deponant She had been at her own mothers house about 2 Months I don't know any thing more –

Clerk of the Peace was the Prisoner very sorry at what had happened and did he offer to assist Paravata

Deponant Yes he appeared sorry and helped to carry Paravata to her house –

Clerk of the Peace do you know of any other cause that could occasion Paravatas death besides the blows on the Temple –

Deponant I don't know perhaps it might have been the visitation of God

Andeffpen Pariah man Sworn-

do you know the Prisoner

Deponent Yes three months ago I went to the House of the deceased about 2 months since at Chepauk The Prisoners mother came there and they talked together and eat Betle - Soonen a little after returned from his mother in Laws house and his mother asked him if he had brought his wife - he answered that her mother would not let her return without giveing her a piece of Cloth - Paravata hearing this came out and gave the Prisoner abusive language telling him that he wanted to be maintained by his wife and that he was an idle fellow without shame - the Prisoner in answer said she is not common like you - on which the deceased seized his Cloaths and told him to prove it. the Prisoner desired her to let go his Cloaths and struck her on the face - she fell down almost immediately and in a short time he lifted her up and carried her a little way - she complained of a belly ach and said she wanted to ease herself - afterwards she was carried to her house and they her belly -

Clerk of the Peace Did you observe on what part of the face and how many blows the Prisoner struck Paravata -

Deponent Three or four blows with his hands but I cannot say on what particular part -

Clerk of the Peace was it done with his fist or open hands

Deponent I dont know which it was in the Evening after 7 Clock

Clerk of the Peace did the deceased complain of any pain in her head

Deponent No, only in her belly -

Clerk of the Peace did you observe any bruize or mark on her face -

Deponent no - but her belly appeared to be swelled -

Clerk of the Peace what you think occasioned Paravata's falling down

Deponent I believe she fell down from the blows upon her face -

Clerk of the Peace was Paravata hurt in falling or after she was on the Ground -

Deponent I think not -

Clerk of the Peace was Paravata in good health - when this happened -

Deponent Yes -

Clerk of the Peace what did Paravata say after she fell down -

Deponent She did not any thing more than complained of a pain in her belly - and 20 Minutes before she died she seemed insensible -

Clerk of the Peace did you think her life in danger -

Deponent No I did not suppose she would die

Clerk of the Peace was there any Doctor sent for to see Paravata

Deponent no -

Davy Naig Interpriter to the Justices Sworn

Clerk of the Peace Did you see the body of one Paravata at Chepauk

Deponent Yes about two months I went with Mr Shawe and Mootoo-comarapah to viset the deceased Paravata we examined the body and could not perceive any mark of violence on it. the body was somewhat - Paravata died I understood about 8 oClock in the Evening and we saw her body next day at 1 oClock -

Clerk of the Peace do you think if there had been any bruize or swelling you could have seen it -

Deponent - Yes we might have seen it -

Clerk of the Peace Did you observe the face -

Deponent Yes particularly but could not perceive any mark of violence on it -

The Evidence being closed and the Prisoner having no questions to ask or Witnesses to be examined the Petty Jury withdraw -

an Officer is sworn to keep them -

Petit Jury return to Court after having been out a few minutes and verdict being first proclaimed -

Clerk of the Peace Gentlemen of the Jury, are you agreed of your Verdict

Jury Yes

Clerk of the Peace Who shall speak for you

Jury - Our Foreman

Clerk of the Peace Coonen Hold up your hand

Clerk of the Peace to the Jury } Look upon the Prisoner - How say you is he Guilty of the Murder whereof he stands indicted or not Guilty -

Foreman Coonen not Guilty -

Clerk of the Peace Did they fly for it -

Foreman No

The Prisoner is removed from the Bar -

The Grand Jury came into Court and redelivered Bill of Indictment against Vardarajah Moodaly endorsed a true Bill -

Vardarajah Moodaly is then brought to the Bar and arraigned as follows -

Clerk of the Peace Vardarajah Moodaly hold up your hand you stand indicted by the name of Vardarajah Moodaly of the Town of Madrasapatnam for that not having the fear of God before your Eyes but being moved and seduced by the instigation of the Devil on the Twenty fourth day of June in the twenty fourth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George third now King of Great Britain &c by force and Arms in the Town of Madrasapatnam aforesaid in

in and upon one Appoocootty Chetty then and there being in the Peace of God and of our Sovereign Lord the King, an Assault did make and him the said Appoocooty Chitty, then and there did beat, bruise and evil intreat, and other enormous Things did, to the great damage & hurt of him the said Appoocooty Chitty to the evil example of all others offending in the like kind, and against the Peace of our said Lord the King his Crown and Dignity -

Clerk of the Peace how say you Vardarajah Moodaly are you guilty of the Assault whereof you stand indicted or not guilty

Prisoner Not Guilty -

Clerk of the Peace how will you be tried -

Prisoner By God and my Country -

Clerk of the Peace God send you a Good deliverance

Clerk of the Peace You the Prisoner at the Bar, these Good men whom you shall hear called and personally do appear are to pass between our Sovereign Lord the King and you upon your Trial, if you will challenge them or any of them your time is to speak unto them as they come to the Book to be sworn and before they are sworn -

The Prisoner is informed of his Peremptory as a Native but chooses a Jury of twelve Englishmen and they are accordingly sworn as follows - The Prisoner having no objection to any of them -

Clerk of the Peace Gentlemen of the Jury look upon the Prisoner and hearken unto his cause - you shall know that he stands indicted by the name of Vandarajah Moodaly (the Indictment is read over again as in the Arraignment) upon this indictment he has been arraigned and thereunto pleaded not guilty and for his tryal has put himself upon God and his country which Country you are - your Charge is therfore to try and enquire whether he is guilty of the Assault whereof he stands indicted or not guilty you are to say no more and hear your evidence -

Appocooty Chetty is then sworn

Clerk of the Peace Do you know the Prisoner

Deponent Yes -

Clerk of the Peace Did not the Prisoner strike you some time ago

Deponent Yes on the 24th June

Clerk of the Peace Relate the particulars of it as they happened on that Day -

Deponent On the 24th June last the Prisoner desired me to go with him to his Masters house and I said I could not the Prisoner then called on Vircarrah to bind me but nobody came on which the Prisoner struck me with his Chittysal over the left Arm which broke the Stick of the Chittysal I then laid Hold of him to carry him before the Justice in the mean time two of the Prisoner friends begged of me to forgive him after which I went to the Justice on the same day to Complain of the Prisoner -

Clerk of the Peace Did you give the Prisoner no provocation before he struck you -

Deponent No

Clerk of the Peace how many blows did he strike you

Deponent Only one Over the left Arm

Clerk of the Peace was it done with much violence or did it hurt you much

Deponent I felt a good deal of pain and my Arm swelled

Clerk of the Peace Why did the Prisoner strike you

Deponent because I would not go to his Master Mr Cochrane when he desired me -

Clerk of the Peace what part of the Chittysal struck your Arm

Deponent The handle or Stick part which broke it in consequence

(he then produces the two broken pieces)

Clerk of the Peace Are you sure the stick of the Chittysal was not at all broke before he struck you with it

Deponent It was not broken before -

Clerk of the Peace Did you not breake your promise to the Prisoner to the Prisoner several times of going to his Master -

Deponent No -

Clerk of the Peace Who were present at the time the Prisoner struck you

Deponent There was Caulaty Appoo and several others -

Clerk of the Peace Did you promise to forgive the Prisoner

Deponent Two of those present his Friends took me into a room and begged me to forgive Vandarajah and I said I would

Clerk of the Peace how long was it after that you went to the Justice -

Deponent the same day -

Clerk of the Peace Where did this happen

Deponent at the Rungandahs house in the black Town The Vandarajah also took my Earring and broke it with his hand (produces broken Earring)

Clerk of the Peace was it in your Ear at the time and did you receive any hurt from the breaking of it -

Deponent It was in my Ear but I received no hurt -

Caullaty is sworn

Clerk of the Peace Did you see the Prisoner strike Appocooty Chetty -

Deponent Yes on the 24 June in the morning

Clerk of the Peace Relate what you know concerning it

Deponent Vardarayah called Appoocotty Chitty and desired him to go to his master with him according to his promise Appoocotty Chitty excused himself and said he could not go then as he was going to rain— Vardarayah presently afterwards struck him with his Chittygal on blow over the left Arm—

Clerk of the Peace Did Appoocotty Chitty strike the Prisoner first or use any abusive language—

Deponent No—

Clerk of the Peace Why did Vardarayah strike him

Deponent he was angry because Appoocotty Chitty would not go with him to his Master—

Clerk of the Peace what part of the Chittygal struck his Arm

Deponent The Stick part—

Clerk of the Peace Do you know if Appoocotty Chitty was much hurt by it

Deponent There was no blood or bruise I believe in consequence but he said it gave him pain—

Clerk of the Peace how many blows did the Prisoner strike Appoocotty Chitty

Deponent Only one—

Clerk of the Peace Did you observe Vardarayah break Appoocotty Chitty Ear ring—

Deponent No— I only saw it broke in Appoocottys hand

Clerk of the Peace Were you present the whole time—

Deponent Yes—

Clerk of the Peace Did Appoocotty Chitty Promise to forgive the Prisoner for striking him—

Deponent Yes—

Rungnadasum Sworn

Clerk of the Peace Did you see the Prisoner strike Appoocotty Chitty lately

Deponent Yes on the 24 June in the Morning I saw Vardarayah strike Appoocotty Chitty one blow with his Chittygal he had promised several days to go to Vardarayahs master the Prisoner told him he must not put off the going to his Master again that day & when Appoocotty Chitty said he could not go the Prisoner struck him—

Clerk of the Peace Did Appoocotty Chitty struck or abuse the Prisoner before he gave him the blow with the Chittygal

Deponent No—

Clerk of the Peace It must have been a violent blow to have broken the stick of the Chittygal—

Deponent Not very Violent—

Clerk of the Peace Was the stick any way broken before

Deponent I dont know

Clerk of the Peace Did you see the Prisoner take hold of or break Appoocotty Chittys Ear ring?

