1079

The entries made in pencil on the margin in the Volume were made with the help of the papers in the bundle at the time of the weeding and destruction of records.

6.11.43

Vol: 3rd

Office Letrs
1248

Fort St. George April 1785

26th. Dispatched the undermentioned Letters / which are entered in M: B: Nos 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148 /

To Sir Henry Cosby & Mr. Paul C

To the Commandant & Paymaster at Trichinopoly, Government cannot consent to the Execution of any Repairs, till they are furnished with an Estimate of the Expences which they are desired to transmit to the Presidency. —

To the Committee of Assigned Revenue

To the Committee of Assigned Revenue; In Consequence of their Representation of the absolute Necessity of a Civil Servant being employed in the Palnaud District, Mr. Robert Latham, agreeably to their Recommendation, has been appointed to that Service with the same Allowances as are granted to Mr. Robert Andrews, an Assistant under Mr. Jones — The Board cannot consent that the Peons employed in the Palnaud District should be paid by any other than the Paymaster of Ongole. —

To Mr. Rob. Latham

To Mr. Robert Latham, advising him of his appointment. —

To Lt. Munro

To Lt. Munro; Mr. Jackson will audite his Accounts when they come before him in their proper Place. —

To Mr. Commr. Jackson

To Mr. Commissioner Jackson, informing him

Fort St. George April 1785.

26th The contents of the foregoing Letter to Lt. Munro —

To Mr. Lind — To the Paymaster at Nellore; the Account of Arrears due to the 4 Companies of the 18th Batt.n to the 31st August last, being made up by Mr. Welch, will be paid off by Government as soon as possible; the Arrears subsequent to that Period must be discharged by him. —

To Col.l Straubenzee — To Colonel Straubenzee; a Passage on Board the Glatton has been ordered for Lieut.t Evans, agreeably to his Request. —

To Major Gen.l Campbell — To Major General Campbell; Government will shortly reply to the latter Part of his Letter of the 23rd Instant; Directions have been given to the Commander of the Glatton to receive ten Invalids of the 23rd Regiment of Light Dragoons. —

To Capt.n Pringle. — To Captain Pringle; Government consent to his drawing Major's Pay during the Period of his absence upon Service, in Addition to the other allowances enjoyed by him in the Field — The Commander in Chief will settle with him the most eligible Place for commencing his Operations. —

Mr. Hudleston — To the President of Tanjore; to procure from Mr. Cruchill Copies of the Papers from which he is authorized to make the Demand of £ 1806-3- and transmit them to the Presidency —

To

1250 — Fort St. George April 1785

26th. To Masulipatam; — to call upon Colonel Brathwaite for his sentiments respecting the Distribution of the Troops in the Circar, in stationing them to the best Effect to ensure the Company's Posessions against a sudden Attack. —

To Masulipatam

To Col. Brathwaite — 27th. To Colonel Brathwaite, to summon a General Court Martial on the Arrival of Ensign Peters who must be tried on the Charge exhibited against him by the Chief & Council of Vizagapatam. —

To Mr. Fallofield — To the Resident at Nagore; a Company of Sepoys will be ordered from the Cantonment at Warriore to his settlement, in Lieu of the Sibbendies recalled from thence. —— The Board approve the Reductions he made in the three Companies of Sibbendies. ——

29th. Received the following Letters. —

To Lord Macartney W.B. &c. &c. &c.

My Lord,

From Brigr. Genl. Coultenceau, the Forts of Trincomalee & Ostenburg were delivered up to the Dutch on the 23d. April. —

I have the honor to inform You that Monsr. de Senarmont, who commanded the Forts of Trincomallee and Ostenbourg, arrived here yesterday. ——

On

1254.

Fort St. George April 1785.

29th

On the 23d. Instant he gave up these Forts to Dutch Commissaries, appointed by the Governor & Council of Colombo -

I have the honor to be with distinguished Consideration. —

My Lord

Your very humble and very obedient Servant
(signed) Coutenceau

Pondicherry
26th April 1785 -

A true translation
(signed) T. Chase
French Transl.r

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Governor & Council
of Fort St. George

My Lord & Gentlemen,

From Masulipatam, enclosing Copy of a Letter to them from the Resid.t at Hydrabad relative to Seif-Jung. —

We think it necessary to transmit you the accompanying Copy of a letter just received from the Resident of Hydrabad for your information

We have the honor to be
very respectfully
My Lord & Gentlemen
Your most obedient Hble Servts
James Hodges
(signed) John. Peter. Boileau
Tho.s Barnard

Masulipatam
28th April 1785 -

12.52 Fort St. George April 1785

29th

To Anthony Sadleir Esqr
Chief &c Council
at
Masulipatam.

Gentlemen,

I have been honored by your Commands of the 12th and immediately forwarded the Right Honble the President's letter to the Soubahdar. —

In consequence of your former letters upon the subject of Seyf Jung's late irruption — I represented their contents to the Soubahdar and obtained his order for the immediate return of Seyf Jung into his own Districts But if these orders should have met with any Delay in being obeyed I should think that orders to the Troops nearest to Seyf Jung of a similar nature to those last sent to the Condapillee station would instantly settle the business. The great want of controul in the Hydrabad Government over their Agents may render such an exertion on the Company's behalf indispensibly necessary. particularly with a view to prevent such Trespass in future which I can venture to affirm are made entirely without the participation of the Superior Government who would be little less benifited

than

1253 Fort St. George April 8th 1785

29th than the Honble Company by any corrective
Check upon their disorderly Amils and Zemindars—
However upon the Propriety of such a Step
You, Gentlemen, must be the best judges.—

I have the honor to be,
with respect.—
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient
Humble Servant
(signed) Richard Johnson
Resr. Hydrabad

Goolcrampillee
25th April 1785—

A true Copy
(signed) Aw Scott
Secy

To the Right Honorable Lord Macartney K.B.
President & Governor &c Council
of Fort St. George

My Lord & Gentlemen,

We have received your Lordships
&c Favor dated the 2d Instant.—

Our Letter to your Lordships &c
of the 25th Ultimo contained a Translation of Our
Address to Ibrahim Ally of the same date.—

The Rajah apprehensive the
Vackeels might be deceived in their opinion,

from Messrs
Lind & Close;
the Rajah raises
the Sum of 30000
Pagodas, which
he sends to Cudapa
by Kishnagerow's
Gomastah, who
promises to return
with an Order for
the delivery of the
Rajahs Districts—

That

Fort St George April 1785 —

29th That the Country would be delivered up on
our making the offers which they suggested to us
directed them in case of their being orejected, to
use their endeavors, to prevail on Histnageerow,
either to come here, or to send a person with
powers to propose, and settle the terms on which
he would engage for the payment of the 2d Inst. —

The Vackeels finding that the Rajahs
apprehensions were but too well grounded as will
be evinced to your Lordship &c by two Letters from
them as well as Ibrahim Allys oreply to us,
(herewith enclosed) had orecourse to Histnageerow,
who agreeable to the Rajahs desire, dispatched
his Gomastah, Aiimantarow, to this place; he
accordingly arrived on the 14th Instant with a
Letter from his Master, which was shewn
& explained to us/ortune him with the Authority
that was oequired. ——

The Rajah from a sincere desire
to terminate this business, has notwithstanding
his innumerable Embarrassments, by various
exertions, found means to raise 30000 Pagodas
which the Gomastah, having taken charge of,
and every Article being adjusted, proceeded this day

to

1257 Fort St. George April 1785 —

29th will be pleased to inform me whether you mean to allow me for this Feed, and the extra expences which the Supreme Board have desired me to apply to you for — I must beg the favor of an answer as soon as may be, in order that I may arrange my accounts, and draw on the Supreme Board, in case you should think proper to continue your resolution of refusing to pay me the expences I have demand for —

I am my Lord & Gentlemen
Your Most Obedient and
most Humble Servant
J. Burgoyne
M.G. & Colt.
23d. Ld. Do —

Madras
April 29th 1785 —

Dispatched the following Answer to Sir John Burgoyne. —

Major General Sir J. Burgoyne Bart. &c. &c.

Sir/

I am directed by the Right Honble Presidt. and Council to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of this days date, & to inform you that the Expences attending your project for the purchase of horses, having been incurred without

to Sir John Burgoyne, informing him. that all Expences attending this Project for the Purchase of the Horses must be defrayed by the Supreme Board — the Deputy Commissary General will be directed to muster the Horses. —

Fort St. George April 1785.

29th without any directions from this Government & consequently not included in their provision for disbursements, it is not at present in their power to comply with your demands. It is their opinion besides that it will be more regular, & more suitable to the Company's Interest that the transaction should be completed at Bengal where it originated, & that the Account of the whole expence should be brought under one head & closed there without any interference on the part of this Presidency. So that the Governor General & Council, who accepted your proposals & authorized you to buy the Horses, may be enabled to see at a single View how far the Charges be agreable to the terms of the Contract. — Mr. Balfour, the Deputy Commissary, has received Orders to muster the Horses according to your desire —

I am &c

(signed) John Chamier
Act. Secretary

Fort St. George
April 29th — 1785

30th Sent Letter to Mr. William Balfour / as entered
To Mr. Wm. Balfour — in Mr. B. No. 149 / directing him to muster the
Horses arrived from Hyderabad for his Majesty's
23d Regiment of Light Dragoons —

1259 Fort St. George April 1785

30.th

Received the following Letter from Mr. Irwin with Enclosures entered in No. B. N.o 150/

To John Chamier Esq.r

Acting Secretary to the Military & Political Department. —

Sir/

From Mr. Irwin, enclosing several Letters relative to the Surrender of Tuticorin & its Dependencies to the Dutch Commissaries. —

I have the pleasure to enclose you sundry Papers relative to the surrender of Tuticorin and its dependencies to the Dutch Commissaries, which I request you will lay before the Right Honble President & Council.

Mr. Kinderley's letter N.o 1 with the explanation of his instructions, & the form of his cession of the Places in question (No.s 2 & 3) will afford the Rt. Honble President & Co.s every information on the subject of the delay, that has taken place in the execution of his commission, and I flatter myself, that my letter to Mr. Kinderley (copy of which No.o 4 goes enclosed) approving of his conduct on this occasion, will meet with the support of the board: as he is possessed of undoubted materials, to justify the opposition he has set up on the part of his Highness the Nabob, against the unprecedented and extraordinary

claims

1260 - Fort St. George April 1785 -

30. 15

claims of Mr. McKern. —

No. 5 is copy of Mr. McKern's reply to what he calls Mr. Kinderley's memorial, with that Gentleman's remarks on it. They came under cover of a few com=plimentary lines to me, and have drawn the enclosed answer (No. 6) I shall take up no more of the time of the Right Honble President &c. referring them to the above correspondence for their judgement & further directions; tho' I have no doubt, that the order to Captain Bilcliffe for the surrender of the Fort of Tuticorin, will tend to smooth all difficulties, and bring this troublesome Affair to a speedy conclusion. —

Jeremain,

Your most obedt. Servant

(signed) Eyles Irwin.

Irrichinopoly
23d April 1785

Agreed that Mr. Irwin be informed, that the Board approve his conduct, and that a Letter be written to Captain Belcliffe directing him to deliver up the Fort of Tutocoine to Mr. McKern, or Mr. Irwin's Requisition to

To Mr. Irwin –

To Capt.n Bilcliffe –

1261 Fort St. George April 1785

30th to him for that Purpose / vide M. B. Nos. 151. 152 /

Received a Letter from Mr. Mekern dated the 11th Inst. / as entered in M B. No. 153 /

From Mr. Mekern - advising of his Arrival at Tutocoryn, deputed by the Government of Ceylon, to receive from the English the Possessions to be ceded to the States General agreeably to Treaty; and enclosing a Copy of his Commission. —

Agreed that the following Letter be dispatched to Mr. Mekern. —

To Martinus Mekern Esqr.

Sir /

I am directed by the Right Honble President & Council to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 11th Instant. & to inform you that, having appointed Mr. Irwin their Commissary to act by himself or Deputy in order to put you in possession of Tutocorin, they have given him Instructions for his guidance that any future differences between the two Nations may be prevented, & a long peace & friendship secured between them. —

To Mr. Mekern; — informing him that Mr. Irwin's Conduct has been agreeable to the Orders of Government relative to the Restoration of Tutocoryn; and that the Commandant has been directed to attend to his Requisitions. —

The Board having approved the Conduct of Mr. Irwin, which has been conformable to the directions

30th directions given to him — they should be
concerned if any objection were made to it; with
respect to the delivering up the Fort of Tuticorin
I am directed to inform you that the Commandant
is ordered to attend to Mr. Irwin's Requisitions which
is all that appears at present necessary to be
done in the Countries of Madura & Tinnivelly
on the part of the English Government.

As soon as the time is fixed for the
total & unconditional delivery of Tuticorin
&c. the Government of Columbo will of course
authorize one of their Company's Servants to make
the formal Surrender of all Claims to Negapatam
& its Dependencies according to the 4th Article of
the late Treaty between His Brittanick
Majesty & the States General —

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt. Servt.
(signed) John Chamier
Act.g Secretary

Fort St. George
30th April 1785 —

The following Letter to Brigadier
General Coutenceau having been omitted by
Mistake to be inserted agreeable to its Date, is
ordered to be entered hereunder. ——

1263

Fort St. George April 1785 —

30th

To Brigadier General De Coutenceau

&c. &c. &c.

Sir;

It having been determined by mutual Consent that your Claim to the Waldour Duties in virtue of the Cession made to your nation by the Treaty of Peace, should be referred to the Decision of our respective Courts, I think it proper to acquaint you that, in the mean time, those Duties will be collected as formerly, and that Orders have been in consequence sent to our Aumildar to station proper Persons to receive them at the usual Chokies — This being conformable to the Agreement of reference which leaves the Right with us until it be otherwise decided (if it shall be so decided) in Europe I beg the favor of you to make known our Intention to the Merchants, Traders, and others belonging to your Settlement who may be subject to the Payment of these Duties requiring them at the same time to discharge all just Demands upon this Account without Objection or Delays of any kind. —

I have the honor to be with the most distinguished Consideration &c.

Signed/ Macartney

To Brigadier General Coutenceau, informing him that the Customs of Waldour will be collected as formerly, until the Arrival of the Decision from Europe; and requesting him to make the same known to the Merchants of his Settlement who may be subject to the Payment of the same. —

85

1264

Fort St. George April 1785.

30th

The following Answer was received —

To Lord Macartney

&c. &c. -

My Lord

I have always been informed
From Brigadier General Coutenceau, has recommended in the strongest manner that the Customs of Waldour be collected as usual -

that the Renters and Amaldars collected the revenues agreably to the Custom that has been established in the Jonhans dependant on Villenour, I did not know they had met with any impedi=ments, at least I can assure you it never came to my Knowledge. and respecting the Arrangement of this Matter I have recommended it in the strongest manner to be conducted conformably to the Rules which have always been observed. —

I have the honor to be with distinguished Consideration. —

My Lord

Your very humble
& very Obedient Servant

Pondichery
30th April 1785 -

Signed/ Coutenceau

Received the undermentioned Letters/ which are entered in the M. B., Nos. 154. 156. 157.

From Lieut. Sundt; the Moogral Poligar

From Lt. Sundt -

1765 Fort St. George April 1785

30th Poligar hesitates in complying with the Order for his repairing to the Presidency —

To Lt. Sundt. Agreed that Mr. Sundt be informed, that the Poligar's Vackeel has given the strongest Assurances that ample satisfaction shall be made to Syed Mustapha; should it be deferred, the Polygar will be compelled to repair to the Presidency /vide M. B. Ao. 155/

From Mr. Jam.s Hodges. From Mr. James Hodges dated 24.th April enclosing Letter to him from the Commander of the Leonora Snow advising of his being embayed and that the Troops on board are in the greatest Danger for want of Water.

From Masulipatam — From Masulipatam dated the 25.th April, the Troops, from the Snow Leonora, safely land at Nizampatam, necessaries will be dispatched from Masulipatam to march them to that place. —

To Masulipatam — In Consequence of the misconduct of Captain Pourr, of the Snow Leonora, in not providing a sufficient Quantity of Water, the Board direct that the Gentlemen at Masulipatam do defer discharging the Amount of the Bill drawn in his favor 'till further Orders. /vide M. B. No. 158) —

1266 Fort St. George April 1785

30th Sent Letter to the Residents of Tanjore and Nagore (as entered in M. B. No. 159) directing them to advance Ensign Burn such sums as he may want for the recruiting service, and draw upon the Military Paymaster General for the Amount. —

To Mr. Huddleston & Mr. Fallofield —

Received Letter from Mr. Welch, —

From Mr. Welch — requesting that General Campbell may be directed to furnish him with some Sepoys to accompany him to Bomrauzes Pollam to release Nursim Rauze the Manager from the Confinement in which he had been placed by Mar Rauze the late Manager, which occasioned a Delay in discharging the Peishcash.

Agreed that the necessary Orders be given to Major Genl. Campbell, and that Mr. Welch do inform the General of the Service on which the Sepoys are to be employed (vide M. B. Nos. 160. 161. 162)

Minute thereon —

Received the undermentioned Letters (which are entered in M. B. Nos. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167 —

From Bombay — From the Secretary at Bombay, enclosing a Packet for the Government General, and a Receipt, and Certificate, the former for an

Advance

Fort St. George April 1785 —

30th Advance of 800 Rupees made to Lieut.t Campbell of his Majesty's 78th Regiment; and the latter oregarding a Serjeant belonging to that Establishment who is entitled to the thereof the prize Money from the Capture of Pondicherry. —

From Lieut.t Lundt— The Moogral Poligar has written to him of the Impropriety of his Conduct with Regard to Said Mustapha, and of his readiness to pay the value of the plundered Property; a Letter has in Consequence been written to Said Mustapha desiring him to make out an exact Estimate of the ovalue of the Property still unrestored. —

From Lt. Lundt—

From Mr. Hoisgard dated 15th April, enclosing Musters of different Sorts of Rice & Paddy to sale at Cuddalore; by every Appearance at present there is a Prospect of Plenty, as Paddy is daily imporing from the Southward —

From Mr. Hoisgard—

From Mr. Hoisgard; returns the Cattle to Meer Baker, agreeable to the Directions of the Board; encloses an Answer from General Coutenceau to a Letter addressed to him on the Subject. —

From Mr. Hoisgard—

May 3d From the Secretary at Bengal, enclosing a Packet for the Court of Directors to be forwarded

From Mr. Hay—

1268 Fort St. George May 1785

3d forwarded by the first Opportunity. ——

To, acknowledging the Receipt of the foregoing
To Mr. Hay — Packet, which will be sent to England by the
Glatton now under Dispatch (Vide M.B. N°. 168)
Receive the following Letter from Sir John
Burgoyne. ——

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.
President & Governor &c. Council
of Fort St. George

My Lord & Gentlemen,

From Sir John Burgoyne, states why he made the application to this Presidency for the Feed of the Horses purchased by him for the 23d Regiment; but did not suppose that any Project tending to the advantage of his Majesty's Service, would meet with any support from the Government of Madras. ——

I have this moment the honor of your Letter of yesterday, in which you are pleased to refuse complying with my Demands for the Feed of the horses which I have purchased for my Regiment in compliance with the Orders of the Supreme Board; as also for the extra Expences attending the same; — I applyd to you in consequence only of a Paragraph in the Supreme Board's Letter to me of the 19th of February last. in which they say "We doubt not but the "administration of Fort St. George, to whom we "have again written on the Subject, will repay "all the unavoidable incidental Charges that may "attend the purchase of the horses" — for I could

but

1269

Fort St. George May 1785

3d

but little suppose a Project, as you are pleased to call it, so much to the advantage of the Kings Service, would meet with any Assistance or Support from the Government of Madras. — I shall therefore in consequence of your refusal to comply with the Commands of the Governor General and Supreme Board, draw on them for the Amount, which as you observe will enable them to see at a single view how far the Charge I shall make is agreeable to the terms of my Contract, which I believe will be found more beneficial to the Company, than any that the boasted Oeconomy of the Government of Fort St. George will be able to produce; — I must however beg of you to inform me, whether the horses when mustered, will be supported and fed at the Expence of this Government, or whether that Expence is likewise to fall on Bengal. —

I have the honor to be,
My Lord & Gentlemen
Your most obed.t humble
Servant. —

J Burgoyne
M: G. & Coll 23d
L D.t

Madras
April 30th 1785

1270 Fort St. George May 1785

3d Sent the following Answer. —

To Major General Sir John Burgoyne Bart.

Sir

I am directed by the Right Honble President & Council to inform you, in answer to yours of the 30th ultimo, that after your having taken so unwarrantable a Licence with them as to assert that you could not suppose the Government of Madras would give any assistance or support to a project for the advantage of his Majesty's Service, — altho you yourself know perfectly well that they had already done all that was in their power, by oremitting the duties upon the horses purchased under that project, which duties are not inconsiderable, you must not expect much notice to be taken — of your letters in future. ——

I am further to observe, that what relates to the 23d Regiment of Dragoons ought to come from the Officer Commanding it, & thro' the regular Channel, & not thro you, Sir, whose situation at present renders a correspondence of the kind with you irregular & inconvenient, the —

Governor

To Sir John Burgoyne, in Consequence of the unwarrantable Licence he has taken with the Board in asserting that he could not suppose the Government of Madras would assist in support=ting any Project tending to his Majesty's Service, he must not expect much attention to be paid to his Letters in future — The Officer commanding the 23d Regt. ought to orepresent to Government any Circumstance relating to it, and not thro him, whose present situation renders it irregular & inconvenient. —

1271

Fort S.t George May 1785 -

3.d Governor General & Council of Bengal will be informed of all that has passed on this occasion, & endeavors will be used to arrange a Mode of supporting & feeding the horses of the 23.d Reg.t of Dragoons more suitable to the boasted economy of this Government, than has as yet taken place -

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obed.t Servant
(signed) John Chamier
Acting Secretary

Fort S.t George
3.d May 1785 -

At a Consultation Present.

The Right Honble Gen.l Lord Macartney
President

Tuesday
3.d May 1785

Alex.r Davidson Esq.r Lieut General Lang
James Daniell Esq.r

Minutes of last Consultation read and approved -

Read the following Letter from Mr. Johnson, late Resident at Hyderabad.

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney
K. B. President & Governor &. Council in their Political Department.

Fort S.t George

- 12, 2

From the late Resident at Hyderabad - previous to his departure from that place he obtained an order from the Nizam for Seif Jungs immediate Return - In opinion that the Court had no knowledge of Saif Jungs precipitate March into the Company's Districts: recommends that on a similar occasion in future a severe Conduct be observed on the part of the Company against the Trespasser - communicates political Intelligence: and advises of his recal to Bengal

Fort St George 3d May 1785

My Lord and Gentlemen,

I am this instant honored by your Commands this your Secretary under date 7th Instant -

I did not leave Hyderabad before I had obtained an order from the Soubahdar for the immediate recal of Seif Jung - the greatest displeasure as well as surprize was expressed at his conduct insomuch that I think myself warranted to affirm that the Court in no shape participated in that Aumils misconduct: At the same time that I think future attempts of a similar nature would have been more surely prevented by a more rough reception than he seems to have experienced upon his irruption into the Company's Lands -

From the uncommon remiss of the present Government at Hyderabad their Aumils as well as Zemindars are under very little controul and consequently are very ready to act according to their own dispositions at this under their masters name - It becomes therefore incumbent upon those trespassed upon to do themselves Justice and supply the deficiency of check from the Superior Government, which seems to be the only mode of preventing a multiplication and continuation of similar Intrusions -

I immediately forwarded the Right

1273

Fort St George 3d May 1785

Right Honble the Presidents Letter to the Nizam -

The Troops of Tippoo Sultaun in the Maharatta districts South of the Kistna named Neergoond & Newelgoond have lately received a trifling check from the advanced party of Ma= =hrattas - This may possibly inflame the quarrel which hitherto has borne no very spreading appea= =rances - The Nizams auxiliary aids ordered out to join the Mahrattas are nearly in the same situa= =ation & condition that they were in the first week they were directed to be assembled - The setting in of the rains or rather the first swell of the Kistnah will afford a sufficient pretence for their return to Hyderabad -

The Honble the Governor General and Council having been pleased on the 1st Inst. to order me to the Presidency - I left Hyderabad on the 17th Instant and am now on my road to Bengal - I beg leave therefore to take this opportunity of acknowledging with much Gratitude the great & unmerited Attentions, which your Lordship &c have been pleased to honor me with - Testimonies which I shall ever remember as of the most flattering and honorary nature to me -

I am &c &c -

Goobrampellee
21st April 1785.

R. Johnson
Resr Hyd:

1274 Fort St George 3d May 1785

Read the following Letter from Manulipatam with Copy of one from the Chief Engineer.

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Governor &c Council
of Fort St George &c

My Lord & Gentlemen.

We have received your Secretary's several Letters of the 14th 18th 19th and two of the 20th Instant, the forth of which inclosed a G: O: and the second a Return of the Invalids embarked on the Snow Leonora for this Garrison —

We had the honor of informing your Lordship &c under date the 18th Instant that Seif Sung had retired from these Districts into the Guntoor Circar, of course it is now unnecessary for us to pursue the measures which you have ordered respecting him; but as it would appear that our instructions to Colonel Brathwaite not to involve the Company in any expence have been stricter than your Lordship &c intended, We think it necessary, to observe, that the words of your Secretary's Letter of the 1st Instant seemed not to allow us any Latitude in this particular, but in case it had become absolutely necessary for Troops to take the field, we must of necessity, tho' with the greatest reluctance have deviated a little from your Commands in this respect,

and

From Manulipatam enclosing copy of a Letter to that Board from Colo: Ross representing the Situation & state of the several Out Garrisons in the District, and his Observations & Recommendations thereon — The Letter to them from the Secry of the 1st Instant did not seem to allow them any Latitude with regard to the Instructions to be given to Colo: Brathwaite on the Insurrection of Seif Sung — The Renter of Nellapille prefers a Complaint against the French.

Fort St George 3d May 1785

and we could therefore have wished that the same discretion of acting had been left us in your Secretary's Letter of the 1st Instant which that of the 19th implies —

a Copy of the Right Honble the Presidents Minute is transmitted to the Resi= =dent of Ingeram as a guide for his Conduct respecting the Claims of the French at Yanam. — We lately received a letter from Mr Hamilton informing us that the Renter of Nellapillie complained of being prevented from visiting a small French Vessel coming up the River. and that as there was no other method of hindering the Importation of Fire Arms & Military Stores, he wished to know in what manner we would have the Renter proceed on future occasions — We have consulted with the Chief on this subject, and Mr Hamilton has been requested to direct the Renter to discontinue any prac= =tices of this kind until we can receive your orders, and in the mean time to be watchful in case any Military Stores are landed that they be not carried away before he has acquain= =ted us; but as we understand that all fo= =reign Ships are subjected to a Search in proceeding up the River of Bengal, and as

We

1276

Fort St George 3d May 1785

We conceive that giving up a claim of this kind might not meet with your Approbation we request your Lordship &c will be pleased to honor us with your Commands on this subject as soon as possible -

The Chief having informed us before his Departure that Colonel Ross intended making use of the Opportunity of his being here on Service to visit the several out Garrisons in the District, we requested he would take Coringa on his tour, and acquaint us with his Sentiments of that Bay and of any improvements which could be made there in case there should hereafter be any apprehension of an Invasion by Sea. and likewise that he would communicate to us his Sentiments on such other subjects in his Department as might be useful for the Public Service - We think it necessary to transmit you a Copy of Colonel Ross's Letter to us on this occasion -

We have the honor to be &c

James Hodges
John Peter Boileau
Tho: Barnard

Masulipatam
26th April 1785

To

Fort St George 3d May 1785

To James Hodges Esqr

Acting Chief & Council

Masulipatam

Ross's Letter
Observations
ing from his
ough the
at Masu=
tam. —

Gentlemen,

Since I was favoured with Mr Secretary Scott's Letter under date 28th March last communicating your desire of my visiting the Port and bay of Coringa &c I have made the Tour of the Principal Garrisons in the District, and shall avail myself of the liberty granted me, to lay before you such reflections respecting them as have occurred to me in the course of my Journey—

Condapillee, the first I visited, is situated near to and upon some very high Hills. enclosed within a Wall seven or eight miles in Circuit, what extends to the plain is only now to be traced by heaps of Rubbish, and a few of the Pettah Gates still standing, what is on the Hills remains standing although imperfect, there seems to have been fortification upon Fortification, to guard the approach to the Hill, naturally very steep and difficult of Access half way up the Hill between the two principal Points that are fortified, for the wall encompasseth six, In the Palace, the remains of much ancient Grandeur which even since it fell into our hands

Fort St George 3d May 1785

hands consisted of three Stories, but the depredations of time have been anticipated by the Venality of Individuals who for the sake of converting to sel=fish purposes the noble Beams that girt it to walls have reduced it to early ruin. so that there remains now only one Beam upon the first floor whose fortunate Roof was formid with=out valuable Timber. the lower part of it which serves for Quarters and Store Houses is strongly built on Piers that support Elephick Arches and which remain entire, the monument of an undertaking of great extent to judge from the materials at least six fold what now stands.

There is still to be seen some Sculptures in stone and in Chunam very much to be admired, and I am told the Carvings in wood were in no degree inferior.

The idea of this Fort as a Key to the Circars at present only exists in the minds of those very uninformed; it being generally known there are many other passes by which they can be entered - It can therefore only be considered in respect to us as an advanced Post to cover our Country and to gain Intelligence, and from whence any refractory Zemendars may be speedily brought to order - for which purpose

the

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The Commandant should be supplied with the means of acquiring the earliest Information, and of having every thing in readiness for Instant movement.

Should there ever be an attempt to wrest this place from us. The Troops must instantly quit their present Barracks & retire to the Hill, when the first great Contest will be to gain the Palace in which the Garrison will posess great advantage over those who attack them, the Ascent to it, being so great, and of such a continuance, that ordinary Men can=not gain that height without either marching very slow, or repeatedly halting, during which time they must be exposed to a destructive fire from above - It would therefore be advisable always to have a quantity of Provisions lodged upon the Hill and if an addition was made to the present Accommodations to make them to contain all the Garrison, it is not impos=sible but there would be less sickness above, than has been experienced below - This may easily be effected with the Assistance of the old Materials on the Spot.

The manner of the after defence must be determined by the number and kind

1280 Fort St George 3d May 1785

of Troops employed in it, but it cannot be of any long duration, there being very little water in Lal Broche, and still less in the Devil's Peak, the two points to which the Troops must ultimately retire -

Ellore is from Situation extremely well calculated for a Cantonment, near the center of the Circar, and in the midst of a plentiful Country abounding with Cattle, while the great Road by which Troops must pass from Bezoara to Samulcotah (the extremities of the Circar) goes through it -

The Fort is surrounded by the Pettah, and cannot in any respect be considered a post of defence - It therefore deserves no other attention than what is necessary to prevent the Troops quartered within from getting over the Walls and committing Irregularities amongst the natives in the Town - The Quarters there in general are in good Condition, the Commandants the worst, and most in need of Repair, should the number of Troops be much increased the Area of the Fort will scarcely contain the Europeans - The Sepoy Barracks are a Mile from the Fort, situated on favorable Ground where there is room to extend the Bungalows both for the Officers and for the Men: they are of a very

Fort St George 3d May 1785

very good Construction but on too long Ranges, thereby subjecting the whole to be destroyed by one Accident of Fire, were those for each Battalion separated by a Street, the current of Air would be encreased, and the evil apprehended removed; whatever more it may be necessary to add to them, should be done on a fixed Plan, and that Plan in conformity to what is already executed—

Ellore being a field Cantonment, the Train of Artillery is supposed to follow where ever the Troops go, which is very proper; but, until this be really the case, there should be no more Guns kept there than what are absolutely requisite for the Artillery practice— For had the Nizam been ill intentioned when Seif Jung entered the Circar, and had directed his Horse on their first coming to have swept the Country of Cattle, the sixteen field Pieces now there must have been left behind—

The Fort of Rajahmundry which is situated on the eastern Bank of the Godavery, is ill calculated for defence, having a Pettah close to it, and many Irregularities of Ground in its Neighbourhood, in order to command which the Rampart has been raised to an extraordinary height It is totally out of Repair, the Works having fallen to the natural slope

of

Fort St George 3d May 1785

of Ground and only the Chief's House standing.
- However it must always be a Post of attention from its Situation on the Godavery where an invading Army must pass it in order to get into the neighbouring Districts clear of the Nullahs with which they are every where in=
=tersected nearer the Sea, and upon which Artillery cannot be carried with any probability of Success in case of Opposition -

Finding the Forts of Peddapore, Pettapore, and Samulcotah, were within a few miles of each other, it occurred to me there were too many of them to be occupied and that it might be inconvenient to have them in the hands of an Enemy, but on seeing them, my Apprehensions were relieved, neither their situ=
=ation nor Condition rendering them respectable -

Samulcotah the best of the three on the extremity of the high land over which the Troops from the Northward must pass in order to reach Rajahmundry, is an oblong square with revetted Bastions, that although much neglected are still standing; the Cur=
=tains have taken their natural Slope & thereby rendered the Rampart very accessable. It over looks the rich Valley of Pettapore extending

from

Fort St George 3d May 1785

from the Hills to the Sea, during the Season of Culti=
=vation it is impracticable for Troops from the
quantity of Water that lays on the Ground=

The Fortification Quarters for
a Commandant, Paymaster, Surgeon, seven Officers
and one Thousand Sepoys all in pretty good condition
except the Commanding Officers Quarter, whose
Roof is faulty, and if not early attended to, may
endanger the whole building=

There have been several
Granaries and Store Houses all of them gone to
decay from want of timely repair, and the
buildings now standing will probably in a few
Years fall into the same State, if seasonable Atten=
=tion be not given to them, which will not
require a yearly expence of more than three or
four hundred Pagodas to keep them in good habi=
=table Condition=

The Bay & Port of Coringa of
itself, as well as from the number of Ships that
resort thither, and which sail from the Port, I
learn, is of much more Importance to the Trade
of the Country, than I had before conceived it to be,
and they may become Objects of still more national
Importance by the Protection they are capable
of yielding to Ships of War in distress, that can=
=not leave the Coast, independant of the Protection
they

they can yield to shipping, they possess in point
of situation many advantages favorable to Trade
plaed in 16. 46 N. Latt: in the midst of the Bay
of Bengal, from whence Vessels can at all times
of the Monsoons reach any part of the Coast, &
being surrounded by one of the most fertile &
populous Countrys in the Universe, abounding in
Grain, and long famous through Europe for its
Manufactures - It is immediately opposite to Pegu
from whence Timbers of any size are to be brought
for all the purposes of Ship building, likewise within
a three Weeks Voyage in either Monsoon of Japa-
-nooly, famous for it's Spoon Trees, from their light-
-ness, much esteemed for upper Masts -

Nor does it altogether depend
on these foreign Aids of Supplys. The Godavery
furnishing Teak and Red Wood Timbers from
the interior of the Country, and from whose
many Mouths can also be drawn immemerable
supplys of other kinds -

Captain Charles Leslie, an
experiencing this in His Majestys Ships the Orford
in the year 1774 suggested the Utility it might
be of Cloth to the King to the East India Co.
and to the Trade of this Country in general, and
in support of this Opinion instanced the Ad-
-vantages he experienced when obliged to put into
refit and stop several Leaks in the Line of
Battle Ships he then commanded at a time
when

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Fort St George 3d May 1785

when there was a certainty of his suffering great distress before he possibly could have reached Trinco=
=mallie and he declares that he had more work done at Coringa in fourteen Days than could have been effected in three Weeks at Trincomallie by all the Artificers with which the Squadron could have supplied him —

He speaks with precision to the smoothness of the Water in the Bay, and its safety in the South West, but with diffidence as to the Security during the North East Monsoon —

I regret not being in pos=
=session of his Draught of the Bay that I might have ascertained the extent of his Survey, as none I have yet seen will enable Strangers to form a correct Opinion of the Protection it can yield to Ships whilst the North East Wind blows: If my Information be good and of which I have not the least doubt having had it confirmed by many respectable Characters, It can, at that season, afford more Security than is generally imagined, the proper Anchorage in the Bay for large Ships being then, with the Residents House by the Flag Staff, South West by South, and Jaggernaut pram, North, North West, when in clear weather the Land about Vizagapatam will be seen bearing East North East, From whence it appears that the Winds from East South East

to

Fort St George 3d May 1785

to East North East are the only Winds to which the Bay is entirely open, and should a Vessel part her Cables whilst these winds blow, it is certain she would meet the Shore on soft mud on which she might bed herself without Injury. It being, I am told, no uncommon thing to see the loaded Country Vessels bed themselves upon it, without taking the trouble to let go their Anchors - The Bar at the Entrance of the River is formed by the same soft Mud, so that Vessels that touch going over receive no Injury - The Veteran Store Ship of five Hundred Tons Burthen, English built went over it and was hove down in the River, and the Narsapore, drawing eleven Feet and an half water, went out ballasted and ready for Sea, and if proper Attention was given at the Equinoxial Tides, which are the highest of possibility, still larger Vessels might enter.

Many large Vessels of all Descriptions have of late sought Protection in this Bay, amongst them many East India Ships whose Commanders I am informd speak favorably of it, particularly those who rode out the Storm in December last, and saw the Friendship Captain Day a large Country Ship, said to be of a Thousand Tons Burthen, come in during the Gale; and with one Anchor only made fast to two Pieces of Junk, rode it out. altho' it continued to blow severely for several days -

J

1285

Fort St George 3d May 1785

when there was a certainty of his suffering great distress before he possibly could have reached Trinco=malee and he declares that he had more work done at Coringa in fourteen Days than could have been effected in three Weeks at Trincomallee by all the Artificers with which the Squadron could have supplied him -

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Fort St George 3d May 1785

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J

1287

Fort St George 3.d May 1785

Of the Vessels that have lately frequented these Roads; there have been reported to the Master Intendant from the 6.th of May to the 30.th of December 1782 - - - - - - - - - - 94

1783 - - - - - - - - - - - - - 195

1784 - - - - - - - - - - - - - 178

1785 to the 6. April - - - 67

And there are now belonging to the Port

1 Ship Average Tonnage - - - - - 500

99 Snows - - - Ditto - - - - - - 180

80 Sloops - - - Ditto - - - - - 100

25 Donies - - - - - - - - - - - - 90

Besides 150 smaller Vessels from 20 to 30 Tons Burthen exclusive of what belongs to the several Branches of the Godavery at least an equal number - These Vessels in the unfavorable Season are laid up in the different Creeks within the River of which there are six, and of them five in which Vessels can careen above Rama-napollam, that with the point on which the Town of Coringa stands, forms the inner Entrance of the Harbour within Musket Shot of each other -

The practicability of all this Shore to the landing of Boats renders a moving force the only certain protection for the shipping in case of a descent, notwithstanding that

Fort St George 3d May 1785

that much Security from disorderly depradations may be derived from a Ship of War stationed in the Bay and by the Vessels in the River keeping on the Bank most distant from the Sea, which will lay the adventurers under the necessity of crossing the River to effect their Mischief, or oblige them to make a greater Circuit by land than they will probably be disposed to take at the risk of being intercepted on their Return.

But something more may be necessary for the protection of the Town of Coringa; should the Bay be ever considered of such Importance as to be appointed the Rendezvous for the Squadron on the Coast, as in that case it will become necessary to form a marine Yard or at least to have a quantity of Naval Stores always in readiness to supply their wants, and them in Security, which may easily be yielded by a line across the neck of Land where the Town stands, continued so far along the Harbour as to give every protection to its Entrance: this Security would probably likewise be the means of collecting together the Artificers now scattered all over the Country.