Deponent No—

Clerk of the Peace Did you not see one of Appoocotty Chittys ear rings out of his ear?

Deponent Yes I saw it in his hand but did not see Vardarayah touch it—

Clerk of the Peace Did Appoocotty Chitty make any promise soon after receiving the blow to forgive the Prisoner—

Deponent Yes — when Appoocotty Chitty said he would go to the Master I and Calcatty took him into a room in my house and told him Vardarayah was only a young foolish Boy and we begged of him and set down upon our knees to forgive

Vardarayah – Appiecoolly Chitty said he would forgive him but afterwards went to the Justices –

Appoo Sworn

6th of the Peace Do you know any thing of this Assault

Deponent On the 24th June in the morning Vardarayah wanted Appicooly Chitty to go to his Master with him and he said he could not and pushed Vardarayah in a joking manner Vardarayah struck him one blow with his Thittygal also in Joke –

6th of the Peace Why do you think the Prisoner struck Appiecoolly Chitty only in Joke –

Deponent – because he laughed when he struck Appoocoolly Chitty

6th of the Peace was not the blow given with much violence

Deponent not much Violence

6th of the Peace Was the Stick of the Thittygal hastily broken before

Deponent Yes

6th of the Peace How do you know

Deponent because I used to carry the Thittygal for Vardarayah he then describes the Stick of it to have been half broken before the blow was given

6th of the Peace Would it require a very severe blow to break it in two Pieces

Deponent No –

6th of the Peace Did you see Vardarayah touch Appoocully Chitty ear ring –

Deponent No –

6th of the Peace Where you present during the time Vardarayah remained with Appoocully Chitty on the 24th June

Deponent Yes the whole time –

The Prisoner delivers a written defence & having no questions to ask or Witness to be examined the Petit Jury withdraw and in a short time return into Court Verdict being first proclaimed

The Prisoner having nothing more to offer in his defence the Chairman acquaints him that being convicted of the Assault he is fined in the Sum of 5 Shillings and to remain in the Custody of the Sheriff until such fine be paid – He is then removed from the Bar –

John and Coonen are then brought to the Bar and discharged –

The Grand Jury after having detained the Court near an hour wait upon them with the two following Presentments – the same is publicly read and the Chairman satisfies the Gentlemen of the Jury of the propriety of not making public the Latter at present –

Town of Madraspatnam ss

We the Grand Jury of the Town of Madras patnam sworn to enquire for the body of the said Town being justly sensible of the many advantages arising to this Place by the gracious dispensation of His Majestys Royal Charter as it has conveyd with it the Laws of England and prescribed the method of putting these Laws into execution —

Do present That it is come to our knowledge that the Goal or Prison house in which Criminals and Debtors are confined is so incommodiously constructed that those of both denominations are either Lodged or under the necessity of mixing together promiscuously and that there are not the means of seperating Convicts from the other Prisoners or permitting the Prisoners to enjoy the fresh air without intermixing with each other that the Goal is at present much out of repair that the Well is in danger of falling in and the Water condemned by Doctor Anderson the principal Surgeon of the Settlement to be unfit for use and to such a degree as to endanger the lives of the Prisoners which matters have been repeatedly presented by former Grand Juys without the remedy being applied —

And do further present that notwithstanding the high price of Provisions and the exactions and extortions to which this Settlement has been so often by presented no remidy as yet appears to have been applied for the correction of so great an evil and abuse —

And do further Present that the office of Scavenger which is still held by Colton Bower Bank. Dent Esqr continues to be greatly neglected particularly in the Black Town and altho the same has been repeatedly presented by this Jury no remedy has been applyed for removing so great a nusance

And do also further present that in the Black Town and Environs of Madras there are several walls without any parapet Walls to them and others which are greatly out of Repair and the Walls not sufficiently high by which passengers are exposed to great Danger and risks of their Lives —

All which matters and things are contrary to the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King his Crown and Dignity —

(signed) B Scottney Foreman
Willm Wynch
Henry Norris
Joseph Revell
Wm Ross
D. A Craig
Andrew Ross
R. Barker
J. Landon
Henry Mitchell
Jas DuPre Porcher
Willm Collins Jackson
Joseph Shawe
John Spalding
Forrester Rose

Town Hall
7th July 1784 —

Town of Madraspatnam ss

We the Grand Jury of the Town of Madraspatnam sworn to enquire for the Body of the said Town, being justly sensible of the many advantages arising to this Place, by the Gracious Dispensation of his majestys Royal Charter as it hath conveyed with it the Laws of England and present the Method of putting those Laws into Execution—

Do present that one Comparauze Cinevassa Row of Madras Bramany did on the 22d day of May last appear before Anthony Sadleir Esqr one of his Majestys Justices of Peace and deliver an Information upon Oath in the following words "that Venkataroon renter of Nellore "Surreptitiously has taken and fraudulently conceald one "hundred and three thousand Pagodas or there about besides "shawls and other effects to the Value of five thousand "Madras Pagodas being the Property of the Honble English "East India Company and this informant further sayth "that the said one hundred and three thousand Pagodas "and the said Shawls and other Effects are now in the "dwelling house of Crisnapettah Narrain Black Merchant "in Podda Naiken street in the Black Town of Madras "the said Pagodas being put up in three Chests and togeth "with the said Shawls and other Effects placed in a "certain Room of the said Dwelling house the Door of "which Room is sealed with the Seal of Ramachendra

"row in Law of the said Venkataroon and also with the "Seal of this Informant— And this Jury understand that a search having been made in consequence the Effects found were seized and that an enquiry thereupon into the truth of the said Information took place and on a further Investigation thereof it was found to be false and malicious which gives this Jury Reason to conclude that such Information was founded on an interested corrupt and treacherous design against the fortune and Character of the said Venkataroon and evidently had brought discredit to the public Faith and danger to the Security of the Property of Individuals in this Town as well as in Places more remote connected with it—

All which Matters and things are Contrary to the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King his Crown and Dignity—

(signed) B. Scottney Foreman
Willm Wynch
Henry Norris
Joseph Revell
Wm Ross
W. A Craig
Andrew Ross
Robert Barker
J Landon
W Michell
Jos DuPre Porcher
Willm Collins Jackson
Joseph Shawe
John Spalding
Forrester Ross

Town Hall
7th July 1784—

The Grand and Petit Juries are then dismissed with thanks for their services and the Court is adjourned until Wednesday the 6th October next for holding another Session

Wednesday 6th October 1784

Justices present

Anthony Sadler Esqr Chairman

Alexander Davidson John Turney

Robert Barclay & Robert Braunell Esqrs

The Court is duly opened & the Sheriff returns his precepts

The following Grand Jury is then Sworn

Andrew Ross Esqr Foreman	James Landon
George Proctor	Willm Geo Wasey
Richard Guy	Robert Woolf
Vincentio Corbet	Robert Clerk
John Mitford	Richd Johnson
Jno Hump: Skardon	Joseph Shaw
Hugh Vaughan	John Spalding

& Frederick Corsar Esquires

A Bill of Indictment against Richd Waight for Murder & another against Joseph Mayde & Thomas Lee for Murder are delivered to the Grand Jury and they withdraw, an Officer having been Sworn to attend them during the Sessions.