As the Regulations necessary

towards

1289 Fort St George 3d May 1785

towards good Order in a Garrisoned Town might interfere with the prejudices of the Natives and render them averse to settling there, and may in some instance interfere with the freedom of Trade. I should propose Samulcotah as the station for the Troops destined for its defence, from whence they may speedily be marched on a Declaration of War and to which in case of a serious Invasion, they may retire by Gollapollam or to Rajahmundry by Cottapelle, after exerting their utmost Endeavors for the protection of the Port and Trade; for it is not from hence an Enemy who means the reduction of the Country will attempt to penetrate into it - If their views be to the Northward, and that they have reliance on the Zemindars, they may endeavour to land at Pagaanautpooram, when Samulcotah will become a post of much consequence to awe the Zemindars without whose assistance it will be impossible for the Enemy to effect their purpose; and if from whence if the Garrison be in force, their march from the Sea, chiefly through Paddy fields may be much impeded - On all these Accounts I should be glad to see it in a respectable a State as to oblige an Enemy to open Batteries before it, or to leave it garrisoned behind

them

Fort St George 3. May 1785

them, which would prove very inconvenient as no Convoys could well escape a veligent Commandant.-

Of all the Country Forts that I have seen in my Tour Muglatore is in the best order. It is situated on a plain, has a very high Rampart and Parapet reveted with Brick, but no Ditch tho' a wet one might easily be made. The Sea flowing up to it by a branch of the Callepatam River. The Rajah who resides there has always shewn Attachment to the Company and I think it would be well to cultivate his Friend=ship for I do not imagine it impossible but an European Enemy without reliance on the assistance of the Zemindars and who means the conquest of Masulipatam may make his Descent near the Callepatam River or between it and the River of Masulipatam - In which case this Fort might become a Post of consequence and his services in driving off the Cattle and in preventing the Enemy from receiving Sup=plies of any Kind from the Country would be of the first importance to the Company's Affairs -

As the Report of the State

of

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Fort St George 3d May 1785

of the Fortress of Manulipatam I have made to the Right Honble the President and Council will be transmitted you with the advantage of their Observations, I shall beg leave to call your Attention only to the Objects respecting it that requires your immediate Attention which are.

The compleating the Escarp Wall before the River Bastion, that I could wish done in time for the new work to harden before the Inches come down as they may, by laying the Berm under water. injure the Brick work.

A Shed to cover the Gun Carriages which should be executed with all possible Dispatch it being material they should be lodged under Cover before the Monsoon.

And the Repair of the defective Parapets, so essential to the Preservation of the Revetment of the Rampart that in case of Rain may be indangered by the swelling of the Ground behind them.

The Chiefs Garden House being very much in want of Repair and the Chunam at Manulipatam not standing well. I have recommended its being thoroughly done, and that Paint be used instead of Chunam.

Captain Prescott having reported to me the ballance of Materials due from

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Fort St George 3d May 1795

from the Contractor to the Committee of Works.

I have to observe they will be nearly expended on the Repairs of the Escarp Wall and the Chiefs House, and to recommend a further provision being made, for the particulars of which I beg leave to refer you to Captain Prescott, who has received full information from me of the Repairs and Alterations I have recommended -

I have the honor to be &c

/Signed/ Patrick Ross

Masulipatam
24th April 1795.

/A true Copy/ N. Scott Secry.

Minute thereon.

The Board observe upon that part of the Letter from Masulipatam which relates to a Latitude for acting being given to the Chief and Council at that Settlement, that certain discretionary Power to be exercised on sudden emergencies when the distance is too great from Instructions from hence, is and must always be, lodged in them - This power it is expected they will exert, when the Service may be benefited by so doing, & when any delays for the receipt of Orders might prove detrimental to the Interests of the Company -

Ordered

1293 Fort St George 3d May 1785

Ordered that the foregoing Remark be communicated to the Gentlemen at Masulipatam and that a copy of the Letter from Mr Johnson be sent to them, which contains well founded Opinions respecting the Government at the Soubahdari Court, and which shews the impropriety of their repelling immediately any incursion, that might at a future period be made into the Company's Territories under their Protection -

Do - Do. As to the searching foreign Vessels in the River of Coringa, upon which the Chief and Council request the Orders of the Board, it is Agreed to desire they will enquire what was the Usage in this point before the War -

Read the following Letter from

Bengal -

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney, President and Governor &c Council Fort St George

My Lord & Gentlemen,

From Bengal, with congratulations on the execution of the definitive Treaty with France -

We have been honored with the receipt of your Letter of the 3d of February last, acquainting us that Pondicherry was delivered up to the French Cuddalore restored to the Company on the 1st of that Month at noon, and that Mr Floyer could lose no time in commencing an Investigation

of

Fort St George 3d May 1785

of the Territories within the Districts of Villenour and Bahour, which, by the Treaty, are to be ceded to France: and We have since had the pleasure of learning, from your letter of the 8th Ultimo, that the Apsions to the French of Villenour and Bahour, as well as of Karical and the four Magans had taken place; but, that some points still remained to be adjusted relative to the Right claimed by the French to a small barren Island in the River of Nagore and some trifling Juncahs of the Havelly Pergunnah and Curban of Waldore near Pondicherry, as well as to the Exemption of Customs in the Northern Circars, which you would settle to the best of your Judgement in the manner most consonant to Treaty, to Justice, and to the Interests of the Company.

We have also learned, but from private Authority, that the Dutch are in possession of Trincomalle, and that the French Troops lately at that place have returned to Pondi=cherry.

We beg leave to congratulate your Lordship &c on the Prospect which these Events afford us of a speedy Termination to the Negociation for a mutual restitution of Territory in this Country, between the European Powers lately at War, and we shall be happy to hear that those trifling Difficulties which you mention

to

1295 Fort St George 3d May 1785

to have arisen in the Negociation are finally accommodated —

We have stated the Question, which you have submitted to us in your Letter of the 23d February "whether you ought to deliver "up a Delinquent to a Foreign Power if any "future application of a nature, similar to "that sent from Pondicherry for Mr Darjat "should be made to you, at a time when it "might be in your Power to comply with it" — to the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature and shall have the pleasure of transmitting to you a Copy of their Answer as soon as we are furnished with their Opinion on the Subject —

We enclose a Letter for Mons.r de Bentencaw, which We beg the favor of you to forward to Pondicherry and have the honor to be,

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Your most Obed.t & Hble Servts.

John Macpherson

John Stables

Chas Stuart

Fort William
Foreign Depart.t
5.th April 1785 —

Read the following Letter and Enclosure from the Committee of Appeals Revenue —

To

1296 Fort St George 3d May 1785

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K.B.

President and Governor &c Council

of Fort St George

My Lord & Gentlemen.

We beg leave to enclose Copy of a letter from the Cauzy at Arcot and to request your Lordship &c will come to a determination in regard to the Points therein represented for the Decision of Government -

We have the Honor to be &c &c

Fort St George
27th April 1785

Chas Oakeley
David Haliburton
Geo. Moubray

From the Commrs of Assigned Revenue enclosing copy of a letter from the Cauzy of Arcot representing the Necessity of making an example of the 4 Robbers now in Confine=ment, that others may be deterred from a similar Con=duct in future -

Copy of a letter from the Cauzy of Arcot to the Governor - Dated 7. Jemmady ul Sanie 17th April 1785 -

Anand Row the Aumil of Trinnomalle has sent here four men who have been accused of committing a Murder on a Man near Calerpauk, and enclosed in a letter to me, a copy of an order sent him by your Excellency on that Subject - I understand from them that they resided in the Pollam of Calmarpully near Sautgur and that there are ten families in that place who follow the occupation of Robbery and the head of them is one Sheick Meran - that 8 Men of this Gang

1297

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Gang are gone towards Vellore and Madras and
three four who are now apprehended were employd
in Robberies, on the road of Trinamalle, where
they lately murderd a Man near a Paguri
houre at Calerpauk -

This is their own confession
and they deserve death according to Law - they
are now confined in the Cutwals Chaboutra
at Arcot, till your Excellency is pleasd to
send orders respecting them -

I understand from them that
a Gang of Robbers, of which the head is one
Cala Caun, reside in the Pollam of Bungary
one of the Chittoor Poligars, and another Gang
resides in Tomba pollam, who lately murderd
some travellers going from Arcot to Madras -

The Principals of this last
Gang are Sheick Hussain and Hapen Caun,
who know the abodes and circumstances of all
the other Gangs belonging to these Poligars -

This is the account I have from
these people, which I thought it necessary to lay
before your Excellency - There have been many
Murders and Robberies committed lately by these
People on the publick roads to Arcot and Madras,
it is but a month ago that three Men going
from

Fort St George 3d May 1785

from this to Madras, and two on the road to Vellore, have not been heard of: It is incumbent on Government to take notice and punish those People for the safety and Welfare of the Public - Your Excellency is endowed with Justice, and if you will give Orders for pun=ishing those people, not a vestage of them will remain in this Country and the poor Inhabitants of this City and the Neighbourhood will be relieved from such Outrages -

A true Copy
Landon Secy

The following Answer being drafted to the Committee of Assigned Revenue is ordered to be sent.

To Charles Oakeley Esqr
&c Members of the Committee of Assigned Revenue

Gentlemen,

In answer to your Letter of the 27th Ultimo with its Enclosure, I am directed to desire that you will order the Renter to propose a Reward for the seizing Sheick Miran Cola Caun, Sheick Hussein, and Hapeir Caun, which, if successful, may be the means of preventing the Robberies and murders complained of in the Letter of the Cauzy to the Right Honble President -

To the Committee of Assigned Revenue desiring them to order the Renter a reward for the apprehending of certain Robbers & to give directions to the Renter for the immediate execution of the 4 in Confinement, after which they must be impaled -

As

1299 Fort St George 3d May 1785

As it appears that the four men now confined in the Cutwalls Chaboutra at Arcot have confessed the Robberies and the perpetration of the Murder near Calerpauk, the Board desire you will direct the Renter to order their immediate Execution - after they have been hanged they must be impaled on the Spot where the Murder was committed -

Fort St George
3d May 1785

Sam. Ed.
John Chamier
Actg Secy

Read the following Letter from the Resident at Tanjore with Enclosure (entered on the M: B: for the Month of May N. 1)

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.
President & Governor &c &c &c
of Fort St George

From the Resident at Tanjore enclosing the Minutes of an Examination into the dispute between the Rajah of Tanjore and Tondiman: and stating the Points in Contest -

My Lord & Gentlemen,

In obedience to your orders of the 24th Febry through Mr Secretary Chamier, I have endeavoured to investigate the disputes subsisting between the Rajah of Tanjore and Tondiman and have now the honor to enclose the minutes of an Examination, or Enquiry on the Subject held the 19th Instant with the assistance of Mr Swartz who was so good as to interpret on the occasion between me

Fort St George 3d May 1785

me, and the Vackeels of both parties -

The Points in contest are three -

First the right to 3 Villages named Nevally, Tri=
=anty and Scroovalore, at present in posession of
the Rajah and claimed by Tondiman and 2 Villages
named Colacuncatiempetty, and Killecotah in
posession of Tondiman and claimed by the Rajah -

The first three Villages are
claimed by Tondiman as having belonged to him,
and his Ancestors from the earliest time - the
Rajah on the other hand asserts that they were
given by Monaqee to Tondiman without his
consent, or knowledge, and without any Sunnud
under his Seal and Signature -

With regard to what has been
urged by the different parties in support of their
opposite assertions, your Lordship &c will observe
that Tondiman's Vackeels themselves do not deny
that the Villages originally belonged to the
Tanjore Country, but, on the contrary, rest their
Master's claim on their having been given to
him, and a Sunnud for them, granted by Monaqee
with the consent of the present Rajah's Father
(Prataud Sing) - they do not pretend that any
Sunnud under the Rajah's Signature, or Seal,
was granted, and no proof whatever is adduced of
his having authorized Monaqee to grant one.
There seems indeed reason to doubt, whether Monaqee
took

Fort St George 3d May 1785

took upon him to give a Summud, for your Lordships
Hs will observe that on being asked to produce Mo=
=nagee's Summud the Vackeels of Tondiman answered
that it was sent to the Rajahs Subadar at
Pattecottah (who was in charge of the Villages)
and kept by him from whence it would appear
that it was an order for the delivery of the Villages
and not a Summud -

How far this failure of proof of
any regular Grant, or Summud having been given
for alienating the Villages, or of the Rajahs know=
=ledge of the transaction, may be counterbalanced
by long and apparently undisturbed possession, re=
=mains for your Lordships Hs to decide -

The Rajahs Ministers to
account for Tondimans having been suffered to posse
the Villages, said that after Monagee's disgrace
the Rajah was still kept in ignorance of the
transaction and that there had been so
a succession of Ministers that none of them
enquired into it - It appears also that Monagee
was in disgrace and restored to power more than
once, and neither party could state at what
period of his Administration this affair was
transacted -

As to the Village of Nerun=
=galore which the Rajah asserts Tondiman gave
to Monagee in exchange for the three Villages
in

Fort St George 3d May 1785

in question, and afterwards repossessed himself of it - the Vackels of Tondiman acknowledge that he is in the actual possession of the said Village, but they make a distinction between the Village itself, and the Lands and Tank adjacent, and say that the latter only were given to Monagee for the support of the Pagoda to which they are still annexed -

Thus far of Tondiman's claim to the 3 Villages of Nivalby, Eriauty and Seroovalore - now possessed by the Rajah -

Respecting the two Villages of Solacuncatumpetty and Killecotah now in the possession of Tondiman and claimed by the Rajah as having been given also by Monagee to Tondiman without his (the Rajahs) knowledge, the Vackels of Tondiman absolutely deny that those Villages ever belonged to the Tanjore Country and the Rajahs Ministers could produce no proof in support of this claim - it seems probable, indeed, that if the Rajah had been conscious of a right to these Villages, he would have taken possession of them also when he took the other three Villages before mentioned -

Having thus stated to the best of my Judgement the merits of the claims made by the Rajah and Tondiman, upon each other, I request your Lordship &c will be so good as to enable me, as soon as may be convenient, to communicate

Fort St George 3d May 1785

communicate to both parties your final decision, which I hope may put an end to their differences and save your Lordship &c the trouble of receiving any further Applications regarding them, no Ad= =justment proposed by me would have that effect, as I could offer none that would be satis= =factory to both the parties, they would still look to those who possess the power of ultimate decision and continue to embarrass your Lord= =ship &c with their Complaints —

With regard to Tondiman's last complaint it is obviously frivolous, and ill founded, as the Village of Tumbeckeemuttampotah is the known, and acknowledged property of the Rajah and the Vackeels of Tondiman did not pretend a claim to it, nor to the Pagoda which is in it, and of which Tondiman complained to the Right Honble the President that the Rajah was removing the Materials to build a Choultry at Adrianpatam —

I have the honor to be &c

Hudleston

Tanjore
24. April 1785.

The Board approve the Opinion given by Mr Hudleston on the respective Claims of the Rajah of Tanjore and of Tondiman, and it is accordingly agreed that the three Villages now in the Rajahs possession be kept by him, that the

Minute thereon.

Village

1304 Fort St George 3d May 1785

Village of Perungalore be conformed to Tondiman,
but that the Tank & Lands adjacent be appro=
=priated to the use of the Pagoda, to which they
were annexed, and that the two Villages now in
possession of Tondiman be retained by him -

With respect to other trifling
points in litigation between the Rajah of Tanjore
and Tondiman, it is Agreed that Mr Hudleston
be desired to settle them on the Spot, & give such
directions as may appear to him just & equitable -

Read the following Letter

from Ensign Praktitioner Norris -

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.

President and Governor &c Council

of Fort St George

Dr

From Ensign Praktitioner Norris transmitting his Sentiments on the propriety of demolishing the Fortifications at Ambore, with a Statement of the Expence to be incurred thereby.

My Lord & Gentlemen,

In obedience to your Commands
I have the honor to enclose you a Statement of the
expence that will be incurred in destroying the For=
=tifications of this place, in the estimating of which
I have been particularly careful to ascertain as
near as possible the real expence, and in consequence
of your directions, I have the honor to lay before
you, my Opinion on the Subject, which I submit
with all deference to your superior Judgement -

As some Observations may be
necessary

1305 Fort St George 3d May 1725

necessary to recommend my opinion to your favr. I shall take the liberty to advance a few, which I hope will not be considered an intrusion -

On surveying the Rock of Ambore. I find it to be very strong, and the outer Walls of the Fort, renders it impracticable on all sides - notwithstanding the new and strong works which have been lately built: a great part of the Rock is still exposed to the Hills on the North West Face of the Fort - The enterior of the Fort is for the most part barren; the Rock is very high and on that account Incapable of impeding any motions of an Enemy on the Plain: The Valley to the Eastward I have measured, and find it to be better than three miles over; which makes it impossible for the Garrison to give the smallest molestation to an Army passing by, or ever being able to annoy or cut off any boats to distress an Enemy at that distance

The Fort below which is close to the foot of the Rock is in a very indifferent condition; is small, built of mud; of a triangular form, and after the manner of the Polygar Forts and presents to the Field an Angle and two Faces. The Walls appear to be very old and I think would suffer greatly in a severe Monsoon -

Such

1306 Fort St George 3d May 1785

Such a Situation for a Fortress
is of very little importance to a State -

Those, who may be for preserving
the Situation will perhaps advance, "That if the
"Fortress is destroyed there is no place of security
"for the People of the Country. Its Vicinity to a
"Native Power and being a Frontier, renders it
"more liable to exactions than a midland Situa-
"tion; The distance of Vellore is too great to
"protect the Country against daily incursions,
"and the Renter may possibly not be able to
"collect the Rents from want of Protection" -

In answer to which I beg
leave to say, That the Fort on the Rock cannot
prevent any exactions or contributions, if the
Enemy chuse to come into the Country. Nor
can it shelter the Cattle and other effects of the
Inhabitants from danger - The Country Forts
on the Plain which have only a small Ditch
a dry or wet ditch before it, gives protection to
the Cattle and the Inhabitants with all their
effects, and if a Guard is absolutely necessary they
will be of infinite more service stationed on the
Plain, than upon the Rock where they must
be Spectators of cruelty, without being able to
give the smallest Assistance, as it will require
some time before they can be near enough -

The

1307

Fort St George 3d May 1785

The distance of Vellore being too great, is very little in favor of this Situation; for the country people will be able to protect themselves from the ravages of the common Robbers if they have places to secure their Cattle & effects in: and if an Enemy of force comes, this Fort is of no consequence, the Garrison must immediately ascend the Rock and be easily surrounded.

The Renter will find no difficulty in collecting the Rents, as he always carries protection with him.

After these Observations it appears to me that the Situation is by no means an eligible one for a Fortress, and I cannot help giving my opinion against preserving the Fortifications.

I have the honor to be &c.

Amboor 24th April 1785.

John Norris Engr &
Engineer & acting Surveyor.

Statement of the Expence that will be incurred in destroying the Fortifications of Amboor.

To forming and compleating the Mines necessary for raising the old and new Fortifications which are built on very sound Masonry		P. 2055.—
Draining of the large Tank on the Rock & filling up the small ones, will materially destroy the situation & will cost		300.—
Carried over		P 2355.—

5

Fort St George 3d May 1785

Brought over P. 2855.--.--

To destroying the defences of the Fort, on the Plain at the foot of the Rock } ---- 120.--.--

The Expence attending the carriage of the powder and Tools for the use of the Workmen, supposing the Supplies are sent from Nellore, will amount to ---- 82.--

Pagt 2557.--.--

The Tools to be indented for from out of the Company's Stores.

To ascertain with exactness the quantity of Powder required to raze the different Works. an experiment Mine will be necessary; therefore in this calculation for the Powder there may be a difference - To the best of my Judgement I calculate about 340 Barrels powder.

John Norris Ensign
Engineer & Acting Surveyor.

Amboor
24th April 1785.

Minute thereon

The Board being of opinion that Mr Norris who is employed in surveying can ill be spared from this Service to destroy the Fortifications at Amboor / and having likewise reason to believe that the blowing up the Works may be done cheaper than calculated in the foregoing Estimate / it is Agreed that Lieut Colonel Moorhouse be directed immediately to proceed to Amboor for the purpose of executing this Service.

Lt Col. Moorhouse to execute the Demolition of Amboor

and

1309

Fort St George 3d May 1795

and that he be desired effectually and without delay to destroy the Fortifications, taking care that the Expence be as little as possible —

Read the following Letter from Negapatam, with Enclosure, as entered in M. B: No 2 — —

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B. President & Governor &c Council of Fort St George

My Lord & Gentlemen,

The enclosed Copies of our Letter to the Officer commanding the Troops in Garison and of his Answer will inform your Lordship &c of the Steps we have been under the necessity of taking for the support of good Government, with one of the Officers doing duty here a Detachment of the 22d Battalion, who was imprudent enough to send a Guard to rescue a Sepoy who was confined in the Cutwalls & Choultry (the common Jail) for attempting a Theft — From the Extravagancy of the Officers and some other Circumstances we are warrantable in attributing his Conduct to an unhappy Cause, which he is not accountable for, & which renders him an object of Compassion, though it

From Negapatam representing the Conduct of Ensign Pitcher, on releasing from Confinement a Sepoy who had been committed to the common Jail for Robbery with Enclosures on the Subject —

1310

Fort St George 3d May 1785

it was impossible for us to act from Considera-
-tions of that sort without Usurping the Au-
-thority of Civil Government in the Eyes of the
Sepoys, which might be attended with dangerous
Consequences where we have only native Troops.