An

An Interpreter is Sworn for the Court and also the Grand Jury

One of the Grand Jury being present, the following Witnesses are Sworn to give Evidence

Chargonah
Merrichitty
Mr Walker
Mr Pouney
} On the Bill against Joseph Mayde & Thos Lee

John Sackall
Wills Ebur
Ann Oliver
Helavey Chitty
} On the Bill against Richd Wright

The Court is then Adjourned till tomorrow Morng at Nine o'Clock for continueing the Sessions

Thursday 7th October 1784

Justices Present

Anthoney Sadlier Esq[r] Chairman
Alexander Davidson John Turing
Robert Barclay & Robert Maunsell Esq[rs]

The Court is duly opend —

The Grand Jury come into Court & having Answerd to their Names, deliver Bill of Indictment against Richard Wright for Murder Endorsed a true Bill and also Bill of Indictment against Joseph Mayde & Thomas Lee for Murder Endorsed a true Bill

A Bill of Indictment against John Chalmers, Francis Johnson & Robert Latham for Murder is then delivered to them and they withdraw

One of the Grand Jury returns into Court to give the following Witnesses Sworn to give Evidence

Mr Webster
Mr Thomson
Yancoo
} On the Bill against John Chalmers, Francis Johnson & Robert Latham

Bill of Indictment against Henry Terry for an Assault is Delivrd to the Grand Jury

Daniel Cameron, John Terry & Yagapah are called over on their recognizances in the before-mentioned Bill & do not appear

Richard Wright is then brought to the Bar and arraigned as follows

Richard Wright Hold up your hand, you Stand Indicted by the Name of Richard Wright Ensign in the Service of the Honble East India Company for that on the Seventh day of August in the Twenty fourth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George now King of Great Britain &[c] &[a] by force & arms in the Town of Madraspatanam, in and upon one Anthony Shareman, in the Peace of God and of our

Sovereign Lord the King, then and there being, Feloniously, Wilfully and with Malice aforethought did make an Assault, and that you with both your Hands & Feet in and upon the Head, Stomach, Back & Sides of him the Said anthony Shareman then and there wilfully, Feloniously and of your Malice aforethought did Strike, Beat & Kick, giving unto the Said anthony Shareman with your Hands and Feet aforesaid, Several Mortal Bruises: the Said anthony Shareman languished about the Space of Fifteen Minutes and then Died, and So the Jurors aforesaid upon their Oath aforesaid do Say that you the Said Richard Wright, the Said anthony Shareman, in manner and Form aforesaid, Feloniously, wilfully and of your Malice aforethought, did Kill and Murder, against the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King his Crown & Dignity — How Say you are you guilty of the Murder whereof you Stand Inditd, or not guilty? —

Prisoner Not Guilty. —
Clerk of Pr. Peace How will you be tried?
Prisoner By God and my Country —
Clerk of Pr. Peace God Send you a good Deliverance!

On calling over the Panel of the Petit Jury the following Persons are absnt, who it appears had been duly Summond to attend

Alexander Milburn
Robt Henderson
James Collings
Daniel Briones
Thomas Humphreston
Angus Mackintosh
& Daniel Mathenzie

The Sureness of the Sessions having been repeatedly delayed by the nonattendance of Persons Summoned on the Petit Jury - The Court orders them to be fined in the Sum of Twenty Five Pagodas

The Sheriff is then ordered to Summon a Special Jury of the most respectable Persons of the Inhabitants to attend at Nine o'Clock tomorrow Morning and the Prisoner having given his Consent for his Trial being deferred to that time the Court is adjourned accordingly —

Friday 5th October 1784

Justices Present

Anthony Sadler Esquire Chairman

Alexander Davidson John Turing

Robert Barclay Robt Maunsell

Lt Col. Bowser Dept Qrs

The Court is Duly Opened

Richard Wright is brought to the Bar &

the following Petit Jury is Sworn —

Bryan Tootney Esqr Foreman William Wynch

Robert Gardener Isaac Dubordieu

William Ross Willm Balfour

David Haliburton Henry Mitchell

Joseph Ravell Willm Jackson

Hugh Alexr Craig John Tulloch

John Sachall is Sworn —

Clerk of Sy Rawe Do you know the Prisoner?

Yes about two or three Months — About Two Months ago in the Evening after Gun Fire, I went down from the Battery to get some Tobacco & Betle Nut and in going I met Anthony Shareman with a Portuguese Woman, I said Anthony, will you go with me, Yes as soon as I get some Tobacco — at this time the Prisoner turned the Corner — Shareman said Hollos Brother, who are you? Mr Wright then turned and knock'd me down twice & said you Villain I will have your Life — He knock'd me down a third time, and I did not get up from the Ground but Crept away upon my Hands & Knees — I looked over my Shoulder and saw him the Prisoner knock down Anthony Shareman and Kick him on the Ground — I don't know how many Blows the Prisoner gave him —

— I then went to the Battery & told my Comrades what had happened, and my Comrades William Elworth, Serjeant Bamfield & I think Frankland went back to the place & found the Body of Anthony Shareman remov'd a few yards round the Corner of the Wall — We found one Clawson with the Body & another a European, but I don't know his Name — Mr Elworth another Person and myself carried the Body to the Arrack Godown Battery where Anthony Shareman belonged, and William Elworth went to the Hospital to acquaint the Doctor with what had happened — Five of us went to an Officer's Quarter to see Mr Wright — and he said at first he had not struck the Man — on which I ask'd him if he had not struck me — he then said he had knocked the Man down —

Clerk of Sy Rawe Where is the place or Bazar you first saw the Prisoner?

Deponent — It is about 100 yards from the Battery! —

Clerk of Sy Rawe What Battery is it in the Black Town?

Deponent — It is near the Arrack Godown! —

Clerk of Sy Rawe Was there an European besides you and Anthony Shareman When you first saw the Prisoner? —

Deponent — No other! —

Clerk of Sy Rawe At what distance were you, when you saw the Prisoner Striking and Kicking the Deceased & what time of the day was it? —

Deponent — I was a few yards from him and could see by the light of the Lamp from the Boutique! —

Clerk of Sy Rawe Did the Deceased Strike the Prisoner? —

Deponent No, not that I saw! —

Clerk of Sy Rawe Was there any other provocation given besides what you have mentioned? —

Deponent No — Shareman said Hollos Brother, who goes there —

Clerk of Cr. Pleas Did you observe the Prisoner when he first Struck the Deceased?

Deponent Yes I observed the Prisoner Strike him on the Head!

Clerk of Cr. Pleas On what Part?

Deponent I cannot well tell it was on the Head I am sure!

Clerk of Cr. Pleas Did the Prisoner Jump to Kick the Deceased on the Ground with much Violence?

Deponent Yes a good deal - but I saw only one Kick!

Clerk of Cr. Pleas Had the Prisoner any knowledge of the Deceased before this happened?

Deponent I don't know!

Clerk of Cr. Pleas How long was you in going and returning from the Battery?

Deponent About Three Minutes!

Clerk of Cr. Pleas Was there no appearance of Life in Anthony Sharaman, when you returned from the Battery?

Deponent No, he seemed quite Dead!

Clerk of Cr. Pleas Was Sharaman in good Health when this happened?

Deponent Yes, he was in good Health & good Spirits!

Clerk of Cr. Pleas Was he a Young Man?

Deponent About 50 years old!

Clerk of Cr. Pleas Where was the Body carried?

Deponent To the Hospital!

Clerk of Cr. Pleas Did you See the Body at the Hospital & were there any Marks of Violence on it?

Deponent I saw a Mark on the Forehead and another on the Back!

Clerk of Cr. Pleas Was the Deceased much intoxicated at the time?

Deponent He was a little intoxicated but was fit to do his Duty!

Clerk of Cr. Pleas Did you See the Prisoner again that Evening?

Deponent Yes, He was near the Body when I & my Comrade Came, but Soon afterwards went away!

Clerk of Cr. Pleas Did you hear the Prisoner Say any thing or Did he offer to assist you?

Deponent No, He did not offer any Assistance and Said Nothing more than, take the Villain away!

Clerk of Cr. Pleas Do you know who removed the Body?

Deponent No, I don't know!

Clerk of Cr. Pleas Did you Speak to Clawson or the other Man?

Deponent No, I don't remember - I only recollect that Clawson Said he had Staid by the Body to prevent any more bad usage!

Clerk of Cr. Pleas Did you ask Clawson or the other European how Sharaman Died, or did you hear any thing about his Death from any other Person?

Deponent No, I did not ask any questions, nor hear any thing from the People near the Body!

Clerk of Cr. Pleas What kind of Ground was it where the Deceased fell?

Deponent It was in the Street - the Ground was smooth enough.

The Prisoner then asks the following Questions!

Question Do you know if Anthony Sharaman had any property about him when he left the Battery?

Depon: ans^r Yes - he had a Gold Watch, Sleave Buttons & Breast Buckle -

Question Did you See these things when you carried the Body to the Battery?

Depon^t ans^r I did not look for them - but when the Body was on the Battery, we found them wanting, and took his Knee Buckles & Shoe Buckles out!

Question Don't you know the European's Name who was with Clawson?

Depon^t ans^r No!

Question What kind of man was he, had he the appearance of a Soldier or what?

Depon.t ans.r He was a tall thin Man, but I dont know what he was.

Question When you returned from the Battery, was anthony Shareman lying where you saw him fall down?

Depon.t ans.r No, the Body appeared to have been moved a few yards round the Corner of the Street.

Question Do you know who moved the Body?

Depon.t ans.r No, I did not ask.

William Elworth Sworn

Clerk of y.e Peace Do you know the Prisoner?

Deponent Yes, — On the 7.th August between the Hours of 8 and 9 in the Evening, anthony Shareman said he wo.d go to meet some of his Comrades and get a little Dram & that he would come home and go to Sleep. — Sackall said he would also go and get some Tobacco & Betle Nut for his Woman. — In about ten Minutes Sackall returned and said he had been used very ill by an officer and Declared that he had been knock'd down three times, and that afterwards the officer got foul of Anthony Shareman and knock'd him down. — I ask'd why the officer had used them so, and he answered for nothing more than because Anthony Shareman had said, Holloo Brother who goes there! Sackall, Bamfield & myself went to the place from the Battery and found Anthony Shareman quite Dead — The Prisoner came up to us and said you Damned Rascals take the Scoundrel away! — We then Carried the Body to the Battery. — I went immediately to the Hospital for the Doctor, but Doctor Mayne & Scrimgeor refused to come and told me to go with some of the Hospital Dooley Boys and bring Shareman; — the Body was in about an hour Carried to the Hospital —

Clerk of y.e Peace Was Anthony Shareman intoxicated when he left the Battery?

Deponent Yes he was. but was fit to do Duty. —

Clerk of y.e Peace How long was it from the time Shareman left the Battery to the time you saw him Dead? —

Deponent Not more than fifteen minutes. —

Clerk of y.e Peace How far is the Battery from the place you found the Body? —

Deponent about 100 yards. —

Clerk of y.e Peace Was Shareman quite Dead when you first saw him? —

Deponent Yes. —

Clerk of y.e Peace Did you observe any marks of violence on the Body? —

Deponent — I observed at the Hospital a small mark on his Scull and a Bruise on his Back and Side

Clerk of y.e Peace Was the Body opened? —

Deponent — I believe not. —

Clerk of y.e Peace Why did the Surgeons refuse to visit the Body? —

Deponent I don't know. —

Clerk of y.e Peace Had anthony Shareman any thing about him when he left the Battery? —

Deponent Yes he had a Gold Watch and Gold Buttons and a Breast Buckle which we did not miss until the Body was brought on the Battery

Clerk of y.e Peace Who did you observe near the Body? —

Deponent When we first came there was Clauson and another European. —

Clerk of y.e Peace Were they very near the Body? —

Deponent Yes, close to it. —

Clerk of y.e Peace Did you speak to them or hear them say any thing? —

Deponent — I did not speak to them, and I don't recollect what either of them said. —

European. & he ran away and the Prisoner ran a little way after him, - He then returned & Struck the old European one or two Blows and then went away.

Clerk of the P. Did the European offer to Strike the Prisoner?

Deponent No.

Clerk of the P. Did the European use no other provocation than the words you mention?

Deponent No I believe not.

Clerk of the P. How many Blows did you See the Prisoner Strike the Deceased European?

Deponent Only one or Two.

Clerk of the P. Did he fall down from the Blows?

Deponent I did not See him fall. I went away being frightened.

Clerk of the P. On what part of the Body did he Strike the Deceased European?

Deponent I don't know exactly.

Clerk of Sy. Rau Do you know the Deceased Europeans name?

Deponent No.

Clerk of Sy. Rau Was he a very old man?

Deponent Not very old.

Clerk of Sy. Rau Was the Deceased European much intoxicated at the time?

Deponent No not much, he was a little intoxicated.

Clerk of Sy. Rau Did you See the Prisoner after you went away?

Deponent No, but I heard the old European was Dead the same night.

Mr Sivewright Surgeon is then Call'd over on his recognizance & does not appear.

William Clawson a Prisoner Sworn

Clerk of Sy. Rau Do you know the Prisoner?

Deponent Yes, about two Months between the hours of 8 & 9 in the Evening two men came to my House in the Black Town - belonging to the Saluting Battery, one of them Call'd Paul went to the arrack Godown to fetch a Bottle of Liquor, and presently afterwards the other man and I went out to find him, Whilst we were looking for him, we saw the Prisoner, who said Soldier, Soldier and we then went near to the Prisoner & he told us a Soldier had knock'd him down - I said why don't you find him to the Main Guard, and he answer'd, there he is the Drunken Rascall and I wish you would take him home, to which I replied I should be sorry to take him home. - I then put my Hand upon the Person's mouth that laid on the Ground, and could not perceive any breath, - The Prisoner then went away and said, take care of this man, & some time after, returned with Several Gentlemen with Candles - Sackall & Elworth came then about the same time.

Clerk of Sy. Rau Do you know the man's name who was with you?

Deponent No, he is a tall man & belonged to the Saluting Battery.

Clerk of Sy. Rau Where was it you saw the Person lying on the Ground?

Deponent It was at the Bazar near the arrack Godown that we saw the Prisoner first, & then the Person lying on the Ground.

Clerk of the P. Did you believe the man to be Dead when you put your hand upon his mouth?

Deponent I did not feel any Breath and therefore thought him Dead.

Clerk of Sy. Rau Did you stay near the Deceased from the time the Prisoner went away till he returned again?

Deponent Yes, and it was about Ten Minutes altogether.

Clerk of Sy. Rau Did any other person come near the Deceased besides you and the other European?

Deponent No Body came very near, there were some Black People staying about 20 yards off.

Clerk of the P. Do you know if the Deceased had been removed by any Person before the Body was carried to the Battery?

Deponent Yes. I and the other man removed him by desire of the Prisoner about a yard or two round a Corner.

Clerk of Sy. Peace Did you observe a Gold Watch or any other property about the Deceased?

Deponent No, I saw no Gold Watch, but I observed he had Shoe & Knee Buckles.

Clerk of Sy. Peace Did you observe any mark of violence on the Deceased?

Deponent No Did not – it was rather too Dark.

Clerk of Sy. Peace Why did you refuse to take the Deceased home?

Deponent Because I thought him Dead & that he had been ill used.

Clerk of Sy. Peace Could you perceive if the Deceased was an old man?

Deponent No. I could not even say that he was a European except by his Cloaths for it was rather Dark & his face was Covered with Dirt.

Clerk of Sy. Peace Did you Speak to the Europeans who carried the Body to the Battery?

Deponent I believe a few words but I don't recollect what they were – I went away just as they were going to carry the Body away.

Clerk of Sy. Peace Did you hear the Prisoner say anything?

Deponent No, I don't remember.

Questions from the Prisoner

Prisoner How near was the person standing to the Deceased when you first saw him?

Depons. Ans. He was Walking very near the Deceased within a few yards.

Prisoner Do you know if the person who was with you saw a Gold Watch about the Deceased?

Depons. Ans. I don't know.

Prisoner Where did you go after you left the place where the Deceased was lying?

One of them

To

Depons. Ans. To my own House.

Prisoner Did not the other Man go with you?

Depons. Ans. Yes.

The Prisoner then desires that the following Witnesses may be called to give Evidence

Captain Croker is Sworn

Deponent On the 7th day of August in the Evening between 8 & 9 O'Clock, I was Sitting with Mr Wright and some other Gentlemen at Lieut. Richards House in the Black Town – Mr Wright took leave & went away and in a few Minutes returned and told us he had been attack'd by five Europeans, three of whom he had knock'd down – he then desired we would come in Search of them to his assistance – we accordingly got a Candle & Lanthorn and went out – I observed two or three Europeans near a man that was lying on the Ground. – A Person said to the Prisoner you Struck me wrongfully, and said at the same time he had given him no offence and also, pointing to the person on the Ground, there is the Man who said, who is there, or words to that Effect. – I then returned to Mr Bustards to Supper

Clerk of Sy. Peace Did you go near the person that was lying on the Ground?

Deponent Not within two or three paces.

Clerk of Sy. Peace Did you observe any marks on the Deceased?

Deponent No, I made no particular observations – I did not stay any time there.

Clerk of Sy. Peace Was the Prisoner any way intoxicated when he left your Company?

Deponent Yes he might be a little.

Clerk of Sy. Peace Was the Prisoner much agitated when he returned to Mr Bustards House?

Deponent No.

Have

Clerk of y.e Peace Have you been often in the Prisoner's Company, & did he appear to be of a violent Temper?

Deponent I have been in his Company about ten times and he did not appear to be a person of a Quarrelsome or Violent Temper: I had forgot to mention that on the same night a Foreign European came to my house about Eleven or Twelve o'Clock & called out my name, and said some Europeans had come to his House and ill used him for the assistance he had given the Prisoner – he then askd for some Sepoys, but I told him he could not have any that night, I believe the Person to be the Dutchman (meaning Clawson) who was Examined last, and a Gentleman in Court Mr. Rhodes remembers his Person very well:

Mr. Henry Bustard Sworn

On the night of the 7.th August Mr. Wright came to my House about 8 o'Clock and staid there a little time and went away; in about five minutes he returned & informed us he had been attackd by five Men three of whom he had knockd down – He then requested my assistance, and as soon as I could order a Lanthorn I went out with him, about 20 or 25 yards from my House I saw a person lying on the Ground – I did not observe any person very near him at the time and I stooped to examine him, there was I thought some appearance of Life, some Europeans came near to the Prisoner and spoke to him, I do not recollect what it was; Thinking it only the Effects of intoxication I ordered the Person to be taken away to his quarters & the Europeans took him away accordingly – I then went to my Quarters & in about half an Hour some Europeans came & said the European was Dead

Clerk of y.e Peace What appearance of Life did you observe?

Deponent There was some indistinct noise from his mouth and I thought it might be only Drunkenness:

Clerk of y.e Peace When you examined the Person did you observe any marks of Violence on him?

Deponent I observed no other marks except a little Blood on his Mouth and a slight Scratch upon one of his Temples:

Clerk of y.e Peace Who carried away the Deceased man?

Deponent Some artillery men as they appeard – and I thought at the time, from the manner of carrying him away with his head downwards, that it might hurt him if he was intoxicated:

Clerk of y.e Peace Did the Prisoner appear agitated or sorry at what had happend?

Deponent When he returned he was I thought much agitated, and also when he saw the man lying on the Ground, he seemed much Distressd and expressd such Sentiments as are natural in such a Situation:

Clerk of y.e Peace Was the Prisoner intoxicated when he first left your house?