Vizagapatam
2d
21. April 1785.

We are very respectfully &c.

Claud Russell
Chas Maxtone
Mich Keating
W Drake

A letter appears from the Fore-
-going Letter and from other certain Information
that the late extravagant and disorderly Con-
-duct of Ensign Peters proceeded from Insanity,
which must render him incapable of doing his
Duty in the Company's Service, it is Agreed
that he be put in the Invalid List from the
1st Instant and that their intimation be sent
to Colonel Braithwaite with Orders, on the
foregoing Account, to countermand the Court
Martial which he was directed to summon-

Minute thereon-

Ensign Peters
placed in the
Invalid List-

Read the following letter
from the Committee of Works-

To

1311

Fort St George 3d May 1785

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney

President &c Council

of Fort St George

My Lord & Gentlemen,

From the Commee of Works. enclosing Mr Garrow's Bills for work done by him from 15 January 1784 to the 26th March last, together with his Letter to us and his Account Current with the Company. of which the Balance is £6,37[illegible]6.33.

We have the honor to lay before your Lordship &c Mr Garrow's Bills

- Mr Garrow's Bills are regularly drawn out and duly certified by the proper Officers -

Considering the disadvantages under which Mr Garrow, as acting Contractor, has executed the different Works, he having in the course of 15 Months received on money only about of B. Months 7000 Pagodas. the other Payments amounting to 38525 having been made by Bills on Bengal and on Europe Company's Bonds. and Copper. all at a considerable discount. we do not know that any other person would have undertaken the business on more reasonable Terms, or have executed it more to the satisfaction of his Employers - If part of the Ballance due to him could be paid in Cash. at

enable Terms, or have executed it more to the satisfaction of his Employers - If part of the Ballance due to him could be paid in Cash. at

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it would be an encouragement for farther exertion and of the utmost use to him, as he represents his distress to be very great from the importunities of his Creditors - We beg leave to recommend a settlement of his Accounts and that your Lordship &c will favor us with your Orders on the Subject -

The Bridge near the Company's Garden House is at present in a very insufficient State and some of the Arches, we understand, in danger of falling in - We beg leave to recommend that your Lordship &c will give Orders for its being repaired -

To prevent the necessity for frequent Repairs to the high roads round Madras and with a view to the convenience of the Inhabitants, we beg leave to recommend that orders be given ~~that~~ orders be given that Carts and Hackaries pass on either side of the road, leaving the middle clear for Carriages, and that the Guards at the different posts along the Roads be directed to see this order punctually attended to - The Sarcars belonging to this & Garrison have still due to them pay for 10 Months from the 1st November 1783 to the 31st August 1784 - We wish that some part could be

paid

1313

Fort St George 3d May 1785

paid in money for the convenience of those who are likely to be discharged, or if this cannot be done that Bills may be granted for the whole of the Arrears, which they will agree to receive & will negociate for themselves on the best terms they can.

We have the honor to be &c.

Fort St George
14th April 1785.

Alex Davidson
Robt Barclay
R. Hansell

The following Answer being drafted is ordered to be sent -

To Alexander Davidson Esqr &

President &c Members of the Committee of Works

To the Committee of Works, stating the mode of Payment by which Government have it in their power to discharge Mr Garrow's balance due to him from the Company - Their recommendation respecting the high roads round Madras has been adopted.

Gentlemen,

I now return to you by Order of the Board all the Papers (excepting Mr Yeacon's) accompanying your Letter of the 14th Ultimo - As the several Bills of Mr Garrow have been certified by the proper Officers and have passed your Committee the Board are willing to discharge them and will grant Company's Bonds to Mr Garrow for the Amount. This is the only mode of payment in

Your

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Fort St George 3d. May 1785.

their Power at this time, and you are therefore to
hinder it to Mr Garrow, acquainting him, that
Government, (should he decline accepting the Bond)
will avail themselves of any favourable Situation
of the Company's Affairs, to adopt some other
mode of paying him which may be more
satisfactory - Mr Garrow's Bill No 1. for enclosing
the Burial Ground has not yet passed the Board
and is not therefore sent to you

The Board have resolved &

published in General Orders that no Repairs be
executed in any Department unless a previous
Estimate has been made and approved - they desire
therefore you will cause one to be made of the
Expence which will be incurred in repairing
the Bridge near the Company's Garden House,
and lay it before them as soon as possible -

You will be pleased also to
inform the Board what publick Works are
now going on and deliver in the Estimates of the
Expence attending them -

With respect to the obliging
Hackaries and Carts to pass on either side of the publick
Roads, I am directed to inform you that Orders
will be issued for this purpose, as also for the granting
Certificates to the Lascars for Pay due from the 1st
Novr 1783 to the 31st August 1784 -

I am &c &c John Chamier
acting Secry

Fort St George
3d May 1785 -

Fort St George 3d May 1785

The President lays before the Board a Letter from the Soubahdar of the Decan (as entered in Country Corresp. No 5) containing many Compliments and expressing the highest Satisfaction in the Account of the President being confirmed in the Government of this Presidency, also a Letter from Tippoo Sultaun (vide C. C. No 30), stating, that the Sum of 36000 Rupees have been paid upon Savoy Naick for plunder of Grain, Cattle &c in the Canara District, that their business has been partly examined into, in presence of Messrs Anderson and Dyce, but the Money has not been recovered from Savoy Naick, on account of the Gentlemen returning to the Northward before the examination was finished.

Substance of a Letter from His Highness the Rajaw.

Substance of a Letter from Tippoo Sultaun.

Agreed that a Copy of this Letter be sent to General Horne and Mr Irwin and that they be desired to direct Messrs Anderson Dyce to return to Tippoo Frontiers & endeavour by every means to arrange this business, and that General Horne be further requested to write in the strongest terms to Savoy Naick, that a proper Compensation be made by him without loss of time.

Minute on Tippoo Sultaun's Letter

Agreed also that the Right Honble President be desired to write to Tippoo Sultaun

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Fort St George 3d May 1785.

a letter to be written by the President to Tippoo in answer.

Sultaun stating the particulars of the report from Brigr General Home and Mr Irwin to the Board on the Subject and informing them that Messrs Andrews and Dyce will be directed to resume the investigation / for their Letter see the C: C: No 52/ Resolved that a copy of this intended Letter be sent to Messrs Home and Irwin -

The Commander in Chief lays before the Board the following List of Promotions and Removals which he recommends may take place -

Recommendations by the Commander in Chief.

Promotions

Infantry -

Recommendation of Removals and Promotions by the Commander in Chief -

Captain Lieut Caleb Pearson to be full Captain, date of rank 2d November 1783. vice Captain James O'Hara, deceased -

Lieut Alexr Agnew to be Captain Lieut. date of rank 12th April 1785. vice Pearson promoted -

Lieut Johnson Kennedy to be Captain Lieut, date of Rank 12th April 1785 -

Artillery

Major John Regault to be Lieut. Colonel, date of Rank 30th April 1785. vice Lt Colonel Kennedy -

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Kennedy, decand -

Captain Edward Tanner to

be Major, date of rank 30th April 1785, vice

Mcgaulh, promoted -

Captain Lieut Daniel Kennedy

to be full Captain, date of rank 16th September

1781 vice Tanner promoted -

Lieut Francis O'Brian

to be Captain Lieut, date of rank 30th April 1785

vice Kennedy promoted -

Lieut Fireworker Saunderson

to be Lieut, date of rank 30th April 1785, vice

O'Brian promoted -

Mr George Foote, Serjeant

-merary Fireworker, vice John Maclone -

Removals and Appointments.

Captain Gowdie to

command the 2d Madras Battalion, vice

Captain O'Hara deceased -

Captain Roberts to command

the 35th Madras Battalion, vice Capt Gowdie -

Ensign John Innes of the

32d Battalion to be Adjutant to the 16th Madras

Battalion, vice Lieut Gilton deceased -

Fort St George

3d May 1785 -

Signed / Rob Lang

Agreed to

Resolved that a General

Order be issued agreeably to the foregoing Recommendation

Seal

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Read the following Letters as entered in the M. B. Nos 3. 4.

From Lieut Sundth dated 24th & 27th April informing the Board that Muhommed said, the person in charge of Said Mustapha's Affairs, has applied to him for a restitution of the property stolen; and representing the State of the Fortifications at Chundernaghorry.

From Lt Sundth.

Agreed that Lieut Sundth be desired to settle with Said Mustapha for his Lopes as soon as he shall be furnished with a just Estimate of them — This done Lieut Sundth must call upon the Moograul Polygar, and require immediate repayment; if he hesitates in acquiescing, he must be informed that a Force will be ordered to proceed into his Country and put it under Contribution —

Minute thereon.

With respect to the Fortifications at Chundernaghorry, Lieut Sundth must be informed that no Expence is at present to be incurred, and that an Engineer will soon be ordered to visit the Place —

Do

From Mr Gardiner dated 26th April transmitting a Petition from the two Cumbum Polygars, requesting that their monthly Allowance be continued after the 30th April —

From Mr Gardiner.

Agreed

1319

Fort St George 3d May 1785.

Minute thereon

Agreed that Mr Gardiner be
desired to continue praying the above Allowances
for three Months longer from the 1st Instant.

The President delivers in
the following Minute on the Letters & Papers
from Captains Cochrane, Brown and Knox
entered on the minutes of last Consultation

A Paper having been delivered
to the Board by the General, entitled, Reasons res-
pectfully offered to the Consideration of Lieut.
General Ross Lang Commander in Chief &c. by
Captains Spencer Cochrane, Archibald Brown.
and Thomas Knox, in vindication of their
Conduct, & subscribing with every Officer then
on Garrison a Letter dated the 16th day of March
and addressed to the Officer Commanding in
Tanjore for the purpose of obtaining informa-
-tion on a point then in doubt. I think it
my peculiar duty to deliver my Sentiments
upon it freely and fully. It is become abso-
-lutely necessary for the future safety and
Authority of the Company that they should
be perfectly acquainted with the Conduct of
several of their Military Servants and take
such steps as will most effectually prevent
the ill Consequences apprehended from it.

The President's minute on the Letter & Papers from Mess.rs Cochrane Brown & Knox, entered on the Minutes of the last Consultation.

Mess.rs

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Messrs Boscon, Cochrane, & Kinnaird

assume that their removal, the two first, from their Battalions, and the other from his Staff appointment, was occasioned by their signing a certain paper in conjunction with every Officer in the Garrison &c for the purpose of obtaining Information on a point then in doubt, and offer reasons or vindication, as they term it, of their Conduct - This there is in fact no greater necessity that the Board should assign its reasons for removing an Officer than for promoting him, being supposed equally founded in both cases, yet I shall with readily declare the reasons which weighed with me in the resolution lately taken with regard to Messrs Cochrane &c and for this purpose it will be proper to relate shortly the progress of this whole business -

After the Peace was concluded the Government seeing the necessity of making every possible retrenchment, in order to enable them to recover the Investments which, during the War had fallen into decay, to liquidate the heavy Debts &c of the Company at this Presidency, and reduce their expences within their Income, among other Schemes, that of taking off the half Batta enjoyed by the Officers in certain Stations was proposed and approved; but, in order to prepare gradually

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gradually to the measure. It was agreed that it should not take place for upwards of three Months after the Notice given in G: O: which were dated the 2d: September 1784, that is to say not till the 1st of January 1785.- The Officers, then enjoying this Allowance, immediately took the Alarm and combined in their several Stations to obstruct the Measure, by forming Petitions & Remonstrances &c &c against it.- In the course of a few days were laid before the Select Committee several Petitions, or Addresses &c, Viz.t

1st.- One from the Company's Officers stationed to the South of the Coleroon, dated 6th Dec.r 1784.-

2d.- One from the King's Officers stationed to the South of the Coleroon, dated 11th December 1784.-

3d One from the Company's Officers at Bezoara, in the Masulipatam district, dated 11th December 1784.-

4th.- One from the King's & Company's Officers cantoned at Arcot, dated 16th Dec.r 1784.-

5th. One from the Company's at Masulipatam dated 29th December 1784.-

6th One from the King's & Company's Officers cantoned at Ellore, in the Masulipatam District, dated 2d December 1784.-

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It is unnecessary to remark upon the Style, expressions, pretensions, or hazarded Assertions, of these papers: the industry which must have been used to procure such a number of Signatures at such distances, as many of the Subscribers were from one another, especially those in the Southern Districts, nor the Criminality of such a proceeding. It having been ever understood that Petitions from the Military are Arguments, or rather underguised Commands, and of a nature very different from Petitions presented by any other rank of Men; but I am now to assign some of the reasons here / which it was not thought then expedient to do on the Records, considering the state at that time of this Government within, and the posture of affairs without / why a different line was not pursued by us on the occasion. - As in the ..... general I have always found the boldest Counsels, the safest, & particularly at a distance from the Metropolis. I should have resisted the Petitions in the first instance, & punished the Authors of them: but the number of Subscribers was so great, and the Kings & Co.s Troops / so much at variance in all other points / yet so united in this one, the state of this Government likewise so precarious, intelligence being just received of the India Bill having

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passed the Commons. The Humour so strong
of all the Military and the Spirit so catching,
even among those who had not signed the
Petitions and addresses, to say nothing of other
Circumstances not quite proudent to put upon
paper, that it was thought better to let the
Torrent pass, but in such a manner as not
to seem to give way to it; to admit in some
degree the claims, but not to rescind the
Resolution taken against them, and tho' we
could not wholly resist the application yet
to keep up to the World as well as we could
the appearance of doing it, reserving in our
own minds the fit Season for punishing, or
making proper examples of the principal
Persons who had reduced Government to this
necessity. —

We therefore agreed not to
diminish the Amount of the solid Emoluments
then enjoyed by the Officers in particular Stations
but, as the half Batta had been struck off by
our Orders of 26th September 1784, to give in lieu
of it till further Order, an allowance equal in
value, and We desired the General to signify the
same to the Company's Commanding Officers thro'
whose Channel the Petitions and addresses had
been forwarded, and at the same time to express

the

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the displeasure of Government to those Officers for having allowed, encouraged, assisted, or transmitted them; Our Sense of it was also communicated thro the Governor to General Campbell, Commanding His Majesty's British Troops, and to Colonel Reinhold Commanding His Majesty's Hanoverians.

Vide Committee of 22d December and 24th December 1784, & the Letters written in consequence

Orders were also sent at the same time to the different Paymasters for their guidance.

Some weeks past after this, with-out any further proceeding on the business except the Committee expressing on their General Letter to England of the 9th February the Sense which they entertained of the Conduct of these Officers, & declaring their Intention of taking a proper opportunity of manifesting their further displeasure but on the March a Letter was received from General Horne enclosing two Papers, one a Letter from Colonel Stuart Commanding at Tanjore & the other a Letter to him enclosed in it, signed by several Officers, of which two enjoyed the Command of Sepoy Battalions, and some others had Staff Appointments besides their Commissions.

Vide Letters

The Lenity of Government in not yet having punished the former Transgression seeming to have encouraged these Gentlemen / all

S

Fort St George 3d May 1785

of whom had signed the former Papers / to offend still further - It was thought a proper occa-sion to shew the resentment of Government by removing those Officers, subscribing this last Paper; who, enjoying Sepoy Battalions and double Batta, had less reason (if any rea-son there had been) to complain than the rest; leaving them, however, in every other respect upon the footing of Officers without Battalions, or double Batta.-

This proceeding of ours has pro-duced the Papers now before us, the first of which is that signed by Majr Cochrane, Brown and Knox, claims our particular Attention - Instead of expressing a proper Concern for their Conduct they call their Paper, Reasons in Vindication of it - This is not the way to atone for a Fault, which they know has subjected them to the displeasure of Government - It calls in question the Justice of their Supe-riors and remonstrates where it is their duty to shew implicit Submission - They urge in defence of the part they took, that their Application to Colonel Stuart was subscribed by every Officer in Garrison, and that the purpose of it was to obtain Information on a point then in doubt -

That

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That the Letter to Colonel Stuart was signed by every Officer in Garrison is the very thing that constitutes its Criminality & particularly when joined to the evident Tendency of the Application which was not confined "to the purpose of obtaining Information on a "point then in doubt," but extended to other objects of much more Importance. - It endeavored to interest the Commanding Officer to persuade Government to rescind their order of the 26th September, which struck off the half Batta, and to have the Temporary Allowance paid under that Denomination. - It was also meant to convey their own Opinion of the Consequence of giving the term Temporary Allowance, and to give an Idea of the difficulty they had of subsisting, which however true it might be of some of the Subscribers could not equally apply to Majr Cochrane, Brown & Knox - Thus the fact is that the Subscribers to this Letter apparently meant, under the Pretence of applying only for Information, to revive the Claim to Half Batta and to inspire into the minds of other Officers that Spirit which had dictated the general Remonstrances prescribed to Government some Months before Their Expressions

1327

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Expressions and professions of Obedience, Deference & Respect &c after what has past, I know exactly the proper value to set upon, and shall take care not to suffer the Vigilance of Government to be laid asleep or push off its guard by them.

There is no occasion to enter into any detail of G: O: &c which these Gentlemen refer to: The simple fact is that they knew the G: O: of 26th of September for striking off Batta to be in force, that it had never been countermanded and therefore their pretending to make out their Claim for half Batta, or claiming it, was a disobedience of that order, and it matters little what might be practised in other places, they ought to have known their duty & performed it. The others were ignorant of, and did not perform theirs - but to shew how well founded the assertion of these Officers is, that the Officers in the Garrisons of Madurah, Mellore and Secundermelly, had received the allowance on its usual form, I must quote the words of Mr Johnson, Paymaster of Madurah, the only information which I have yet received upon the point - He says in his letter of the 12th Instant to Mr Chamier, the Secretary now on record: "I beg you will assure Lord Macartney

"that

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Fort St George 3d May 1785

☞ This declaration of Mr Johnson is I find since contradicted by some of the Officers & remains to be explained between them & the Paymaster.

☞ "That I have paid no Chitts under the Denomination of half Batta, subsequent to the 1st January last."

With respect to the merits which these three Officers bring forward of lending the Company money &c. It is not meant in any degree to controvert them; these merits were admitted, and in conjunction with others perhaps contributed to the preference given to Messrs Brown, Cochrane and Knox, in the advantageous situations to which they have been promoted; but they ought to know that no other merits can possibly make amends for the want of those of Submission and ready obedience to the Government which they serve, and this is a principle which cannot be too strongly repeated and enforced —

With respect to Capt.n Brown in consequence of the recommendations I had received of him as a good Officer, I proposed him for the Command of one of the Sepoy Battalions, which had been raised at the beginning of the War, for the defence of Madras, and which being newly levied, required a good Officer to discipline them. —

but

Fort St George 3d May 1785

but Captain Brown declines it, instead of chearfully accepting, as I think he ought to have done; for surely no Officer should be allowed to make difficulties, or pretend to chuse his Service, or prefer one to another — This was so clearly my opinion that when he was some months afterwards brought forward, and recommended for another Battalion, I was against his promotion, but I acquiesced in it afterwards in consideration of the Merits of his decand Brother Colonel George Brown, which were on that occasion fully admitted by me in addition to his / Captain Brown's / expectation (as he expres per himself.) from his long & faithful Services, altho, he says, he does not claim any to himself from the Connexion —

With regard to the last Pa=ragraph, I fairly give my Opinion, that these Gentlemen ought to be well satisfied that the displeasure of the Board had not been more severely manifested, and I beg leave to add that I shall not agree to any promotion, or new appointment for them, till they shall shew themselves impressed with a proper sense of their past behaviour, and more able to say some thing by way of excuse, than what they have

With regard to the Ballances due to these Officers previous to the 31st August last, they very well know that they may have Company's Bonds for them, bearing 8 p Cent. Interest, whenever they please to produce the proper Certificates.

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Hird as a Vindication. When they shall have done so, I shall be well disposed to evince to them, that an Government punishes with regret, and pardons with Pleasure.