Deponent No, I believe not:

Clerk of y.e Peace Do you know if the Prisoner is subject to Passion or Violence of Temper?

Deponent No, I do not know that he is:

Mr. Rhodes Sworn

About two or three Months ago on the night the Accident happened in the Black Town – I heard a noise and came out when I observed the Dutchman Clawson who was just now Examined – He bid Captain Croker would give him some Sepoys to take some Europeans into Custody who had come to his House and beat and I believe he said knockd him down, the reason he assigned for this was his having taken the part of the Prisoner who had been ill used by three Men – Captain

Captain Croker told him he could not give him Sepoys then it being so late & Ord'd him to come in the Morning.

William Clawson is then called again

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did you ever apply to Capt. Croker for some Sepoys?

Deponent — (After a little recollection replies) yes I did.

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did you not Complain to him of some Europeans having used you ill at your house?

Deponent — I Complained to him of the tall man who had been with me when I was near the Body.

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Was it the same Evening?

Deponent — Yes it was.

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Was it after you came from the Deceased Person?

Deponent — Yes, after I came back from the Dead Body.

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did you not Complain of Several Europeans having used you ill?

Deponent — No, and I received no ill usage from any other Person Except one.

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Why did he use you ill — & did you not quarrel about a Gold Watch?

Deponent — No, we did not quarrel about any Gold Watch.

Clerk of Sy. Peace — What was the cause then?

Deponent — I believe it was occasioned about my Wife — he wanted to make free.

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Has the European been often to your house since that time?

Deponent — Not often — Two or three times I believe.

There being no other Witnesses to be Examined, the Petit Jury withdraw & an Officer is Sworn to keep them.

In about half an Hour the Petit Jury return into Court, Verdict being first proclaimed.

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Gentlemen of the Jury are you agreed on your Verdict?

Jury — Yes.

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Who shall say for you?

Jury — Our Foreman.

Clerk of the P. — Richard Wright hold up your Hand.

Do to the Jury — Look upon the Prisoner at the Bar, How say you, is he Guilty of the Murder whereof he Stands indicted or not Guilty?

Foreman — Not guilty of Murder, but guilty of Manslaughter

Clerk of Sy. Peace — What Goods and Chattels do you find he had at the time of the Murder Committed or at any time since?

Foreman — None.

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Gentleman of the Jury hearken unto your Verdict as the Court hath recorded it, you say that Richard Wright is not guilty of the Murder whereof he Stands Indicted, but that he is guilty of Man-Slaughter, and that he had no Goods or Chattels at the time of the Manslaughter Committed or at any time since. and so you say all.

Jury — Yes.

The Prisoner is then taken from the Bar and Joseph Mayde & Thomas Lee are brought to it and Arraigned as follows.

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Joseph Mayde & Thomas Lee hold up your Hands, you Stand Indicted by the Name of Joseph Mayde & Thos Lee late of Madraspatnam, for that on the Twenty Third day of July in the Twenty Fourth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third King of Great Britain &c. &c. by force & arms, at Triplicane within the Jurisdiction of the Town of Madraspatnam aforesaid, in and upon one James Hankey in the Peace of God and our Sovereign Lord the King, then and there being, wilfully, feloniously and of your malice aforethought, did make an Assault and that you the aforesaid Joseph Mayde with a Certain Gun, call'd a Pistol, of the value of Five Shillings, then & there Charged with Gun Powder & a leaden Bullet, viz. Pistole you the said Joseph Mayde, then and there, in your right hand, had and held, in and upon the aforesaid James Hankey, then and there, wilfully, feloniously, and of your malice aforethought, did Shoot off and Discharge, then and there giving unto the said James Hankey, with the Bullet aforesaid, so as aforesaid, from the said Pistol Shot & discharged in and upon the Breast of him the said James

James Hankey one Mortal wound, of the depth of ⅔
Inches and of the Breadth of half an Inch, of which
said Mortal wound the said James Hankey then
and there Instantly Died, and that you the said
Thomas Lee, wilfully, Feloniously and of your malice
aforethought, then and there was present, aiding &
abetting, assisting, Comforting and maintaining the
the aforesaid Joseph Mayde, the Felony & Murder afore
said, in manner & form aforesaid to do and Commit,
and so the Jurors aforesaid, upon their Oath afore-
said do further say & present, that you the said Joseph
Mayde & you the said Thomas Lee, the said James
Hankey then and there, in manner and form afore
said, Feloniously, wilfully and of your malice aforethought
Did Kill & Murder, against the Peace of our Sovereign
Lord the King, his Crown and Dignity. How say you
Joseph Mayde & Thomas Lee, are you guilty of the
Murder whereof you Stand here Indicted or not
Guilty.

Prisoners — Not Guilty

The following Petit Jury is then Sworn, the
Prisoners having no objection.

Bryan Seabrey Esq. Foreman — Willie Wyrick
Robert Gardener — Josias DuBose Brother
William Ross — William Balfour
David Haliburton — Henry Mitchell
Joseph Ravell — W. Jackson
Hugh Alex.r Craig — & John Tollack

Mr. Robert Burney is Sworn

Clerk of the Peace — Do you know the Prisoners?

Deponent — Yes, On the 23.d July last Mr Sampson Second officer
of the Ponsborne came to me on Board the Mid-
dlesex and informed me that Mr. Hankey had
seen

seen that day Shot in a Duel by Mr. Mayde, and
that Mr. Lee was Second to Mr. Mayde, and
further Said that after each had fired I believe
that Mr. Lee interfered and asked if Mr. Hankey
would retract from what he had Said — to.ch
Mr. Hankey replied it ill became him to
retract from what he had Said, when his
own hand writing proved him to be what
he had called him.

Clerk of the Peace — Do you know any thing more besides what Mr
Sampson had told you?

Deponent — I know there was a difference between Mr. Hankey
& Mr. Mayde and that Mr. Mayde had Sent
a Challenge to Mr. Hankey.

Clerk of the Peace — Have you not got the Challenge?

Deponent — Yes I have, and it appears to me to be the Hand writing
of Mr. Mayde.

The Challenge being produced in Court the Same is
read, and is as follows —

Sir

In the Conversation with you last night, you
made use of Such Expressions as I can by no means
put up with, and as you at the Same time told
me you had taken every possible means to Vilify
my Character I now call upon you for that Satis-
faction due from one Gentleman to another —

Saturday July 17.th
at Capt. Rogers

Your Humb. Servant
(Signed) Jos.h Mayde

(Directed)
Mr. Hankey
Ship Middlesex

Clerk of the Peace — Do you know if Mr. Hankey ever returned any Ans.r to

Deponent — I do not know that he did — How
a friendship for him, but he has
always borne the Character

Clerk of y^e Peace How did you get this Challenge?

Deponent I found it amongst Mr Hankey's Papers which I took Charge of.

Clerk of y^e Peace Did you Suppose Mr Hankey & Mr Mayde might go out together?

Deponent No I did not, for Mr Hankey declared to me, he held him in too Contemptible a light.

Clerk of the P. Do you know what provocation was given by Mr Hankey?

Deponent He thought Mr Mayde had behaved very ill and he did not hesitate freely to mention his Sentiments of it.

Clerk of y^e Peace Do you know what occasioned the difference between Mr Hankey & Mr Mayde?

Deponent It was in Consequence of Mr Mayde's having Signed a Paper after our Arrival here, that related to some Conversation which had passed at Gravesend on Board the Middlesex and was intended to prejudice Mr Hankey as well as myself — The Paper with Some others concerning the Disputes on Board was laid before the Governor & Council by request of Captain Rogers.

Clerk of y^e Peace Was not the Contents of the paper made known to Capt^n Rogers untill his arrival?

Deponent No, I believe not

Clerk of the Peace What was the Tendency of the Paper?

Deponent That in Conversation Mr Hankey & myself had said to the Mate that Capt. Rogers seemed to be a weak Man & that if the Officers were happy with each other, we might do as we pleased on Board.

Clerk of y^e Peace Did any person Sign this Paper besides Mr Mayde?

Deponent Yes it contained the Declaration of Mr Mayde and the others declared only that they heard Mr Aikin mention this Conversation at Gravesend not being present themselves.

Clerk of y^e Peace When did Mr Hankey go on Shore from the Ship Middlesex?

Deponent The 22^d July last.

Clerk of y^e Peace When did you first hear of Mr Hankey's Death?

Deponent On the 23^d July, and I went on Shore and found his Body in the Fort

Clerk of y^e Peace Do you know how long the Prisoner had been off shore before this happened?

Deponent Some days I believe.

Clerk of the Peace Did it appear to you that Mr Hankey had been Shot?

Deponent Yes it had the appearance of a Wound by a Ball — The Wound was on the Breast.

Clerk of y^e Peace Do you Suppose Mr Hankey Died instantly on receiving the wound?

Deponent From what I heard, he did.

Clerk of y^e Peace Did you See either of the Prisoners on that day?

Deponent No I did not.

Clerk of y^e Peace Did you hear that any other Person went out with Mr Hankey besides the Prisoners.

Deponent Mr Sampson was also with them as he told me himself

Clerk of y^e Peace Do you know if Mr Lee or any other Person endeavoured to effect a reconciliation between Mr Hankey & Mr Mayde?

Deponent I do not know.

Clerk of y^e Peace Have you any other reason for thinking Mr Lee was Friend to Mr Mayde besides what you have mentioned?

Deponent No other reason — except the General report.

Clerk of the P. Did you hear where Mr Hankey was Shot?

Deponent Yes, Somewhere near the Governors Garden House

Clerk of y^e Peace Was Mr Hankey in good Health?

Deponent In perfect good Health.

Clerk of y^e Peace Do you know if Mr Hankey & Mr Mayde had had any Dispute or difference besides what you have mentioned?

Deponent No other I believe besides what I have mentioned.

Clerk of y^e Peace Was Mr Hankey a person of a quarrelsom or disagreeable Temper?

Deponent By no means So. he was a person I always thought of an excellent disposition — and of the Strictest honor — I may be partial having a great Friendship for him, but he has always borne that Character

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Had not Mr. Hankey been out to fight a Duel with Mr. Lee after the Ships arrival here, and also with Mr. Aitkin?

Deponent — He went out with Mr. Lee, but not with Mr. Aitkin —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did you ever hear that he had been concerned in a similar affair before his coming on Board the Middlesex?

Deponent — I never understood that he had —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Was Mr. Hankey very quiet & chasty in case of any disagreable expression being said to him?

Deponent — No, not particularly —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Was not Mr. Mayde called upon to put his name to the Paper?

Deponent — I don't know - but I heard that Mr. Mayde should say he had been involuntarily drawn into it, and to which Mr. Hankey replied - it could not be so, as he had more sense than all those concerned

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did you not hear that Mr. Hankey & Mr. Mayde had gone out together, before Mr. Sampson informed you so?

Deponent — No, nor did I imagine Mr. Hankey would go out with him —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did not Mr. Hankey say he would vilify the character of Mr. Mayde - and did he not often speak in very harsh terms to him?

Deponent — Mr. Hankey might say so, he certainly spoke his sentiments freely of Mr. Mayde's Conduct —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — You were acquainted with the particulars of the Disputes on Board, how did it appear to you?

Deponent — I must confess I always conceived the behaviour of the Prisoners in the same light as Mr. Hankey did —

Changanah Merchant Sworn.

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Do you know the Prisoners?

Deponent — I do not recollect to have seen either of them —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Relate what you know —

Deponent — About Two Months ago a little after Sun rise in the Morning, I was in Nizam Aroud Caiens Garden near

near Triplicane - I heard two reports of Musquets and immediately after having washed, I went to the Bank of the Tank and observed a European lying on the Ground and there were three others standing by. One of the Europeans moved the Body near to a Cottage in the Garden - Two of the Europeans went away and one staid by the Body - I then went to my House —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Do you know either of the three Europeans whom you saw near the Body?

Deponent — No —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did you hear who the Deceased was?

Deponent — No —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did you observe any Pistols in the hands of the Europeans?

Deponent — Yes, one of them had Pistols in his hands, and there were others lying on the Ground —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did you see any Pistol fired?

Deponent — No, I was in the Tank washing myself, when the Pistols were fired —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did you go near to the Deceased European?

Deponent — No, not very near —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did you observe any Wound on the Body?

Deponent — No, but I saw some Blood on the Ground where it had been lying —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did the Deceased appear to be a young man?

Deponent — I cannot tell —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did you suppose the Deceased had been Shot?

Deponent — Yes —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Do you know what became of the Body?

Deponent — No, I don't know, when I went away from the Garden it was lying near the Cottage —

Morrichitty Merchant Sworn

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did you not see the Body of an European lying about Two Months ago near Triplicane?

Yes

Deponent Yes it was at Nizam Ameed Cauns Garden, about Six o'Clock in the morning

Clerk of y.e Peace Do you recollect to have seen either of the Prisoners in the Garden that morning?

Deponent I do not recollect them, but I saw two Europeans near the Body when I came out of the Tank after washing myself

Clerk of y.e Peace Did you hear any Pistols fired?

Deponent Yes I heard two, whilst I was in the Tank, and presently after saw the Body near a Cottage

Clerk of y.e Peace Did you see any Europeans in the Garden before you went into the Tank to Wash?

Deponent No I did not see any

Clerk of the Peace Do you know the name of the Deceased European?

Deponent No.

Clerk of y.e Peace Have you not the least recollection of the Prisoners?

Deponent No.

Clerk of y.e Peace Was the Deceased European a young man, or did you see any wound on the Body?

Deponent I did not go near enough to observe

Clerk of y.e Peace Do you know what became of the Body?

Deponent No, when I left the Garden to go to my Shop the Body was lying near the Cottage

Mr John Walker Surgeon Sworn

Clerk of y.e Peace Relate what you know?

Deponent About two months ago I was called to examine the Body of a Person whom they told me was Mr Hankey - I did not open the Body as the Coroner did not think it requisite. I observed a wound on the Breast Bone contiguous to the Second and Third Ribs on the right Side - It appeared extremely small & seemed to have been occasioned by a Pistol or Musquit Ball - on inserting a Finger I found the of the Breast Bone rather lost in and fractured - I could not discover what course

course the Ball had taken, as it had not passed thro' the Body - It evidently must have passed thro' the Lungs or the Membrane of the Heart which Surgeons term

Clerk of y.e Peace Do you suppose it was attended with instant Death?

Deponent No perhaps not

Clerk of y.e Peace Did the wound appear quite fresh?

Deponent Yes, quite fresh

Clerk of y.e Peace From what you observed of the wound, do you suppose it occasioned Mr Hankeys Death?

Deponent I think it might have occasioned his Death, and was the Principal cause, but there might have been other Causes

Clerk of y.e Peace Do you think it possible for any person to Survive such a Wound?

Deponent I have known instances of Persons surviving who had been Wounded in as Dangerous parts and thro' the Lungs

The Prisoners having nothing to offer, and no Witnesses to be Examined - The Petit Jury withdrawn and in a short time return into Court - Verdict being first proclaimed

Clerk of y.e Peace Gentlemen of the Jury are you agreed on your Verdict?

Jury Yes

Clerk of y.e Peace Who shall say for you?

Jury Our Foreman

Clerk of y.e Peace Joseph Mayde & Thomas Lee hold up your hands

Do to the Jury Look upon the Prisoners at the Bar, how say you is Jos.h Mayde Guilty of the Murder whereof he stands Indicted, or not Guilty?

Foreman Not Guilty

Clerk of y.e Peace Is Thomas Lee Guilty of the Murder whereof he stands Indicted or not Guilty?

Foreman Not Guilty

Clerk of y.e Peace Gentlemen of the Jury hearken unto your Verdict as the Court hath recorded it, you say that Joseph Mayde &

& Thomas Lee are not Guilty of the Murder whereof they Stand Indicted and So you Say all &c.

They are then Discharged from the Bar by proclamation — & John Chalmers, Francis Johnson & Robert Latham are brought to it and Arraigned as follows —

John Chalmers, Francis Johnson, & Robert Lathom Hold up your Hands you Stand Indicted by the Name of John Chalmers Lieutenant in the Service of the Honble East India Company, Francis Johnson and Robert Lathom late of Madraspatnam for that on the fourth day of October in the Twenty fourth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the third now King of Great Britain &c. by Sore and Arms in the Town of Madraspatnam aforesaid in and upon one Robt. Harker in the Peace of God & our Sovereign Lord the King, then & there being, wilfully, Feloniously and of your malice aforethought did make an Assault, & that you the aforesaid John Chalmers, with a certain Gun, called a Pistol of the Value of five Shillings, then & there charged with Gunpowder and a Leaden Bullet, which Pistol you the aforesaid John Chalmers, then & there, in your right Hand had & held, in and upon the aforesaid Robert Harker, then & there wilfully, Feloniously & of your malice aforethought, did Shoot off and Discharge, then and there giving unto the said Robert Harker with the Bullet aforesaid, so as aforesaid, in & upon the Head of him the said Robt. Harker one Mortal Wound, which penetrated the right Side of the Frontal Bone and passed out with Considerable Fracture behind the left Ear, of which said Mortal Wound, the aforesaid Robert Harker, Instantly there Died; and that you the aforesaid Francis Johnson

Johnson & you the aforesaid Robert Lathom then & there wilfully, Feloniously and of your malice aforethought, were present, aiding, abetting, Comforting & maintaining the said John Chalmers, the Felony & Murder aforesaid, in manner & form aforesaid, to do and Commit, and so the Jurors aforesaid, upon their Oath aforesaid, do Say & present, that you the said John Chalmers, ~~Francis Johnson~~ Francis Johnson & ~~Robert Lathom~~ Robert Lathom, the said Robert Harker then & there, in manner & form aforesaid, Feloniously, Wilfully, and of your malice aforethot, Did Kill & Murder, against the Peace of our said Lord the King his Crown & Dignity — How Say you are you Guilty of the Murder whereof you Stand here Indicted, or not Guilty —

Prisoners — Not Guilty —

Clerk of y.e Peace — How will you be Tried? —

Prisoner's — By God & my Country —

Clerk of y.e Peace — God Send you a Good Deliverance —

The same Petit Jury is again Sworn the Prisoners having no objection to any of them —