The Letters of the other displaced Officers require no Observations, after what has been said above, but before I conclude this Minute, I must request you to recollect for a Moment with how little reason, all circumstances considered, a great part of the Military of this Government have complained, to consider the rapid increase of the Pay and allowances of the Service here within these 30 Years, consider the disproportion between their pay & allowances to those of the French, Dutch or Danish Troops in their Neighbourhood. A Captain of foot in the French Service as I am informed, in time of Peace, has, all Emoluments included, not 42 Pagodas p Month. In the Dutch & Danish something more. A Captain of foot, in time of Peace in this Service, not commanding any of the 35 Sepoy Battalions, nor enjoying a post, or double Commission, entitling him to Batta, or extra Allowances,

has

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Fort St George 3d May 1785

P. F.

has 50. 32 p Month, and the 30 eldest Captains have 600 Pagodas p Annum. offreckonings be-sides - A Senior Merchant not enjoying any extra employment, and there are severall on that predicament, and who have been 20 Years in the Service, has no more than 16. 35. 25 p Month, and 10 Pagodas p Month besides if not lodged by the Company; and there is not one of that rank at the Presidency who is not many Months in Arrears - It is indeed I understand, only since the beginning of the late War, that this discontented & encroaching behaviour of some of our Officers has been much observed, and I am not at a loss to what cause it may in part be attributed; but however some of His Majestys Officers may think a certain Deportment becomes them, it is not at all suited to the Military Constitution of the Company's Troops, who serve under particular Stipulations & Covenants - Indeed nothing could have been more wise than the Company's reserving to themselves the power of Suspension or Dismission of their Officers, when they thought proper, without having recourse to a Court Martial - Indeed the necessity of maintaining a

Fort St George 3d May 1785

a strict discipline and due subordination in the Military to the Civil authority in all free Countries, and especially in these distant Provinces, can never be too forcibly impress on our Minds, and the Recollection of the Transactions some years since in Bengal, together with our recent experience there, must and Must will render us uncommonly watchful in guarding the Authority of Government, even against the slightest appearance of Military encroachment, or disrespect

Signed J Macartney

There not being any occasion for the detention of Captains Cochrane Brown and Knox, any longer at the Presidency, it is Agreed that they be ordered to join their respective Corps—

Mssrs. Cochrane, Brown & Knox ordered to join their respective Corps—

Ordered that a Bond for Pags. 3030 be granted to Mr. Scottney Mil.y Storekeeper General for the Charges of his employ—

A Bond granted to Mr. Scottney for 3030 Pagodas.

The Commissioners of Accounts having examined the demand made upon the Company on account of the late Lieuth. Colonel Baillie and reported it to be a

Bonds granted to Capt.n Baillie on acc.t of the late Lt. Col. Baillie for S.P. 23104 & M.P. 1000—

1334 Fort St. George May 1785

3d

Sent the undermentioned Letter (entered in the M: B: Nos 5. 6. 7. 8.)

To Colonel Moorhouse, directing him to proceed to Amboor, and without Delay effectually destroy the Fortifications — To lay before the Board the Amount of the Expence incurred, which must be as oeconomical as possible. ——

To Colonel Moorhouse -

To Lieutenant Lundt, Commanding at Chandernaygherry; approving his Conduct in applying to Seid Mustapha for an Estimate of the Losses incurred by him in Consequence of the Moyral Poligar, and if it be a just one, to settle immediately with him and draw upon Government for the Amount. — The Moogrul Poligar immediately to make good the Payment, or pain of having his Country put under Contribution — No Alteration to be made at present in the Fortifications at Chandernaygherry. ——

To Lieut.t Lundt

Mustapha

To the Paymaster at Ongole; Government consent to his continuing to pay the Allowance as usual to the two Poligars of Combum, for three Months longer, from the 1st Instant. ——

To Mr. Gardiner -

To Colonel Brathwaite; — Government having received Assurances that Ensign Thomas Peters is afflicted with Insanity; revoke their former Orders for a Court —

To Coll.e Brathwaite -

Martial

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3d Martial, and direct him to be invalided. —

Receives the following Letter & Enclosures from Sir John Burgoyne. —

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.
President & Governor &c Council of Fort St. George

My Lord & Gentlemen

I have the honor to inclose for your perusal a Correspondence marked No. 1. 2. & 3 which has taken place between Lieut. Orr of the Governors Body Guard & myself; — The subject which gave rise to it was this; the Night before last Lieut. Orr sent a Black Officer to me with a Complaint of some Dragoon of my Regiment who he said had taken grass away by force that belongd to the Body Guard; Told the Black Officer that if Lieut. Orr had any Complaint to make to me I desired he might come himself — I also inclose an Extract of a Letter on the same Subject from Lieut. Orr to Colonel Floyd, my Lieut Colonel. — I shall make no comment on Lieut. Orrs Letters to me, but leave it to you, My Lord & Gentlemen, to judge if they are such as should be wrote by a Subaltern to a Major General — I beg to add that I have

From Sir John Burgoyne, enclosing his Correspondence with Lieut. Orr, relative to the Behaviour of a Light Dragoon belonging to the 3rd Regiment. —

since

1336 Fort St. George May 1785.

3d since made all the enquiries I can, & have reason to believe Lieutenant Orr has been misinformed relative to the behaviour of my Dragoon. —

I am,
My Lord & Gentlemen,
Your most Obedient
humble Servant —
(signed) J. Burgoyne
M.G.

Madras
May 2d 1785.

No 1

From Lieut. Orr to Majr Genl Sir John Burgoyne

Madras April 30th 1785

Mr. Orr presents his Compliments to Sir John Burgoyne, he sent a Subidar this Evening with Compliments to represent that a Dragoon of the 23d Regiment had drawn his Sword upon an unarmed Sepoy and 4 Grass Cutters of the Governor's Body Guard, & carried their Grass this Evening by force to Sir John's Gardens, where part of the Regiments Horses are picquetted. —

The Subidar is just returned with an answer, that if Mr Orr had any business with Sir John, let him wait upon him. — Mr Orr's Application to Sir John was a private one and never intended as a matter of duty, which made he pursued out of Compliment to Sir John with the —

intention

Fort St. George May 1785

3d intention of submitting the matter entirely to him, as the agressor was stationed in Sir John's Gardens.

Mr. Orr's Observation on the matter is, that as the Message delivered to him by the Subidar is not couched in that genteel Stile which Mr. Orr conceives would come from Sir John Burgoyne, he cannot suppose it did, but that it has arisen from some misunderstanding, or a want of explanation; If Mr. Orr's idea of the matter will continue so untill he is favored with an Answer from Sir John. ——

No. 2

From Major General Sir John Burgoyne
To Lieut. Orr —— May 5th 1785 —

Major General Sir John Burgoyne has received a Note from Lieut. Orr with a Complaint against a Dragoon of the 23d Regt. — if any Dragoon has behaved ill, he must be prosecuted at a Court Martial, & if Lieut. Orr wishes to prefers that Complaint himself to Major General Sir John Burgoyne, he will of course think it his duty to wait on Major Genl. Sir John Burgoyne, & not send a Black Officer to him. — Major Genl. Sir John Burgoyne does not understand what Lieut. Orr means by a private Application

Fort St. George May 1785

3.

on a point of public Military duty or Complaint.—

No 3.

From Lieut. Orr, to Major General Sir J. Burgoyne.

Mr. Orr is sorry to find, from Sir John Burgoyne's Note, that the Expression in Mr. Orr's [of a private Application] should not be understood— Delicacy to Sir John's unfortunate Situation prevented Mr. Orr from being more explicit, & as he could not address Sir John in a Military Capacity, he at the same time thought it a Compliment due on the present occasion, to leave the matter to Sir John's Private decision; particularly as the Dragoon who had behaved so irregularly was stationed in Sir John's Garden.— Such was Mr. Orr's motives, & he is sorry he cannot help observing, that he does not believe there is a single Gentleman in the Settlement who would not on a similar Complaint, [particularly a private one] have given immediate redress, by ordering the Grass to be returned, and at least have taken precautions to prevent the like in future.—

Since Mr. Orr is obliged to proceed in a public manner, he will if possible, find out

1334 Fort St George May 1785

3d out the Name of the Dragoon, and send a Crime to Colonel Floyd, or the Officer now Commanding the 23d Regiment. —

1st May 1785

No 4

Extract of a Letter from Lieut. Orr, to Colonel Floyd — dated 1 May 1785 —

"I thought it a Compliment due to Sir John to refer the matter to him as a private Gentleman, his situation not admitting of any military Application to be made through him, but he has convinced me how undeserving he has been of that attention" —

Minute thereon

Agreed that Copies of the foregoing be sent to Lieut. Orr; and that he be directed to communicate to the Board every Information in his Power on the Subject (vide Mo. B. No 9)

Dispatches the following Letter to the Resident of Tanjore. —

To John F. Cuddleston Esqr.
Resident at Tanjore —

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honble
President

Fort St. George May 1785

3d

To the Resident at Tanjore; — directing him to confirm the Rajah in the Possession of the Three Villages of Nevally, Crianty, & Seroovalore; and to allow Sondiman to retain the Villages of Colacuncalumpetty, Killecotah, & Perungalore; but not the Lands & Tank adjacent to the last mentioned Place. ——

President & Council to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 24th Ultimo with its Enclosures & to signify to you their decision upon its contents, which is as follows. —

That the Three Villages (names Nevally, Crianty, & Seroovalore) now in the possession of the Rajah be confirmed to him as Sondiman's claim to them is inadmissible ——

That Sondiman be allowed to retain the Village of Perungalore now in his possession but the Lands & Tank adjacent be appropriated to the use of the Pagoda to which they were annexed. ——

That the two Villages of Colacuncalumpetty & Killecotah, now possessed by Sondiman, & Claimed by the Rajah, be confirmed to the former, as the Rajah's claim does not appear supported. —

With respect to other trifling points which may be in litigation between the Rajah & Sondiman, the Board desire you will make upon the spot, proper enquiries, & give such directions about them as may appear just and equitable. — I am Sir

Your most obedient Servant
(Signed) John Chamier
Act. Secry

Fort St. George
3d May 1785

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Fort St George May 1785

3d

Received the following Letter from Sir John Burgoyne.—

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney &c.

President and Governor &c. Council of

Fort St. George

My Lord & Gentlemen,

From Sir John Burgoyne, states the Facts, by which he considers, that no Project tending to the advantage of his Majesty's Service, would meet with Countenance from the Govertnment of Madras.——

Though in your Letter of this Days Date you are pleased to tell me that I must not expect much notice to be taken of my Letters in future, yet I cannot suffer a Correspondence which has lasted so long to close without bringing to your mind some facts, which when duly considered, my supposition, that a Project so much to the advantage of his Majesty's Service, as prosecuting the 23d Regiment of Light Dragoons, would not meet with Assistance or support from the Government of Madras, is not so unwarrantable a licence as you are pleased to insinuate it to be,—my supposition, for it was no more, is grounded on stubborn facts, which, though they may be still fresh in your memory, its necessary should be recorded to obviate any censure on me; for without them, I must acknowledge

the

3d

the force of what you say — The treatment all his Majesty's General Officers have met with from the promotion of a Colonel in the Company's Service over them, being a matter relative to which you will probably very soon receive his Majesty's opinion, is a circumstance which induces me to believe that the good of the King's Service could never have been considered by the Government of Fort St. George when they took that Step. — The delay of carrying into execution the Orders for recruiting his Majesty's Regiments; the opinion which you officially sent Major General Campbell in your Letter of the 30th of June 1784, that the 23d Regiment of Light Dragoons should not be recruited, though his Majesty's Orders were positive on that head, your refusing to issue my Regt. either money or even Bills for raising a recruiting fund, your ordering to Bengal, Detachments of the King's Troops which came from Bombay, without giving time for the Commanding Officers of Regiments to inlist such as chose so to do, & your constant opposition to the project for remounting my Regt. which nothing but the interference of your Superiors, the Supreme Board, prevented

Dear

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Fort St. George May 1785

3d

vain; all these, I say, are circumstances sufficient to make me or any reasonable Man suppose (for I only suppose) the Government of Madras would not support a project so beneficial to the Kings Service as that of remounting his 23d Regt. of Light Dragoons. — I cannot deny, to be sure, that you did signify to me the horses I had purchased should pass free of duty; but in good truth, My Lord & Gentlemen, you could do no less; your Superiors, as well as mine, the Supreme Board, had signified to you it was their pleasure you should render me every assistance in your power, nay went so far as to desire "that you would not allow any punctilio or informality in the detail of Service to impede their wishes to give the Company's Service the full effect of the discipline of my Regiment." — You next tell me that what relates to the 23d Light Dragoons ought to come from the Officer Commanding it, & not through me; — here again, My Lord & Gentlemen, I have acted in conformity to the order of your Superiors the Supreme Board, for in their Letter to me of the 14th of December 1784 they say "Your future Correspondence on all matters relative

to

Fort St. George May 1785

3d to the Regt will of course be directed to the administration of the Presidency under which it serves" — Should any endeavours for supporting & feeding the 23d Regt of Light Dragoons, more suitable to the boasted Economy of your Government, take place at present, I fear it will prove two things, neither of which I am sure you would wish to appear; — namely — that you have suffered for a length of time a prodigal waste of your Employers Money, & that resentment only has at last made you determine to put a stop to it. —

I have the honor to be,
My Lord & Gentlemen,
Your most obedient
humble Servant,
(signed) J Burgoyne,
M. Gl. &
Coll 23d L. Dr.

Madras
May 3d 1785

4th Received the following Letter from the late Resident at Hydrabad. —

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney Kn. B.
President &c Members of the Council
Fort St. George

My Lord & Gentlemen

I am this instant honored by the Receipt
of

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Fort S.t George May 1785

From Mr. Johnson, late Resident at Hydrabad, it is figured that the Nizam bore no Part in the Conduct of Sic.r Jung in entering the Company's Territories, being so near engaging in an unequal War with Tippoo that he would not think of drawing on him the Enmity of a superior Power — He is of Opinion that Guntoor itself would be yielded up on the slightest Effort. —

4.th of your commands of the 19.th — On the 21.st I addressed Your Lordship &.c from Gooterampillee and am now nearer Maulipatam than to Hyderabad — But even this would not prevent me from stopping immediately in consequence of your present commands which I receive with the same Respect and attention with those from my more immediate Superiors, well Knowing that an equal view to the public interests guide both. However, in the present instance, my last address will have informed Your Lordship &.c that I did not leave Hyderabad without performing the business which you now do me the honor to entrust to me. The order for Sy.d Jungs Recall was issued in my presence before I would quit the Durbar where I had gone to make the necessary Representations upon this subject, and I did not wait to learn the execution of the order because I was perfectly satisfied as to the sincerity in which it was dictated — Nor have my expectations on this score been disappointed, for together with your commands this moment received, came a letter from the Masulipatam Board informing me that Sy.d Jung had crossed the Kistna & evacuated the Company's lands. —

D

1346 Fort St. George May 1785

4th I can with the greatest confidence affirm that this excess of Syffjungs is alone to be attributed to his own presumption, without the most distant participation of the Government at Hydernabad — That Court being too near to us, are unequal contest with Lippao to think of drawing upon themselves a much heavier power, regarding a trifling Zemmedar of Guntoor, while that whole district itself would at such a juncture be yielded to the slightest effect. —

I am much obliged by the Honor done me in writing to Bengal regarding a delay in my departure but as my sudden recall bore no reference to any discretionary judgement on my part, to any possible conjuncture of affairs, not to the Nizams concurrence, or displeasure, I rather apprehend that the motives which induced this measure must continue to out weigh most considerations that might tend to retard or oppose its execution. ——

I have the honor to be with great Respect &c —

/signed/ R. Johnson
Res.t Hydrabad

Phil.a Coot
18.th April
1785 —

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Fort St. George May 1785.

Minute thereon 4th — Agreed that a Copy of the foregoing, do accompany the following Letter to Masulipatam. —

To Anthony Sadlier Esqr.
Chief & Co. Council at
Masulipatam

Gentlemen

I am directed by the Right Honble President and Council to acknowledge the receipt of your Letters of the 25th, 26th, & 28th Instant, with their Enclosures, & to observe to you that a certain discretionary power is, & must always be lodged in You; & the Board, therefore, expect you will exert it when for the good of the service, & when any delays for Orders might prove detrimental to the Interests of the Company.

To Masulipatam, informing them that a certain discretionary Power is always lodged in their Hands to be exerted, when the Good of the Service requires it; & enclosing Copy of Mr. Johnson's Letter, which points out the Propriety of their repelling instantly, any incursion of a similar Nature to that of Seif Jung's.

I enclose Copy of a Letter from Mr. Johnson the late Resident at Hyderabad to the Board that contains opinions respecting the Government at the Soubahdar's Court, which appear well founded, & point out the propriety of your repelling immediately any incursion which might at a future period be made into the Company's Territories, under your Protection. ——

W. Kirk

1348 Fort St George May 1785

4th With respect to the Searching Foreign Vessells in the River of Nazore, upon which you request the Orders of the Board, I am directed to desire you will enquire what was the usage in this point, before the War. —

The Chief Engineers Letter to your Board is now under Consideration, & the Orders of Government will shortly be sent to you thereupon. — I have the honor to be Gentlemen

Your most obed.t Serv.t

Fort St George
4.th May 1785

(signed) John Cramer
Act.g Secretary

P.S. I enclose the General Orders published this Day at the Presidency

5th Sent Letter to Masulipatam / as entered in No B. No. 10 / enclosing Copy of a Letter from Brigadier General Coutenceau with the Board's Answer thereto, relative to the Lands claimed by the French at Cyanam, and desiring them to give the Board every Information on the Subject; =

To Masulipatam

6th Received the following Letter from the Committee of Assigned Revenue, with Enclosures / entered in No B. No 11

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6th

Fort St. George May 1785

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney, KB.
President and Governor &c Council,

Fort St. George

My Lord and Gentlemen,

We have been honored with your Commands of the 11th and 17th Instant, through Mr. Secretary Chamier. —

From the Committee of Assigned Revenue, recommending, that the Arrack Contractor be directed to pay the usual Duties to the Renters of the Places where he vends that Article; that the Renter of Arcot be ordered to receive the Customs of Waldour till the Reference to Europe on that Point be decided on; and that Government do relax its Claims on those Districts which have materially suffered from the Want of Rain, in favor of the Inhabitants. —

It appears by Mr. Cochranes Contract for supplying the Troops in the Out Garrisons with Batavia Arrack, that he is allowed the Indulgence of selling that Article to the Natives in the Environs, We have therefore only to recommend, as the Contract does not specify that Mr. Cochrane is exempted from the usual Duties on that Article, that he be desired to pay them to the Renters of the Towns and Pettas where he vends it, as they form a branch of the publick revenue in every District, and are accordingly included in the renters Cowles, and that the Renters be informed of Mr. Cochranes exclusive privilege in selling Batavia Arrack as above specified. —

The claims of the French Government in India respecting the Customs of Waldour having by mutual consent been referred to Europe, We

humbly

Fort St. George May 1785

6th

humbly conceive these Customs are to be levied as usual, until the point is determined on, and that directions may accordingly be given to the Renter of Arcot to collect them at the usual Choakies. ——

The Arcot Districts being reduced to a very distressed state by the total failure of Rain at the proper Season, which has frequently been represented in strong terms by the Renters and confirmed beyond a doubt by a Variety of other Testimony, which We now enclose for your Information, We beg leave to mention this circumstance to your Lordship &c and at the same time to intimate that so signal and unexpected a Calamity — immediately following the effects of the War, has thrown the few Inhabitants left in the Country into the utmost distress. The little Cultivation they have been able to carry on since the Peace has almost every where failed, and any attempt to exact from the Renters more than the actual Produce of the several Districts would be followed by the most insufferable hardships upon the People The present being one of those extraordinary Cases in which Government always relaxes its claims in

favor

1351

Fort St George May 1785

6th

favor of the Inhabitants, with a view to the future Prosperity of the Country, We are induced to recommend that, for the remainder of the present year the Renters of the Arcot Districts be required only to account for the actual produce of their several Farms; and that for this purpose Mr. Welsh be authorized to appoint Tahsildars with such Powers as may enable them to secure the Revenue from Embezzlement, or Misapplication. —

The Trincomalee District not having suffered in the same proportion as those of Vellore and Arcot, We beg leave to suggest that it may be advisable to hold the Renter of that Division to his Engagements, until further Proof be exhibited that the Revenue of it has materially suffered by the want of Rain. —

We have the honor to be
My Lord and Gentlemen
Your most obedient
humble Servants —
Chas. Oakeley
David Haliburton
Geo. Moubray

Fort St. George
23d April 1785 —

(signed)

Dispatched

1352 Fort St. George May 1785

6th Dispatched the following Answer —

To Charles Oakeley Esqr
&ca Members of the Committee of Assigned Revenue

Gentlemen

In Answer to your Letter of the 23d Ultimo I am directed by the Right Honble the President & Council to inform you that in consideration of the distressed state of the Arcot Country, they consent to your requiring only from the Renters of that District, the actual produce of their several Farms —

The Board approve the measures which you propose for securing the Revenue from Embezzlement or Misapplication, & confide in your efforts for promoting the prosperity of the Countries committed to your Management. —

I am Gentlemen
Your most obedient
humble Servant
(signed) John Chamier
Acting Secretary

To the Committee of Assigned Revenue, in answer to the foregoing. —

Fort St. George
6th May 1785

Sent the following Letter to B. G. Horne &
Mr. Irwin — —

To

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Fort St. George May 1785.