Mr George Webster Sworn

Clerk of the Peace — Do you know the Prisoners? —

Deponent — Yes I do —

Clerk of the Peace — Relate what you know —

Deponent — On Sunday afternoon the 3. of this Month, Capt. Anderson of the Greyhound Packet informed me that Mr Harker had had a dispute with an officer — and the same afternoon Capt. Anderson told me that Mr Harker had sent a Challenge to the officer whose name is Chalmers — Capt. Anderson & Mr Harker Supped with me that Evening and during the time of Supper the Answer was received from Mr Chalmers to Mr Harker's Challenge accepting of it — by the Letter from Mr Chalmers, the Place of meeting was at one of the Bomb Proofs in the Black Town

and

and he desired Mr Harker to be more explicit as to the Place. — Captain Anderson read the answer. I did not peruse it myself and can only declare it was read in my hearing — Mr Harker soon went and in a few Minutes after Captain Anderson and myself broke up. — on the following day about 7 o'Clock in the Evening, Captain Anderson came & told me that he heard Mr Harker was Wounded, adding also that it was reported he was killed, I immediately went out of my room and saw a Palanqueen Stop at Mr Harker's Door in the Portuguese Square, where I found Mr Latham with the Palanqueen Boys carrying the Corps, and putting it on the Couch in the Deceased Mr Harker's Room — I went towards the Body & Mr Latham said keep off, he is killed — but notwithstanding I put my hand upon the Deceased and found the Body perfectly Cold — Doctor Anderson came in a few Minutes after, and said Webster it is all over, I can do nothing — I then Legged of him just to look at the Corps upon which he inspected his head where the Wound was received and said, they must have been very near as his head is all shattered like a Cudjeree Pot (I think that was his Expression)

Clerk of 1st Peace — Did Mr Harker return any answer to Mr Chalmers's Letter which he received at your Rooms?

Deponent — Not that I know of —

Clerk of 1st Peace — you did not read the Letter from Mr Chalmers? —

Deponent — No —

Clerk of 1st Peace — Do you know what provocation passed or why Mr Harker sent a challenge to Mr Chalmers? —

Deponent — Captain Anderson enquired of Mr Harker what had been the cause of the Dispute, and to the best of my remembrance Mr Harker said that at Mr Dupuy's Gardens, two Horsekeepers were fighting

fighting and that Mr Chalmers had desired one of them to go on and he would support him with his Dog, upon which Mr Harker replied I will not stand by and see such injustice & on the Deceased saying so Mr Chalmers clinched his fist and threatened to beat him, as Mr Harker understood — Mr Harker then answered, what do you think I will allow myself to be beat by one who went to Calcutta or Bengall during the whole time of the War and did not return till all was over — immediately on this Mr Chalmers gave Mr Harker a blow which he knocked him down — and when rising from the Ground he gave him another blow which Mr Harker said had stunned him. — I had forgot to mention that on the Sunday night a Letter also came from Mr Dupuy to Mr Harker recommending him to settle the matter with Mr Chalmers and offering his Assistance —

Clerk of 1st Peace — Do you know if Mr Harker returned any answer to Mr Dupuy's Letter? —

Deponent — Mr Harker went to Mr Dupuys House on Monday the following Morning — but I dont know what passed between them

Clerk of 1st Peace — Did Mr Chalmers in his answer to Mr Harker particularly mention where they were to meet? —

Deponent — Yes, at the Bomb-Proof in the Black Tour —

Clerk of 1st Peace — Did you suppose they might go out together in Consequence of what had passed? —

Deponent — I did —

Clerk of 1st Peace — Did you see Mr Harker on the day of his Death? —

Deponent — Yes I saw him in the Square past from his Room — but did not speak to him. —

Clerk of 1st Peace — Do you know if any person besides Mr Dupuy endeavoured to settle the Dispute? —

Yes.

Deponent — Yes I heard that Colonel Keating endeavourd to prevent their going out —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — at the time the Body of Mr. Harker was brought into the Square did you perceive any Pistols? —

Deponent — after looking at the Body on the Couch, I think I saw Two pairs of Pistols lying on a Table in the Deceased Mr. Harkers Room, and they appeared to have been just used —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did you hear where Mr. Harker was Shot? —

Deponent — In the Black Town, but not the particular Place. —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did you See either of the Prisoners, on that day, & were they much agitated? —

Deponent — I only Saw Mr. Latham who appeard to be very Sorry & much affected —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Do you know if any Person was present when Mr. Harker was Shot? —

Deponent — I heard that Majr. Johnson went out as Second to Mr. Chalmers & Mr. Latham as Second to Mr. Harker —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Was Mr. Harker a Man of a good Temper? —

Deponent — Yes exceedingly So —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did you ever hear that he had been engaged in a Similar affair? —

Deponent — No never —

On the Prisoners being asked if they wish'd to interrogate the Witness, Mr. Latham puts the following Questions —

Question — Do you not think it was in Consequence of my going out of the Room that Doctor Anderson visited the Deceased? —

Deponent — I was incapable of Judging at the time — I Saw the Doctor there but did not know by what means he was brought —

Question — Did you not lay hold of my Arm when I was going out of the Room, and did I not tell you I was going for a Surgeon? —

Depon. Ans. — Indeed my Mind was in Such a State, that I do not recollect. —

Jamoo.

Jamoo Palanqueen Bearer Sworn

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Do you know the Prisoners at the Bar? —

Deponent — Mr. Latham is my Master — The other two I Saw Some days ago, but don't know their Names —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Relate what you know? —

Deponent — Mr. Latham My Master Dined at Vipery last Monday — on returning after Dinner with my Master, I Saw a Gentleman on Horseback near the Hospital Gate with Spectacles on, my Master then got out of the Palanqueen, and presently two Gentlemen (pointing to the Prisoners John Chalmers and Francis Johnson) came there in a Bandy — I was ordered to keep the Palanqueen near the Gate & the Prisoners with another Gentleman, then walked away near to the Bamboo Trees untill they were out of Sight — Some time after I heard the Reports of Five Musquets, and a Housekeeper belonging to the Deceased Gentleman came & desired me to bring the Palanqueen — I then carried the Palanqueen and was ordered to put the Deceased Gentleman into it — after which I brought the Body to the White Town —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — What passed between the Gentlemen when they first met? —

Deponent — I do not know what Conversation passed — they walked away immediately almost —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — at what Distance did they go from the Place you remained with the Palanqueen? —

Deponent — I do not know the exact Distance — I was about Six Minutes in going with the Palanqueen & I went very fast? —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — What kind of place was it where you Saw the Body first.

Deponent — It was near a Bomb Proof or Magazine on the North West Side of the Black Town —

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did either of the Prisoners Dine in Company with your

your Master on Monday last?

Deponent — I believe not as I did not See either of them —

Clerk of Sy. Peace Did you observe that the Prisoners had any Pistols Pistols with them? —

Deponent — I did not observe any till after I had Seen the Body & I believe it was the Prisoner (pointing to Francis Johnson) who desired me to take up the Pistols that were lying on the Ground —

Clerk of Sy. Peace How many Pistols did you hear fired? —

Deponent — I heard five reports of Muskets or Pistols —

Clerk of Sy. Peace Do you know by whom they were fired? —

Deponent — No I don't know —

Clerk of Sy. Peace How long was it before you were desired to bring the Palanquen? —

Deponent — About half an hour from the time the Gentln walked away —

Clerk of Sy. Peace What did the Hoisckeeper Say when he called you? —

Deponent — He told us his Master had been killd & desired us to bring the Palanquen quickly —

Clerk of Sy. Peace Did he tell you who had killd his master, or acquaint you with the Particulars of his Death? —

Deponent — No —

Clerk of Sy. Peace Was the Gentleman quite Dead when you first came there with the Palanquen? —

Deponent — Yes he was quite Dead —

Clerk of Sy. Peace Who were near the Body? —

Deponent — I Saw no other person there besides the Prisoners. —

Clerk of Sy. Peace Could you perceive the Gentleman had been Shot? —

Deponent — I could not See it being rather Dark, and there was a Cloth on the Face

Clerk of Sy. Peace — Did the Prisoners appear much agitated or Sorry? —

Deponent — I did not observe —

Clerk of Sy. Peace When you put the Body into the Palanquen, did either of the Prisoners attend it? —

Deponent — My Master Mr Latham attended the Palanquen until he came to the Fort & he then put the Body upon a Couch —

James.