To Brigadier General Horne
&
Eyles Irwin Esqr
at Warriore —

Gentlemen.

I enclose, by Order of the Board a Copy of a Letter lately received from Tippoo Sultaun, with a Copy of the Answer this day sent by the Right Honble President. —

The Board desire you will direct Messrs Andrews & Doyce to resume their enquiries & endeavour by every possible means to procure an arrangement of the business — It is the wish of Government to give Proofs to Tippoo Sultaun of their disposition to preserve inviolably the Peace between him & the Company, and to pay the fullest attention to his claims, when founded on Justice — You are therefore to write to Sam Naick in strong terms, & insist upon his giving ample satisfaction for the depredations committed by him in the Canara District. —

The Board are anxious to have this affair terminated & depend upon your exertions for

To Brigr. Genl Horne & Mr Irwin desiring them to give Messrs Andrews & Doyce Instructions to resume their Enquiries on the Complaints preferd against Sam Naick and to endeavour at all Events to settle the Business in a satisfactory Manner to Tippoo, whose Letter on the Subject is enclosed with the Presidents Reply. —

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Fort St. George May 1785

6.

this purpose, as any discussions or disputes with Tippoo Sultaun can't but lead to disagreable Consequences. —

I am,
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) John Chamier
Acting Secretary

Fort St. George
6th. May 1785 —

Received the undermentioned Letters, (which are entered in the M. B. N.os 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22) —

From Mr. Samuel Johnston

From Mr. Samuel Johnston, Paymaster at Madura, dated 23d. April enclosing a Memorandum stating the Amount of the Advances made by him to the armed Peons, which Mr. Irwin will reimburse him, when the Board may give Orders for that Purpose. —

From Mr. Irwin

From Mr. Irwin, dated 25th April, enclosing further Correspondence between Mr. Kinderley & Mr. Makern, on the Claims of the latter respecting Tutocoryn & its Dependencies, declared to be inadmissible by the former; with Mr. Irwin's Observations thereon. —

From Mr. Digby

From Mr. Digby, Paymaster to the Southern Forces, dated 30th April, enclosing an Indent for a compleat monthly Disbursement to the Troops in the Southern Cantonment for the Month of March; an Indent of the

1355

Fort St. George May 1783 -

6th Sums required to complete the monthly Disbursements for that Month; and an Abstract of Cash disbursed by the Paymaster of the Southern Forces from the 1st. May 1784 to 31st. December 1784. with his Remarks thereon: -

From Captain Hay Macdowal, of his Majesty's 42d. Regt. dated at Calcutta 30th. March, enclosing Copy of a Letter from him to the Government of Bombay, requesting "That the proper Officer may be directed to "notify in a Certificate to him, that upon his Departure "from that Presidency he was paid the Company's "Allowance to such a Date, and no longer" — Captn. Macdowal makes the same Request to the Presidency of Fort St. George. —

From Captain Hay Macdowal

From the Commissary General at Fort William, enclosing a Bill for Bullocks delivered in by the late Contractor together with the Copy of a Letter from Col. Pearse to the Contractor on the Subject, and requesting the Boards Opinion thereon; transmitting also, Copy of a Bill of Captain Johnstone Commander of the Burrington, with a Certificate relative to the state of some Provisions, shipped on board that Ship by this Government. —

From Commissary General at Fort William

From Mr. Palk, Paymaster at Trichinopoly, dated 5th. May, enclosing a Return of the Deficiences & overplus of the Stores sent in Decr. last to Negapatm for this Garrison, as compared with Mr. Michells

From Mr. Palk

Fort St. George May 1785

6th

Receipts of the Invoices sent to him by the Commissary General of Stores. —

From Captain Trent, dated 2d. May, giving the Explanation required of him respecting the selling of Arrack in Nellore; sends to Madras two Banians who murdered a Sepoy at Alore & a Waterman who was present when the Crime was committed, but has not been able to seize the Perpetrators of the Murder committed lately on a Traveller; shall use his utmost Endeavours to find them out. —

From Capt.n Trent. —

From Colonel Brathwaite, requesting that another Assistant Surgeon may be appointed to Allore,

From Col.l Brathwaite. —

From Captains Cochrane & Brown, enclosing a Certificate from Lieut.t Macdonald representing, that Mr. Johnston the Paymaster at Madura, did, (contrary to his Assertion) pay Chitts for Batta for the Months of January and February. —

From Captains Cochrane & Brown

From Mr. Sloysard; dated 4.th May transmitting a Return of Military Stores, & an Indent for Articles wanted for Cuddalore, and requesting to Know whether he is to pay the three Artillery Men, lately arrived from Chillumbrum,

From Mr. Sloysard

one

Fort St. George May 1785

6th one of them acting in the Capacity of a Sub Conductor; also three Invalid Sepoys of the 4th Battalion.—

Sent the undermentioned Letters which are entered in M. B. Nos 23. 24. 25. 26. 27.

To Committee of Stores

7th To the Committee of Stores; enclosing two Indents from Cuddalore, to which they are directed to report their Opinion.—

10th To the Commissary General at Fort William — The Situation and Quality of the Provisions shipped on Board the Burrington described — She Commander at all Events must be reprehensible, for either he received bad Provisions. Knowing them to be such; or he neglected his Duty in not refusing to receive them, when he found them to be bad.— Stating the Value of Northern Draught and Carriage Bullocks, and enclosing a Return of Bullocks received by the Agent from the Bengal Detachment the 12th Sept. 1783.

To the Commissary General at Fort = William.—

To Mr. Hoisard;— To pay the Serjeant & Major appointed by Colonel Barry 4 Pagodas ℔ Month; and to issue the Monthly Pay to a Sub Conductor & two Artillery Men lately arrived from Chillumbrum.—

To Mr. Hoisard

To Major General Campbell

To Major Gen.l Campbell; directing him to

Fort St. George May 1785

10th. to furnish Lt. Col Moorhouse with 1 Syrang, 4 Tindalls, and 60 Lascars — To the Paymaster of Vellore, to furnish him with 150 Barrels of Gunpowder — To the Garrison Storekeeper to furnish him with two Smiths, two Carpenters, two Hammermen, & two Bellows Boys. —

To Mr. Ogilvie. —

To Mr. Turing —

To Captain Hay Macdonald. Informing him; that Several of the Company's Vessells sailed for the Malabar Coast about the time it is supposed he was at Fort St. George, on either of which he might have procured a Passage to Bombay. — The King's Paymaster General is the proper Officer to ascertain what Sums are due to him as a Kings Officer; his Regt. not being stationed here, he could not draw the Company's allowances at this Presidency. —

To Capt. Hay Macdonald —

Sent the following Letter to Bengal. —

To the Honble John Macpherson Esqre. —
Governor General &c. Council
at Fort William

Gentlemen,

We have the Honor to enclose Copies of Letters which have lately passed between

Fort St. George May 1785.

To Bengal; enclosing Sir John Burgoynes late Correspondence with this Govern=ment; — & Request=ing that the future Charges to be incurred on Account of his Regiment, might be transferred to their Presidency. — 10th.

between this Government and Sir John Burgoyne, on the Subject of the Horses lately purchased by him at Hyderabad. —

Our Resources being inadequate to our Wants / as We had often represented to you, before you authorized this Expence now incurred at his Suggestion / every additional Charge must necessarily fall so heavy upon us that we should with to look towards you for Assistance, if not of a much greater extent, at least to answer a demand, for which we were not prepared; and we therefore submit to you, whether you would not approve that this unexpected Expence be paid by your Presidency; & if we may presume further, we would request indeed that the Charge of the whole 23rd Regiment might be brought to your Establish=ment. At all Events, whether you condescend to our desire or not, We beg leave to address you for your Directions on the following particular Point. —

It is necessary to mention that, on the arrival of the 23d. Regiment on this Coast, it was judged proper to place it on the same footing with Regard to Contract and Allowances with the European Troop of Cavalry, at that time, and

some

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10th

some years before established here; — The Contract which was at the Rate of 8½ Pagodas ₱ Month. for each Horse, from the low state of our Treasury, and encreased number of Horses, is now become a very considerable Object; and we therefore think that it may be advisable to reduce the Contract to 6½ Pagodas, which is the Price allowed for the Native Cavalry — This is a measure we should have taken before, but that Reason had been given to hope that a new military System would have been established for the Coast, and that all the Troops would have been unequivocally put under one uniform Authority, which would avoid the Inconveniences the Company's Service might suffer from the Conduct of such officers as Sir John Burgoyne; The Expence indeed was also every day diminishing by the Expenditure of the Horses in that Regiment, which has been pretty considerable, not less than 135 having died and been cast out of 364, since the 1st June 1783 — The whole Charge of the Regiment as it now stands for Subsistance Gratuity &ca and feeding Contract, including the 150 Horses lately furnished under your orders by Sir John Burgoyne,

75 dead
60 cast
135

will

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Fort St. George May 1785.

10th will be about Pagodas 6000 per Month, without reckoning the temporary allowance, which will depend on the local Situation of the Corps. —

For these Reasons, and also to avoid giving the Shadow of Spleen or Ill-humour in a matter which we had thought probable so soon to terminate of itself, We left the Contract on its former footing, without reducing it at the time We abolished our own European Cavalry; — but those Reasons operate no longer. — It would seem that the + Kings Troops are likely to continue here on the same incongruous footing; the Number of Horses is encreased instead of diminished, whilst our Hopes of help from you become every Day less & less to be depended on; & We believe you will agree with us, from a Perusal of Sir John's Letters, that even a Measure which might in any Shape affect his Emoluments, could scarcely add to his Indisposition towards us. — We wish, in short, to leave this Point, together with the others respecting Sir John & his Regiment, entirely to your Opinion & Decision, and which We request you to transmit to us with as little Delay as possible. —

We

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10.th

Fort S.t George May 1785

We have had the Honor to receive Your Letter of the 5.th Ultimo, & our President has duely informed You of our receiving Advice from General Coutenceau, that the Forts of Trincamalee & Ostenburgh were given up to the Dutch on the 23.rd Ultimo. ——

We have received a Letter from M.r Renloss, a Civil Servant belonging to Your Presidency, requesting Copies of Papers which relate to the Settlement at Acheen in the Year 1773. and informing us of his being appointed several Months since by your Govern=ment to re establish a Factory at that Place, which is the first Information we have received of your Resolution. We shall give him every Assistance in our Power. ——

We have the Honor to be

Gentlemen

Your most obed.t

humble Servants

(Signed) J.o Macartney

&.c.a Council ——

) Fort S.t George
10.th May 1785

Received

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11th

Received the following Letter & Enclosures from Lieut.t Colonel Ross.—

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney
President and Governor &c.a &c.a Council

Fort St. George

My Lord and Gentlemen

Agreeable to your Orders of the 26th. of February last, communicated to me by Mr. Secretary Chamier, I have been at Masulipatam, and after examining the State of the Fortifications on the Spot, have now the honor to lay before You my sentiments on the Subject. —

I understand the French had formed a Plan for fortifying Masulipatam, and had made some progress in the Execution before it fell into the hands of the English; and that some part of the Foundations being laid, had induced the British Engineer to adopt nearly the same project. Neither being in possession of their Designs nor of their reasoning on the subject, I am at a loss for their motives in preferring the present irregular figure, when one

Throw Lieutenant Colonel Ross transmitting his sentiments in the Fortifications at Masulipatam, and in its District.— Enclosing Copy of Captain Prescott's Report of the state of the Works of Masulipatam, with his Remarks thereon; also Copy of his Letter to Lieutenant Kelsall back relative to the situation of Rangoon Pagoda, as a Military Post. —

11th

one more uniform, and that would have embraced with an equal Quantity of Wall the same Quantity of Ground with superior advantages in point of defence might have been adopted, as You will observe by Plan N°1.

How far it became necessary for them at that time, in a political view, to extend the defences of the Fort for the protection of the Inhabitants, I am unable, at so distant a period to judge; but it surely might have been reduced in size, to advantage in point of defence, and have been rendered capable of receiving almost any regular figure. — I have been told, a Citadel was also intended, on which they were to have placed their Chief reliance. But its position I have not been able to ascertain with any certainty. — The Number of Expensive Buildings since erected by us near the Arsenal, which probably was intended to be within it, now precludes the Idea of a Citadel, or any thing less than the Plan N°2: which is one of the smallest regular forms that have occurrd to me within which they can be all comprehended. — I have adopted it as much as possible, to the present Works, that if it should not be executed in it's full extent, a part thereof

may

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may correspond with what is already done, and in case of an attack being carried on from the North, and East, a retrenchment N°3 in that form a cross the Fort. may tend to prolong the Defence. —

So much having been already done on the old imperfect Plan, I have, without changing the Directions of the Curtains, endeavoured to reduce the defences to some degree of regularity, least it should hereafter become necessary to rebuild any of the defective parts, when they may be proceeded on according to some sort of System. — The Advantage in point of defence, I propose to derive over these now executed, will appear on inspecting the Plan N°. 4 of the present Works; where the shade of yellow marks the alteration I would recommend, by which the fire is in all places doubled, and in some parts, increased nearly three Fold. —

The present State of the Defences of Masulipatam does not admit of the probability of a second attack, where Colonel Ford succeeded; and should the attempt be made, it most probably will miscarry; every thing on that side being so unfavorable for approaches, without which, any Endeavour now to get possession of the Place, exclusive

of

11th

of treaching, must prove ineffectual; it being entirely surrounded by a Wet Ditch, ninety feet broad, and five foot deep at low Water, possessing the means of raising, and retaining the Water considerably higher when the Tide flows, with the addition of a spacious berm that will admit the construction of Works, not to be seen from without for the purpose of disputing the passage over the Ditch.—

The South and part of the West face is so protected by the river, as to secure them from every thing but a surprize at the River Gate, which reduces the probability of an attack to be from the North, or East. where the Ground offers many advantages favorable to an Enemy.—

Some precautions have been taken to guard against this Evil, by enlarging, in some degree, the Bastions, it became necessary to rebuild, and by thickening some part of the Curtains to admit of a Cannon Defence, which I am sorry to observe, none but those, thus particularly attended to, will allow.— all the other parts of the Curtains being too narrow to afford a space equal to what is required for the use of Guns.— A Defect so obvious as to require an early Remedy, whenever the state of the Company's Treasury will admit of it. And can best be done by the thickening and raising the

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11th The Curtains to the Height of the Bastions, whose Cordons are only about Ten feet above the Berms. — This may be done with great advantage to the place, by an addition along the Curtains of the Casemates, that are much wanted for the purpose of an Hospital; as well as for the reception of Troops and Stores. — It has already been done in part from the Flanks of Fords and the Royal Bastion, and the compleating of these Curtains, in the same manner, which will be no great Expence, may conveniently be done without throwing these Fronts into any great Disorder — The Cavaleirs already erected in the middle of the North and Magazine Curtains, devides the lengths of Work to be performed, into short Distances, that may either be undertaken seperately, or together, as Circumstances will best admit. —

Should it become hereafter necessary either to Reform — Flagstaff Bastion, or to rebuild the defective part of the River Curtain near to it, I would with particular attention might be given to establish a very heavy fire on the Sand Hills from whence the French enfiladed Colonel Fords Batteries, as they lie opposite to the Entrance of the River, and Command the practicable part of the Bar, over which all Boats must pass into it. — Likewise the River itself opposite to Gilhadindy

11th

and above it to the Fort. And as they may become an object for an Enemy who means to debark in the Bay, to lay hold of as a post of Communication from whence orders might be speedily circulated, either to the Shipping at Anchor in the Road, or from them to the people on shore; and, if a cover could be established there, they would become a convenient Deposite for the landing of Stores during smooth Water and at favorable times of the Tide, afterwards to be transported at leisure to their places of destination; & they might also prove favorable for an assault on the River Face. —

So much has already been said by Major Maule, on the utility of Sally Ports at Masulipatam, and so well, that I shall beg leave to enforce his recommendation of them with every strength of mine, and instead of troubling you with any remarks of my own, remind you of what he has said on the subject — "As a very principal and excellent "Defence, at a most important Period, is to be "derived from the spacious Berm of this Fortress, "I take leave to recommend to your Lordship &c "that Sally Ports well traversed, and secured "with proper Doors and Fastenings, be

opened

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11th

"opened near each Rentrant Angle under Cover of
"the Adjacent Flanks. — These will at all times
"render the Communication, (now much wanted)
"from the Interior of the Place, with the Berm
"safe and expeditious, and will considerably
"accelerate any Work, that shall be carrying on
"there". —

The Pier Head is, with respect to the Fortifications, so awkwardly situated under a flank of one of the Bastions, that it is difficult to ascertain a good collateral Defence for it, whilst to secure the Garrison against the possibility of surprize by means of it, becomes an Object of the first attention. This may in a great measure be effected by forming it into a kind of Capanier, No 5 By seperating it from the adjoining Berms, and Curtain of the Body of the place, by a Wet Ditch, which will give security to it and to the Berms, where Rams Horns, or any more applicable Work, may then with safety be erected to increase the weight of fire: And a Draw Bridge at the Gate of the Curtain will secure its safety. — The Cut and Barrier Gate where it is a cross the Pier, may be continued an additional impediment in the Way of an Enemy,

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and when the Repair of the Stockade becomes necessary, the Gate may be reduced in size, and placed to form a Re entering instead of a Saliant Angle, when the Stockade carried out from it, towards the Angles of the Pier on which it stands, will throw the Fire from behind it in a good direction on the Pier head — This when executed will give a perfect security against a Surprize, and if a still greater increase of fire be required, the Retaining Wall of the Glacis going off from the Sluices into the River, may be raised to form the faces of a Tenaille whose fire will cross in a good Direction before the Pier head, and whose returning Branches, terminating on the Counterscarp of the Ditch, will form a good scowering defence for the Glacis and River, both above and below the Pier.— On the Place being shut up and the Craft in the sound no longer of use, the Single Tenaille may be converted into a double one by stationing Vessells to form a Fleche before the Pier head, which will thereby be compleatly covered — The Parapets of the Tenaille formed on the Glacis, should be strongly Fraized to secure them against Surprize———

During

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During the execution of the Fortifications, the number of Sluices there are at present, might have been very proper for the Transportion by Water, of Earth and Materials to those parts of the Work that were in hand. — But as they are now in so advanced a State as to render that Kind of Conveyance little Necessary, I imagine some of them may be dispensed with. — As the Water in the Ditch may with Ease be retained to its greatest height by means of Batterdeans without Flood Gates; and discharged as low as the bed of the River by openings practiced in those Batter=deans, so constructed as to be readily stopped by small Wooden Doors, easy to be come at and of a simple construction, whenever the whole depth of Water may be required in the Ditch. At the same time the Batterdeans themselves may be rendered more secure by a round pillar in the middle of their Walls, sufficiently large not to be embraced to effect a passage round them. The Tops of the Walls should be made with so sharp a slope that no footing can be held upon them and as Brick in such a situation is apt to Moulder away their covering should be of blue Stone, laid in Cement Chunam. ——

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Fort St. George May 1785

11th

I would not on any account wish what has been said, should be understood to imply that Boats in the Ditch are no longer necessary, because I imagine, they may when required be moved on the Berm by wooden Rollers past the Batterdeans with more easy than by opening the present Flood Gates for them to go through— On the contrary, I think, they may very much contribute towards a good Defence. For as the Place is already too extensive to admit with propriety of a Covert way beyond the Ditch establishing Places of Arms in the re-entering Angles, next to the Bastion attacked, may be of the greatest use in the Defence, by obliging the Enemy to much more Circumspection in their approaches than any fire from the Body of the Place can effect, and may even reduce them to the necessity of carrying them by storm before they can establish their Batteries on the Crest of the Glacis; along which, if a small Pallisaded Communication can be made, between these places of Arms, the fire from behind it must be very fatal to the Assailants; and if the place be provided with Miners, or good Pioneers, small Mines may be practiced in advance of the

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11th the Palisade, the Springing of which may throw the Glacis into such Disorder, as to render the establishing the Breaching Batteries a very troublesome and dangerous undertaking. — The Communication with which must be by Boats. that should be so constructed as to carry, and even to admit of the use of a Gun, should it be judged necessary to practice a Surprize of that Kind upon the Enemy, when they are at Work in the Ditch. — By means of these Boats the Excavations of Earth made to form the Places of Arms may easily be transported a cross the Ditch for constructing, on the collateral Bermes. such Works as may be judge most proper for disputing the passage over the Ditch. —

All the approaches to this Fort are interrupted by the freshes and periodical Rains in the Months of September, October, November and December; and this difficulty of access to it may be continued some time longer, by an Inundation formed in the Swamp by means of a Dam, nearly opposite to Floyd's Bastion, where with proper attention at spring Tides, some part of the Ground may be kept at all times very soft. —

It is therefore in the Months of January, February

15th March and April, and attack is to be expected,
for after that Period the Weather becomes so
intensely hot that no Troops, especially Europeans,
can, without infinite loss, withstand the Fatigues
of a Seige, under all the disadvantages they are
here liable to suffer. — It may be attempted in
the Months of July or August, when the
violence of the land Wind is abated, and
before the Monsoon Rains set in. But it is
a Period so encompassed with these great Evils
that a State of desparation only could warrant
such an undertaking. —

The Ramparts, I was glad to
observe, in general, better conditioned than could
have been expected from their original too slight
Construction; there being but few material defects
in the Exterior Revetment; and not any of such
consequence as to render it necessary, in the present
reduced state of the Treasury, to incur any very
heavy immediate expence. And I had the
pleasure to find they were Kept in the best
order, the small means allowed Captain Prescott
would admit; whose attention to the Interior
arrangement of the Place has given general —

satisfaction

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Fort St. George, May 1785

11th satisfaction to all the Members of Government.

The Defects that require the most immediate attention, are Chiefly in the facings of the Parapets and Checks of the Embrasures, occasioned by the settling of the newly Removed ground, of which they were made, after they were Revetted, which caused the Checks of the Embrasures to seperate near the Angles, from the front Wall of the Merlons, that stood on the exterior Revetment and could not settle with them; to remedy which it will be necessary to take down, and after making good and well ramming the ground, become hollow by the soaking of rain through the Cracks and holes of Vermin, to rebuild the Checks of the Embrasures a new, From others, it may only be requisite to cut out and make good the most faulty parts, and for some, fresh pointing will suffer. All the particulars of which, after examining and ascertaining them on the Spot with Captain Prescott, will be found in the accompanying Paper opposite to, and in the order of his Report.

To

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To all of which it is to be wished a speedy remedy was applied to prevent, in times of heavy rains, the Water passing through these openings from swelling the Earth behind the originally too thin Revetments so as to endanger them. —

I had the honor to attend the Chief on his Survey of the buildings in the Fort, when we found the Arsenal, well arranged and the buildings in good order; but it was with concern we saw all the Guns, lately sent thither, exposed on their Carriages to the Sun, and learnt that all the Guns remained mounted on the Works from the want of cover to place the carriages under. On which I took the liberty to recommend that a Shed be provided for them as soon as possible; their preservation being an essential object and a building to shelter them of no great expence. —

The Hospital is an airy good building, well calculated for the purpose of preserving health, but somewhat out of Repair, chiefly in want of painting, to preserve the

Doors

1377

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11th Doors and windows of the Offices from decay — The Soldiers Barracks are on the same plan as the Hospital Roomy good Quarters. —

Near to them there has of late been built Quarters to contain one Captain and five Subalterns, half the original design only having been executed, which obliges many of the Officers, doing duty in the Garrison, notwithstanding there are several detached Quarters, for want of room, to live in hired Houses. —

There are on the Sepoy Parade, two Ranges of Barracks each intended for the reception of a thousand Men, and both good of their kind. The one permanently built with a Terrace Roof the other, a Bungaloo with a high pitched Roof covered with Tyles laid on Bamboo Reepers, in the Custom of the Country; a mode of building I should not have recommended in a strong hold, where I wish nothing but what is every durable ever be permitted unless in cases of urgent

11th

urgent necessity— For should the Advantages the latter posess over the former in Verandas be deemed of material consequence, they might have been added to the former Plan of the Terraced Roof, on which, in case of a siege a Quantity of Earth might be laid sufficient to give security against the ordinary small Shells that are thrown into places for annoyance— Whereas the other being seen from without by its height becomes an object and direction for an Enemy to fire at— Which induces me to give the preference to the Terrace plan, should it still be necessary when the Casemates are completed to erect more.—

The Cisterns are much too few and too inconsiderable for the supply of Water requisite for the Garrison. Should Granaries or Store Houses (both much wanted) be hereafter built, I would recommend their being made with flat Roofs, and erected over Cesterns to be filled by the Rain from their Terraces.— If they be not full, when the place is threatened with a Seige, the deficiency may easily be supplied from the Aqueduct, whose

water

11th

water being Inferior in quality, I would not on any other occasion, wish to mix with that collected from the heavens.—

The principal Powder Magazines are dry, and well calculated for the purpose— The Stages, in that built by the French, seem better designed for stowage than the Stages in the others; which being faulty may be remedied when the Repair takes place.—

Having expressed to the Chief my desire of making a Tour through the principal Garrisons of the District; I received by order of Council the accompanying Letter from Mr. Secretary Scott, and on my Return addressed them the following Answers—

Having, previous, at Nellour, the Right Honble the Presidents Directions to examine, for the Information of the Board, the situation of the Pagoda of Rangana for a Military Post, and also to see if there was any other Place in the Neighbourhood of Nellore which might be converted into a secure Post, incase the Pagoda of Rangana should not be found a proper Situation —

I

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Fort St. George May 1785

11th

I immediately went thither, and after examining it, did not imagine it ever would be made to answer the Purpose the Honble Board wished. — Being approached by the Water Course that leads the Water from the River to fertilize the Country to the Eastward of the Pagoda which it passes close under the Western Wall where it is cut in the Rock thirteen or fourteen feet deep; and consequently, affords a most perfect cover within a few feet of the Western Gate — Neither will the Area within the Pagoda Wall afford space sufficient even for a properly thickned Parapet, much less a Rampart: nor, is the Wall itself capable of being sufficiently strengthened to resist Cannon. —

I have therefore direct Lieutenant Kilpatrick, by the inclosed Instructions, to Survey a most commanding Situation there is to the Southward of the present Fort It being, as a secure Military Post much preferable to Rangana Pagoda, and is capable of receiving any Degree of strength should it be thought

Necessary. —

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Fort St. George, May 1785

11th

necessary. —

The Fort of Nellore is an irregular Square whose longest side is 933. and shortest 707 yards nearly; having a Gateway in the middle of each Face, of which the South & North only are Open — The Rampart, including the Parapet, is about 25 feet high, all of Earth, except two of the angular Bastions and the South Gateway which are revetted. Before the Rampart there is a Berme, with an Earthen Breast Work, on the Escarp of the Ditch, which is chiefly cut out of the Rock, and by means of which, the Inhabitants convey the Water wanted for the purposes of Cultiva=tion to the Fields round the Fort. If this Ditch was kept clean, it would, at all times, give security and Health to those who live within the Town. —

I have the Honor to be
My Lord & Gentlemen
Your most obedient
& most humble Servant
(Signed) Patrick Ross
Lieut. Colo. & Chief Engr.

Fort St. George
11th May 1785 —

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Fort St. George May 1785

Captain Prescott's Report of the State of the Works of Masulipatam with Colonel Ross's Remarks —

	Report	Remarks —
Madras Bastion —	A Rent through the whole of this Bastion, parallel to the Faces and Flanks; each Embrasure is Rent in at least one place — The Water courses under the Embrasures being most of them Rent, the Water lodges in the Work; There is an Opening in the Ramp from the Curtain between this and Devy Bastion — The interior Revetment of the Ramp of this Bastion is much Decayed; also the Door Way of the Expence — Magazine, is very insecure —	The Settles in the Exterior Revetment of the Faces may be pointed up — The Checks of all the Embrasures will require some Repair, and several of them to be Rebuilt; also part of the Sells must be taken up, others may be repaired when such of the Scuppers as are defective, may be examined and Remedied. — The Settle in the Ramp may easily be made good, The Door of the Expence Magazine should be secured by chunaming the Rabbets. —
Curtain. —	There are three Rents in the Revetments of this Curtain from the Head to the foot of the Work, near each of the Angles of	In order to repair the defects in this Curtain it will be necessary to cut some of them out and carefully point others. —

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11th

Fort St. George May 1785

Report

Remarks

of the Flank of the adjoining Bastions; The Arches of two of the Water Courses, are rent quite thro', to the top of the Wall, so as to admit Light thro the Parapet.—

River Bastion

The Revetment of this Bastion is rent in many places, towards the Saliant Angle, the Parapet wall is dangerously rent in several places to the Width of near four Inches, by which it overhanges. The Arch of the exterior Gate way of the Sally port is considerably rent. The interior Revetment of the Ramp is much impaired, and the Door of the Expence Magazine not weather proof. There are at least two Embrasures in each of the Embrasures some of them large enough to

The Crack in the Arch of the Sally port to be Repaired. The defect in the Ramp may be easily made good. The Door of the Expence Magazine to have a thorough repair, or if necessary, to be made new. The Checks of the Embrasures to be rebuilt, the Merlons being first made good and well rammed, & such of the Sells as have sunk to be taken up and Relay'd.—

The Lunette wall having already failed on

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Fort St. George May 1785

11.th

	Report	Remarks
	to harbour Rats and other Vermin. —	on Piles. to be rebuilt on wells; as drawing the
	There are near Ten	Pills already down; will
	Toises of the Escarp	much disturb an already
	Wall of the Berme	loosned foundation, and
	in front of this Bastion,	therefore gives this Method
	already down. and	the greatest probability
	near twelve more	of Succes. —
	which project so far,	
	that they cannot stand	
	for any length of time;	
	the Water has already	
	penetrated and washed	
	away a considerable part	
	of the Berm and must	
	soon affect the adjacent	
	Bastion —	
Curtain —	There is a Rent, and	The Rent near the Flank
	Fissure. on the Curtain	of Flagstaff Bastion to be
	from Head to Foot about	taken down for 70 feet. and
	six Toises from the Angle	Rebuilt when Opportunity
	of the flank of Flagstaff	offers; in the mean time, to
	Bastion, and this space	receive a temporary Repair
	of Revetment having separated	to prevent its growing worse;
	from the Rest. is sunk	the other defects in the Curtain
	Six Inches; it appears	may easily be remedied. —

to

1385

11.

Fort St. George May 1785.

Report	Remarks
to have been often repaired and sink gradually in the raining Season. The Revetment of this Curtain is rent in many places. The Arches of the Water Courses are much impaired, and some of them Rent quite to the top of the Parapet particularly towards the Angle of the Flank of Flagstaff Bastion. ——	
Pier Head — The Sluice gates are quite unserviceable; temporary dams of Plank and Clay are constructed to prevent the Ditch filling with Mud, to which it will always be liable untill such time as the floor of Masonry is risen to the height of the bed of the River / now four Feet above the present floor level / and new Sluice gates so constructed as to operate with the Tides of Ebb and flood. ——	Particularly mentioned in Colonel Ross's Letter which accompanys these Remarks. ——

1386 11th Fort St. George May 1785

	Report	Remarks
Flagstaff Bastion	The Revetment of this Bastion has all sunk, and is in a very dangerous State, particularly that of the right Face, where there is no Berme. The Embrasures are all of them rent in several places; the interior Wall of the Cavalier is much rent; The Talud of the Ramp is sunk, and there is a Rent in the interior Revetment.	The Revetment of the West flank sunk toward the Reentering Angle half a Foot eight years ago, which occasioned a Crack near the Center, that has not since further given way. and is now capable of being pointed. — There is a Settle in the east Face that orequires pointing. It will be necessary to cut out and rebuild the defective part of the Cavalier. —
		The Checks of most of the Embrasures require to be taken down and Rebuilt. and the Sills of several must be relayed, and the whole either pointed or plaistered. —
Curtain —	There are two Fissures in this Curtain towards the Angle of the Flank of Flagstaff Bastion, which go	The two Cracks in the Curtain near the flank of the Flagstaff Bastion may hereafter require to be orebuilt, and for the

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11.th

Fort St. George May 1785

	Report	Remarks
	go entirely thro' the Rampart, & equally affect the Interior Revetment. The Masonry on the Head of the Parapet of the Saluting Battery is blown away by the firing of the Guns. —	The present should be pointed up. The Coping of the Saluting platform shook by the firing of the Guns. to be made good. —
East Bastion —	From the Saliant Angle to the Angle of the left Flank. the Embrasures are rent. — The interior Wall of the Cavalier is rent in two different places. —	The Settle of the Cavalier may be pointed up; as also those of the Embrasures. —
Curtain	There are two rents in this Curtain from head to foot of the Work. —	The Curtain near the flank of Magazine Bastion has gone down which has occasioned the two Settles; they, with some smaller Ones, should be repaird; —
Magazine Bastion —	This Bastion is in a very ruinous state, and rent both Faces and flanks, particularly the left face where the Aperture is at least four Inches and would	The Revetment is now at its bearings and seems to stand well. The Cheeks and Sills of the Embrasures are very defective, many of the former

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Fort St. George May 1785

11 to

	Report	Remarks
	would probably be affected by the firing of our own Guns — The floor of four of the Embrasures having sunk, the Water lodges within the Revetment and there are Fissures from 4 to 6 Inches wide in all the Embrasures. The Ramp of this Bastion is rent and the Masonry considerably sunk. —	former it will be necessary to take down. The others with the Sills may be repaired —
Old Magazine —	The Roof of this Magazine needs much to be new Syld and Plaistered.	The Roof of the Magazine has undergone a thorough repair. —
Curtain —	There is a rent in this Curtain about 6 Toises from the Angle of the flank of Magazine Bastion from head to foot of the Work —	The settle in this Curtain 6 Toises from the Angle of the flank of the Bastion to be pointed up. — The Cavalier on the center of this Curtain which now lies unfinished with the Arches of the Bombproof exposed, should be completed and its Parapet put on. ———

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11th

Fort St. George May 1785

Report

Remarks

Fords Bastion

There is a Rent runs parallel to the left Face of this Bastion and affects the Embrasures on that Face, there is also a slight Rent on the Right Flank; there is a dangerous Rent runs thro' the whole of the Arch of the Casemates of this Bastion; and each of the Door ways are very much impaired being rent in one or more parts. ——

A Slight repair in time will remedy all the Defects in the Parapets of this Bastion. — The Defect in the Arch of the Casemates may be repaired with a probability of hereafter rendering them useful —

Curtain. —

The Settles in this Curtain to be pointed. —

Royal Bastion —

There is a Rent runs parallel to the whole of this Bastion and affects all the Embrasures — There is a dangerous Rent thro' the whole Arch of the Casemates of this Bastion: likewise the Arches of the Door ways are extremely Rent and would no

The Defects in the Parapets of the Bastion may easily be repaired — The Cracks in some of the Casemates are, I fear too great to admit of any certain Remedy: their deficiencies should be made good by temporary Repair to prevent their becoming

1390 Forte St. George May 5th 1785

11th

Report	Remarks.
no doubt be much affected by the Firing of our own Guns. of Course these Casemates are unservice= =able. ——	becoming worse, untill they can be rebuilt, but no great Reliance can be had on their Utility, as it is very much to be feard that all that can be done will be to render them in part Serviceable ——
Curtain	There is a Settle in this Curtain to be pointed up —
North Bastion	All the Merlons of this Bastion have separated considerably from the Body of the Work, and over hang, in so much, that they have every appearance of falling and would no doubt do so. upon the Discharge of Cannon from the Work —	The Front Revetments of the Merlons of this Bastion over having and require to be taken down and sett back. to relieve the exterior Revetment of their Weight, It having already settled toward the Angles of the Flanks. ——
Curtain —		The Sooner the Frame Work is removed the better to relieve the exterior Revet= =ment of its Weight — ——

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Fort St. George May 1785.

11th

	Report	Remarks
Pellah Bastion -	All the Embrasures of this Bastion are rented in several places: The interior Wall of the Parapet of the left Face, is much injured and seems likely to fall. —	The defects of the Parapet of this Bastion may easily be repaired —
Curtain		There are some settles in this Curtain to be pointed up — The Sooner the Fascine Work is removed the better to relieve the exterior Revetment of its weight.
Ellore Bastion	The Wall of Merlons of this Bastion are all rent and dangerously so, at the Saliant Angle and Shoulders. — The Door way of the Expence Magazine is broken and falling inwards ——	It is necessary to build the Cheeks of some of the Embrasures of this Bastion, and to repair others The Door of the Expence Magazine should be made good ——
Curtain —	There are two rents from Head to foot of the Exterior Revetments of this Curtain —	There are three Settles in this Curtain, that require pointing. ——
West Bastion	The Interior Work of this Bastion	The Front Revetment of the

1392 Fort St. George May 1785 ——

11th

Report	Remarks
Bastion seems all to have sunk; the Parapet Wall is in a very threatning State, and likely to fall, being rent to the Width of 4 Inches particularly that of the left Face and Flank. — All the Embrasures are rent in several places. — The Interior Wall of the Right Flank is also — dangerously rent. —	the Parapet of this Bastion over hangs. must be taken down, and should be set back to releive the exterior Revetment of their Weight in which there are some small settles at the shoulders and saliant Angles ——
Place of Arms in front of the West Gate — The Counterscarp of the Place of Arms is rent towards the left Rentrant Angle and in danger of falling into the Ditch. ——	The Track in the West Place of Arms to be cut out and rebuilt. The Pallisading of this Place of Arms and of that in front of the East Gate are as much too distant from the Crest of the Glacis as that in front of the Pettah Gate is too near — this may be Remedied when a Repair becomes necessary and a greater Slope given to the Revetment of the Glacis in these parts ——

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Fort St. George May 1785

11th

Report — Remarks

Curtain	The Foundation of this Curtain has sunk for 3 Toises from the Angle of the Flank of Devy Bastion by which a Rent runs thro the whole Rampart and Parapet. —	One of the Rents in this Curtain it may be necessary to cut out; the others may be pointed. The Curtain seems now to be come to its bearing. The Parape and Banquette to the north of the W. Gate too low to Command the Glacis ——
Devy Bastion	a rent runs along the whole of this Bastion & particularly the two Faces. all the Embrasures are rent in several places. —	It will be necessary to rebuilt most of the Cheeks of the Embrasures of this Bastion ——
Curtain	There is one rent in this Curtain near the Angle of the Flank of Madras Bastion. ——	There are three Settles in this Curtain which may easily be pointed up — The Glacis in front of this Curtain has settled so as to have become hollow and requires to be made good ——

5 to

1394 Fort St. George May 1785

11th

To Lieutenant Kyd Salbach
Engineer —

Sir

The Right Honble the President having been pleased to direct me to examine the situation of the Pagoda of Rangana, for a Military Post. and also, to see if there is any other place in the neighbourhood of Nellore which may be converted into a secure Post, incase the Pagoda of Rangana should not be found a proper situation. — You will, therefore, be pleased to make a Survey of the Ground something better than a mile to the Southward of Nellore, which Examined with you, taking for your Center the Spot on which there now is a small Tyled Choultry, a Moorish Burying Places, a small Tank with water, one partly dug. and some Trees, Extending it to the Westward to the large Nellore Tank, and on the other Cardinal Points to the distance of a Mile. — Taking at the same time such Sections as may be necessary for ascertaining the relative

Heights

Fort St. George May 1st 1785.

11th Heights of Ground to that Distance.— This Situation as a secure Military Post, being in my Opinion, preferable in all respects to Rangana Pagoda.—

You will pay particular Attention to the Quantity or Quality of the Water now in the Tank; and to the facility with which it may be increased; or, by which that of the great Tank may be brought under the command of any Work to be established there.—Observing, likewise, such advantages as may be derived in any future undertaking by availing ourselves of what has been formerly done at that Place.—All of which, together with such farther Remarks as may occur to you in the prosecution of the Business, you will transmit to me, with the Prices of Materials & Labour at Nellore.—

I am
Sir
Your most obedient
& humble Servant
(Signed) Patrick Ross.

Nellore
2d May 1785—

Received the undermentioned Letters, which are entered in M:B: Nos 28. 29. 30. 31.