Clerk of Sy. Peace Where did you carry the Body in the Fort? —

Deponent — To the Deceased Gentleman's rooms in the Portuguese Square

Clerk of Sy. Peace What time was it in the Evening? —

Deponent — About 7 o'Clock —

Clerk of Sy. Peace Do you know the Deceased Gentleman's Name? —

Deponent — No —

Clerk of Sy. Peace Did you observe the Head of the Deceased Gentleman after the Body was put upon the Couch? —

Deponent — Yes, it was Bloody —

Clerk of Sy. Peace Did you Suppose the Deceased Gentln had been Shot? —

Deponent — Yes —

Clerk of the Peace Do you know by what Person? —

Deponent — No I don't know —

Clerk of Sy. Peace Were there Spectacles on the Deceased Gentleman's face

Deponent — Yes —

Clerk of Sy. Peace Was it the Same Person you Saw near the Hospital Gate on Horseback? —

Deponent — Yes —

Mr Maxwell Thomson Surgeon Sworn

Clerk of Sy. Peace Did you examine the Body of Mr Hooker lately? —

Deponent — Yes in the Portuguese Square on Tuesday Morning last at Nine o'Clock — On Examining the Body, I found a wound entering the right Side of the Forehead — it had passed thro' the Substance of the Brain, and out behind the left Ear — I perceived no other wounds —

Clerk of Sy. Peace What was the wound occasioned by? —

Deponent — The wound must have been given by a large Pistol Ball

Clerk of Sy. Peace Do you Suppose it was attended with immediate Death

Deponent — Yes —

Lieut. Colonel William Keating Sworn

Clerk of Sy. Peace Do you know the Prisoners? —

Deponent — Mr Chalmers & Major Johnson I am acquainted with but only know Mr Latham personally —

Clerk of Sy. Peace Relate what you know —

On

Deponent — On Sunday last I took a ride out after Dinner to Mr
Dupuy's Garden — Mr Dupuy, Harker, Pal
& myself were present and also two of the P
soner's, Mr Chalmers & Major Johnson — a
quen Bay I think he was, had behaved very i
and Mr Chalmers proposed that his Housekeep
should fight him. — Mr Harker got off his ho
and they then set these two People a fighting
This brought on between Mr Harker & Mr Chalm
some Scuffle, but I saw no Blows paſsed —
Chalmers retired a little and came near to
on which Mr Harker said he would not allo
him or any man to push him about — tha
he knew who he Mr Chalmers was very well
and had gone to Bengall on the Breaking ou
of the War — upon that Mr Chalmers said it w
too much and gave him a Blow which Mr Hark
returned, some other Blows ensued & Mr Harker
fell, on which Mr Chalmers desisted, and Mr
Harker got up and came towards us — I told
Mr Harker that it was a cruel thing to attac
a Mans Character & that he had got what he
Deserved — I then went towards the House and
Mr Harker got upon his Horse & went away
On coming Home I wrote to Mr Dupuy and beg
he would interfere with Mr Harker & make u
up — and that on receiving Mr Harker's ans
I would early in the Morning go to Mr Chalm

Clerk of y^e Peace — Did you know that Mr Dupuy wrote to Mr Harker
in Consequence? —

Deponent — I know he wrote to him — but understood that Mr Harke
insisted upon having Satisfaction and that
Mr Chalmers should go out with him —

Clerk of y^e Peace — Do you imagine Mr Chalmers was disposed to accom
modate the matter? —

Deponent — Yes — and Mr Chalmers said had Mr Harker given
him a blow on the Face whilst they were Scuffling, he
should have thought nothing of it, but attacking
his Character he could not bear —

Clerk of y^e Peace — Did there appear no kind of anger in the Scuffle at
Mr Dupuys Gardens? —

Deponent — No, I thought not, the Affair had passed before between
Mr Dupuy & Mr Chalmers on looking at the
men fighting —

Clerk of y^e Peace — Was Mr Latham of the Company at Mr Dupuys Garden
on Sunday last? —

Deponent — No he was not there —

Clerk of y^e Peace — Did you ever hear of any Dispute between Mr Harker
and Mr Chalmers before this happened? —

Deponent — No —

The Prisoners having no Witnesses to be examine
and being asked if they had any thing to offer in their
Defence — The Council, on the part of Mr Chalmers, d
observed to the Jury that he need not say any thing as
to the Magnitude of the Injury and provocation given
to Mr Chalmers, as it had sufficiently come in evid
before them by the Witnesses for the Prosecution, that
throughout the whole of the unhappy affair Mr Chalmer
had shewn a wish to settle it amicably, and particular
on the Ground after Pistols had been fired, when he
was desirous of an accommodation, but it was rejected
by Mr Harker who again added fresh provocation by
some harsh expressions —

The Petit Jury then withdrew, and an Officer
is Sworn to keep them — after being out upwards of
half an hour they returned into Court, Verdict being
first proclaimed —

Clerk of y^e Peace — Gentlemen of the Jury are you agreed on your Verdict? —

Jury — Yes —

Clerk of y^e Peace — Who shall say for you? —

Jury — Our Foreman

Clerk of y^e Peace — John Chalmers, Francis Johnson & Robt Latham
hold up your Hands? —

Def[t]

Clerk of y[e] P. Co[t] Jury: Look upon the Prisoners, how Say you is John Chalmers
Guilty of the Murder whereof he Stands Indi[t]
or not Guilty ~

Foreman Not Guilty of Murder, but Guilty of Manslaughter

Clerk of y[e] Peace Is Francis Johnson Guilty of the Murder whereof he
Stands indicted or not Guilty ~

Foreman Not Guilty ~

Clerk of y[e] Peace Is Robert Latham Guilty of the Murder whereof he
Stands Indicted or not Guilty ~

Foreman - Not Guilty ~

Clerk of y[e] Peace What Goods & Chattels do you find John Chalmers had
at the time of the Manslaughter Committed or
any time since.

Foreman - None ~

Clerk of y[e] Peace Gentlemen of the Jury hearken unto your Verdict as the
Court hath recorded it, you Say that John Chalmers
is not Guilty of the Murder whereof he Stands
Indicted, but that he is Guilty of Manslaughter
and that he had no Goods nor Chattels at the
time of the Manslaughter Committed or at any
time since & you Say that Francis Johnson
& Robert Latham are not Guilty, & So you Say
all[e] ~

Jury Yes ~

Francis Johnson & Robert Latham are then
Discharged from the Bar ~

The Grand Jury have come into Court & have
answerd to their Names Deliver the following Pre-
sentments which are Publickly read

Town of Madraspatnam ss

We the Grand Jury of the
Town of Madraspatnam ss
to enquire for the Body of the Jo
Town, being justly Sensible of the
many advantages arising to this
Place by the Gracious Dispensati[n]
of his Majesty's Royal Chart[r]
as to Charter Conveyed with it the

Laws of England and prescribes the
Method of putting those Laws into
Execution ~

Do present that it is come to our knowledge that the
Goal or Prison House in which Criminals and Debtors
are Confined is So incommodiously Constructed that
those of both Denominations are either Lodged or under
the necessity of mixing together promiscuously, and that
there are not the means of Separating Convicts from the
other Prisoners, or permitting the Prisoners to enjoy the
fresh Air without intermixing with each other, that
the Goal is at present much out of repair, that the Well
is in Danger of Falling in, and the water reported
by Doctor Anderson the Principal Surgeon of the Settle-
ment to be unfit for use and to Such a Degree as to en-
danger the Lives of the Prisoners; which matters have
been repeatedly presented by former Grand Juries without
the remedy being applied ~

And do further present that Not-
withstanding the high price of Provisions and the
Exactions and Extortions to which this is owing has
been So repeatedly presented no remedy as yet appears
to have been applied for the Correction of So great an
Evil & abuse ~

And do further present that the
Office of Scavenger which is still held by Cotton Bowen
Bank. Dent Esq[r] continues to be greatly neglected par-
ticularly in the Black Town and altho' the Same has
been repeatedly presented by this Jury no remedy has
been applied for removing So great a Nuisance ~

And do also further present that in
the Black Town and Environs of Madras there are Several
Wells without any parapet walls to them and others
which are greatly out of repair & the walls not Sup-

Sufficiently high by which passengers are ex
to great Danger and risque of their Lives. All
Matters have been presented in the same words as
last Sessions, after they had been before repeatedly
minded to the Notice of the Court without being
and are now therefore again brought forward in
hope & Confidence that the proper Course will be
pursued for applying the necessary remedy, where
delay is attended with manifest inconvenience to
Public —

And do further present that Mary
Nairoo has been Committed by order of one of His Maj
Commissioners for trying Pirates and other offende
at Sea on an Accusation of Murder & Piracy with
being brought to his Trial —

All which matters and things a
Contrary to the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King
his Crown and Dignity —

(Signed) Andrew Ross
George Proctor
R. Guy
Vinc. Corbett
Jno. Metford
J. H. Skardon
Hugh. Vaughan
J. Landon
W. G. Wasy
Robt. Woolf
Robt. Clerk
Richd. Johnson
Joseph Shawe
John Spalding
Frederick Cæsar

Town

Town of Madraspatnam ss.

We the Grand Jury of the Town of Madraspatnam, Sworn to Enquire for the Body of the said Town being justly Sensible of the many advantages arising to this Place by the gracious Dispensation of his Majesty's Royal Charter, as it has Conveyed with it the Laws of England and prescribed the Method of putting those Laws into Execution —

* Do Present that as the greatest Prejudices arise to the Public from the want of a Coroner, they consider it as their indispensible Duty to take notice of so material a Defect in the Due Execution of the Laws, in the most material Department of Criminal Justice, which this Jury do now point out to the Court, in the hope that this Ancient Office, which was formerly held in this Place time out of Mind, will be again restored —

(Signed) Andrew Ross
Geo. Proctor
R. Guy
Vinc. Corbett
Jno. Metford
J. H. Skardon
Hugh Vaughan
J. Landon
W. G. Wasy
Robt. Woolf
Robt. Clerk
Richd. Johnson
Joseph Shawe
John Spalding
Frederick Cæsar

Richard Wright is brought to the Bar,
and the Chairman having passed Sentence on Sam
and John Chalmers for Manslaughter the Punish
ment is immediately inflicted on both

The Grand and Petit Jurys are then
Dismissed with thanks for their Services and the
Court is adjourned till Wednesday the 12th January
next for holding another Sessions