From the Dy Comm.y General—

From the Deputy Commissary General, enclosing

Fort St. George May 1785

11th enclosing a particular Return of all the Horses belonging to the 23d. Regiment of Light Dragoons.

From Br: Gl: Horne — 12th From Brigr. Genl. Horne, enclosing a Letter from Messrs. Andrews & Dyce, containing an Explanation of a Paragraph in their Letter of the 9th April as required by the Board — stating the Result of the Enquiry on the Subject of the Complaint against Sam Naick — Messrs. Andrews & Dyce return to the Frontier to resume the Investigation. —

From Adjut. General — 13th From the Adjutant General, Requesting six Months leave of Absence for Lieut. Donald Macdonald, to re-establish his Health by a Sea Voyage. —

Minute thereon — Agreed that Lieut. Donald Macdonald be permitted to make a Sea Voyage agreeably to the Surgeons Advice. —

From Ensign Norris — 15th From Mr. Norris, Practitioner Engineer, explanatory of a Mistake in his late Statement of the Expence to be incurred in destroying the Fortifications at Amboor —

Received the following Letter from Bombay, by the Company's Ship Swallow. —

To

1397

Fort St. George May 1785

15th

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K.B.

President and Governor &c Council

at

Fort St. George —

My Lord and Gentlemen

We have now the Honor of transmitting Triplicate of our last Address under the 22d. Ultimo, and the pleasure of acknowledging the Receipt of your Letter of the 2d. Ultimo from your Political and Military Department. —

The Dutch Flag has been hoisted at Surat in the same manner as before the commencement of the late War; and our orders have been received at Tellicherry, for the delivery of Mahie, & its Dependencies, to such Person or Persons, as may appear to be Duly Authorized, to receive them on the part of the French King —

On the 7th Instant, our Cutter the Viper, and on the 25th his Majesty's Ship Active, returned from Bussorah without any Packets, or any Interesting intelligence whatever from Europe so late as the 30th of December, when only four of the Honble Company's Ships appear to have sailed for India, Viz.t the

Houghton

From Bombay — The Dutch hoist their Flag at Surat as before the War. Orders have been given for the Delivery of Mahie to the French: — Four of the Company's Ships have left England for India — The Major Part of his Majesty's Squadron sailed for Europe the 10th. May. —

1398

Fort St. George May 1785

15th

Houghton. Osterley, Britainia & Raymond. —

His Majestys Squadron being now almost compleatly refitted; we are informed, it is Commodore Mitchels Intentions, to leave this Port, for Great Britain on Board of the Defence, with the Eagle. & Worcester, the 10th of Next Month; when the Bristol under Captn Hughes, with the Active Frigate will proceed to Fort= =St. George. —

We have the Honor to be
My Lord & Gentlemen
Your humble
and most obed.t Servants;
R. H. Boddam.
" Robt. Sparks;
Rich.d Church.

Bombay Castle
Political & Secret
Department 29th
April 1785 -

(signed)

To the Hon.ble John Macpherson Esq.r
Governor General & Council
at Fort William;

Gentlemen,

To Bengal - Enclosing Copy of a Letter to Government from Captain Macdowal, with the Reply thereto. —

We are to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretarys Letter to Mr. Freeman dated the 4th Ultimo enclosing an Account furnished by

the

Fort St. George May 1785

15th the Deputy Paymaster of His Majesty's Troops at Bengal of the Pay & Allowances issued by him to those from the 27th. January 1784 to 17th March 1785 upon which We shall have the honor to communicate to you our Observations in a short time — At present We beg leave to transmit to you a Letter received from Captn. Hay Mac Dowall of His Majesty's 42d. Regiment of Foot dated at Calcutta the 30th March 1785 with an Reply to it. —

We have the honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient
humble Servants,
(signed) Macartney.
&c. Council

Fort St. George
16th May 1785 —

Sent the undermentioned Letters which are entered in M. B. Nos. 32, 33, 34. —

To the Govr. & Council at Tranquebar —

To the Governor & Council at Tranquebar, acknowledging the Receipt of their Letter communicating the Death of Colonel Lichenstein — Assuring them of the hearty desire of this Government to maintain the most perfect Harmony with theirs. —

To the Subordinates Residencies & out Garrisons

16. To the Subordinates, Residencies, & Out Settlements, enclosing a printed Copy of the late Act of Parliament. —

To the Paymasters at Out Garrisons. —

To the Paymasters at Out Garrisons, directing them on all Occasions to furnish the Accountant or his

1400

Fort St. George May 1785 —

16th. his Deputy with such Accounts & Papers as they may write for; and to consider their Application as coming immediately from the Board. ——

At a Consultation, Present

The Right Honble Lord Macartney K.B.
President.

Tuesday the 17th. May

Lieut. General Lang — Alexr. Davidson Esqrs.

James Daniell Esqr.

Minutes of last Consultation read and approved. —

Read the following Letter from Brigadier General Horne, also Letter from Genl. Horne of the 25th. April with Estimates of Paper Bayes. —

John Cranmer Esqr.
Secretary to the Military & Political Department. —

Sir

From Brigadier General Horne; shall pay obedience to the orders of Govern=ment Relative to the Provision of Quarter for the Troops

I have the Honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 26th Ult: the contents of which I communicated to Mr. Irwin.

and

Troops cantoned at Warriore; recommends that Colonel Moorhouse be added to a Committee for the Examination of all the Ordnance and stores in each of the Southern Garrisons; and states the utility of such a Committee —

Fort St. George 17.th May 1785

and consulted with him about the means of carrying the Honble Boards intentions into execution, of erecting Quarters at the lowest expence possible. — Mr. Irwin desired I would point out the quantity of Materials which would be wanted, which the Country could furnish, & he would endeavor to have them supplyd by the different Poligars and Renters. —

The Plan I would recommend is to build a range of Quarters in the Bungalow stile, the walls of Mud & covered with a Roof of Cocoa Nut Trees, (there are no Palmyras in this Neighborhood) & Bamboos covered with Tiles, if the Roof is brought sufficiently over the Wall to preserve it from the Rains, these Walls will stand many years but the Cocoa Nut Trees I am informed decay in about 5 or 6 years and will consequently require new Roofing - but great part of the Tiles & Bamboos would be still serviceable and be used again - Doors & Windows, which if made of Mangoe Planks, though easily worked, and would come as cheap as could be made of Wood, yet they would amount to a considerable

sum

1402

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

sum Carpenters & Smiths work being both so very dear. I, therefore, propose making them of split Bamboo's, which will answer sufficently for this Kind of Building - from the Nature of the Ground, the Quarters should be floor'd, which may be done with common Brick, a Range of Buildings of these Materials similar to the Plan Captn. Byres formed, I conceive would not be overy expensive, & would be as good as it might be prudent to build, in an open Cantonment which, in case of War & the Army being in the Field, would be liable to be destroyed by a Party of the Enemy's Irregulars, for, altho' Warriore is a Suburb of Trichinopoly, the Guns of that Fort would not protect the Buildings from being burnt. —

I have desired Captn. Byres to calculate the number of Cocoa-Nut Trees, Bamboos, &c.a that will be necessary to erect Quarters for the Hanoverian officers on the above Idea which I have given to Mr. Irwin, & have suggested to him that the Tanjore Country abounds with Bamboos which are

scarce

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

scarce in this Neighborhood I have made the estimate for the Hanoverians only at present, because the 78th Regt being tolerably quarter'd at Vellune & Tanjore it may not be so necessary to remove them to this Station so soon as the Hanoverians, as the 78th could join if Necessary at any time in two days march & no possibility of preventing a Junction while the Troops at Trichinopatore could not so soon be joined and might be more subject to difficulties in case of sudden irruption of an Enemy. in Buildings of this Kind a greater quantity should not be in hand at the same time than will be sufficient for the Hanoverians, as the Walls might suffer if not covered in before any heavy Rains fall— Tank Diggers are the proper people to construct Mud Walls what number the Renter will supply shall be set to work— These People build Walls at so much a Foot but as Mr Irwin at present cannot advance any money at all for this purpose the Troops being in great distress for want of Pay & no Grain in Stores to supply them, that what Money comes in must be applyed to their Relief; so that

for

1404. Fort St. George 17th May 1785

for the present we must depend on what number the Renter supplies —

Carpenters & Smiths will be wanting, as soon as the Materials are brought in, the Paymaster of Trichinopoly, I should conceive, might furnish a part of these, as I imagine some of both are Kept in the Company's Pay on the Establishment of that Garrison, though I do not see any mentioned on the Returns. Some assistance may also be given of Lascars by Mr. Falk, but it will require an order from the Board to that Gentleman. —

If the Honble Board approve of my commencing Quarters on the above mode I will direct Captn Bogues to superintend the Work and will give assistance with the Pioneers & their Serjeants to assist him in forwarding the Work &c. which will by this mode be carried on with all possible expedition, if the Materials are furnished & a Regular account Kept of them with the number of People employed, to all of which I shall pay every attention. —

The village of Munsurpet was burnt down during the War; But about two —

miles

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

miles from thence on the Sawmy averam Road Shady Cawn, the person intrusted with the Nabobs affairs in Tritchinopoly has a Jaghire, where he has planted a Garden, dug a very large Tank and built a small house for his Retirement, close by it a neat Mosque & a Cheultry, also a large square stone Building sufficient to hold a Battalian of Men he has a number of Workmen now employed in finishing this Building which must altogether have cost at least half a Lack of Rupees was we to station any Sepoys there (though intended for the use of Travellers) I apprehend Shady Cawn would be greatly hurt and the Nabob much offended, I could therefore wish to avoid it- The four Battalions I now have, are provided both Officers and Men with Quarters & no expence incurred to the Company, when the others arrive I will find means of quartering them, the Buildings within the 2d Wall of Seringapatna I have not yet occupied, if absolutely necessary to bring the Hanoverians down before the Quarters are erected this enclosure would furnish excellent Quarters for both Men & Officers, but the Island

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

Island when the Rivers are down is very inconvenient to subsist Troops on I send on the returns of the Deputy Commissary of stores several articles that will not be wanted on fitting out the estimate of Stores for the Army I had the Honor to transmit to the Board, all of which I would recommend to have delivered over to Mr Palk for the use of the Garrison of Trichinopoly and that nothing should be kept under the care of the Commissary of Stores but those ordered for the Army on taking the Field, which as soon as they are compleated may be put under his immediate care and struck off the Books of the Garrison Stores But as there is constantly occasion for supplying small stores for the use of the different Corps and as Trichinopoly is in the center of this Cantonment it would be far more convenient that the Storekeeper of that Garrison should furnish the Troops on Indents, with whatever Stores are wanted, than the Commissary of the Cantonment who has neither store rooms to keep them in at Warriore, nor many of the articles wanted. —

That the Honble Board may have a just account of the quantity of different

Military

1407

Fort St. George 17th May 1785 —

Military stores fit for field service, as also of such as may be usefull for Garrisons &ca with those that maybe unfit for either in the different Garrisons to the Southward, in order to enable them to form a proper Judgement of the state of so important a Branch for the defence of these provinces & that the Officer commanding them may have a just Knowledge of what there is to be depended on in each place I beg leave through you, Sir, to submit to their consideration the expediency of a thorough examination of all the Ordinance & Stores in each of the Garrisons by a Committee of competent Judges and that an exact statement be made out of those in each station and laid before the board with such remarks & recommendations as the Committe may think advisable to lay before them. —

As this would be a Committee of Importance & a Business of some time of the Board approve of such a measure I would recommend its being composed as nearly as can be, to the Committee of Stores at Madras I shall readily assist myself, and, I think, the Commanding Officer of Artillery to the Southward the senior Engineer the Commanding & next senior Officer of each Garrison and the Storekeeper with the

Commissary

Fort St. George 17th May 1785 —

Commissary of Stores, to which I could wish to have added Colo. Moorhouse, if he could be spared from Madras, as he could be a very usefull member; these with the assistance of the Inspectors would be a very proper Committee, the stores once seperated from those grown useless & properly arranged would be easily kept so for some years & the Store Rooms & Returns cleared of useless articles which might be disposed of as Government might please to direct. —

I have the Honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
[signed] Matw. Horne

Head Quarters
near Warriore
May 6th 1785 —

The Provision of Quarters for the troops cantoned at Warriore being likely to occasion a more considerable expence, than was at first foreseen, & other difficulties occurring, which may be obviated by making Trichinopoly the Head Quarters of the Cantonment, instead of Keeping it as a distinct, & independant Garrison; it is Resolved that the following Letters be written. —

Minute thereon

To —

1409 Fort St. George 17th May 1785 —

To Brigadier General Horne
Commanding the Southern Forces —

Sir

I am directed by the Right Honble
President and Council to acknowledge the Receipt of
your Letter of the 6th & 12th Instant; and to inform
you, that from a Consideration of various circumstances
of Service, Convenience & Expences; they have determined
upon an alteration in the late Orders, & to make
Trichinopoly instead of Warriore the Head Quarters
of the Cantonment, so that the Commands will no longer
be separate, & an Arrangement will be made which
will facilitate the quartering of the Troops, & be the
means of saving at least some part of the estimated Charge —

To Brigadier General Horne, Government resolve for the Benefit of the Public Service, that Trichinopoly be made the Head Quarters of the Cantonment instead of Warriore, and that after the first of June it be considered no longer as an independent Garrison —

The Board would be concerned that any
Measures which they adopt should affect Sir Henry
Cosby in his present Command, & they are so sensible
of his Merit & Services that they would not wish to
make any alteration which could change his Situation,
if the publick Service (as in the present Instance)
did not absolutely require it. ——

In consequence of the Resolution of the
Board, you will from the 1st of June consider the
separate Commands of Warriore & Trichinopoly as no
longer

Fort St. George 17th May 1785 —

longer existing, & you will fix your Head Quarters at the latter making such distribution & arrangement of the Quarters in Trichinopoly & Places adjacent, as may best accommodate the Officers & Troops under your Command — In effecting the Change of Quarters, (as above directed, the Board desire you will pay every attention to the Situation & convenience of Sir Henry Cosby. —

The Right Honble President & Council approve your recommendation of erecting a range of Quarters in the Bungalo Stile, & desire you will carry the Plan into Execution in the cheapest manner possible, & with the greatest attention to every part of the Detail. —

The Board have appointed Mr. Palk Paymaster, & Mr. Digby Commissary, to the Troops under your Command.— The Staff of the Garrison at Trichinopoly is to remain on the present footing. —

You will be pleased to appoint a Committee of the Persons you recommend for the purpose of examining the Stores in the different Garrisons South of the Coleroon — This Committee must proceed without Lieut. Col. Moorhouse, & who cannot be spared at this moment for the service, but it is intended at a proper time to send him

on

1411

Fort St. George 17th May 1785 —

on a general Tour thro' all the Cantonments and Garrisons for the purpose of Inspection. —

I am
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) John Chamier
Act. Secretary

To Lieutenant Colonel Sir Henry Cosby
Commanding at Trichinopoly —

Sir

The Right Honble President & Council having found it absolutely necessary for the good of the Service to fix Trichinopoly as the future Head Quarters of the Officer Commanding the Southern Forces, are now pleased to direct, that the present Garrison Establishment of Trichinopoly shall cease from the 1st of June next, when the whole is to be under the Command of Brigadier General Horne, who has received the Orders of the Board to make such arrangements in quartering the Men & Officers as may be most advantageous to the Publick Service.

The Board are much concerned that the Service should require an Alteration, which will affect your present Command; & they direct.

Fort St George
17th May 1785 —

To Lieut. Colo
Cosby informing him
of the above and
offering him the
Command of
Palamcotah

1412 Fort St. George 17th May 1785

me to signify to you their perfect approbation of your Conduct with the assurance that they shall with pleasure avail themselves of the first opportunity of nominating you to a Command suitable to your Merit & Services — I am further directed by the Board to offer you the Command of Palamcotah, until Tanjore, or any other Garrison conformable to your Rank shall become vacant, but should not this be agreable to you, you have the Board's permission to remain with the Cantonment, or to return to the Presidency. ——

I am Sir

Your most obed.t Serv.t

(signed) John Chamier

Act.g Secretary

Fort St George
17th May 1785 —

Read the following Letter & Enclosures from

Lieut.t Orr —

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.

President & Governor &c Council

of Fort St George

My Lord & Gentlemen

Sir John Burgoynes publick Letter,

From Lieut.t Orr, enclosing his correspondence with Sir John Burgoyne, relating to the Conduct of a Dragoon belonging to the 23.d Regiment of Light Dragoons —

on so trivial an occasion, gives me no less concern than surprize. That I should, tho' ever so undeserving of it, be the subject of a Complaint to Government, "and "that a private message from me to Sir John,

which

1413 Fort St George 17th May 1785

which was intended to compliment and not to offend, should be the occasion thereof. — As Sir John has not only published my private notes to him, but has also given a partial extract from a letter I wrote to Colonel Floyd, it is necessary for me to lay the whole Correspondence, as well public as private, before your Honorable Board. — On the 30th of last month at evening parade, the Jemidars on duty in my line, came in great haste to me and reported, that a mounted Dragoon of the 23d Regt had, without provocation, pursued my grass Cutters with his sword drawn, close to the quarter Guard, where he beat several of them, and after having drove them from their grass, he was with much difficulty prevailed on to go away. That he was exceedingly drunk & behaved in a very irregular & unbecoming manner in front of the Sepoy Corps, who were drawn up for parade. The Jemidars reason for not having the Dragoon confined by the quarter Guard, was, that he apprehended I might censure him for using any violence, on account of the following standing orders. — "That no Officer or Sepoy of

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

of the Body Guard, should on any pretence, dispute or interfere with the 23d Regt., or the Nabobs Troops on pain, if an officer, of application being made to remove him, if a Sepoy, to be immediately discharged. — My reason for particularizing the 23d Regiment was, that on former occasions, when my station was Marmalon, I found it very difficult to protect my People from the irregularities of that Regiment, which I however effected by dint of private application to Col. Floyd, the result of which he is acquainted with: and it is unnecessary to assign any reason for being cautious with the Nabobs Troops. — Tho' as an Officer I ought to have represented the irregularities reported by the Jemidar, yet out of respect to the sentiments of the Right Honble the Governor / who I was convinced would not only be displeased but hurt, to hear of any disputes between that Corps and his Body Guard, as he had given particular directions to avoid them on every occasion / I gave the Jemidar Orders to take no farther notice of the matter, as it must have proceeded from

Right

Fort St George 17th May 1785

which was intended to compliment and not to offend, should be the occasion thereof.— As Sir John has not only published my private notes to him, but has also given a partial extract from a Letter I wrote to Colonel Floyd, it is necessary for me to lay the whole Correspon=dence, as well public as private, before your Honorable Board.— On the 30th of last month at evening parade, the Jemidar on duty in my line, came in great haste to me and reported, that a mounted Dragoon of the 23d Regt had, without provocation, pursued my grass Cutters with his sword drawn, close to the quarter Guard, where he beat several of them, and after having drove them from their grass, he was with much difficulty prevailed on to go away. That he was exceedingly drunk & behaved in a very irregular & unbecoming manner in front of the Sepoy Corps, who were drawn up for parade. The Jemidars reason for not having the Dragoon confined by the quarter Guard, was, that he apprehended I might censure him, for using any violence, on account of the following standing orders.— "That no Officer or Sepoy

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Fort St. George 8th May 1785

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1415 Fort St. George 17th May 1785

from Liquor—

After having dismissed the parade, a Sepoy & several grass Cutters came to me with a second complaint against a Dragoon of the same Corps, for assaulting him without provocation, with a sword drawn, when he was unarmed, and returning on the road near Sir John Burgoynes Garden with the grass Cutters under his charge. This Sepoy was so particular in his endeavours to avoid the Dragoon, that he not only informed him of the Corps he belonged to, or reporting also that he was on duty, but he shewed him his Regimental breast plate, notwithstanding which the Dragoon still persisted in striking and abusing him. — From the return of the grass Cutters without Grass, and their confirmation of the Sepoys report, I was convinced that they had been very ill treated, and after deliberating upon the best mode of getting redress, and considering that, tho' I could not apply to Sir John Burgoyne in a military capacity, he being under arrest, yet as the Dragoon

was

Fort S. George 17th May 1785

was stationed in his Garden. I conceived that Sir John was certainly entitled to the compliment of first referring the matter to him. ——

From these considerations, and my unwillingness that any such matter — should reach the Governor, I preferred a private to a public complaint, and immediately sent a Subidar / who spoke english / to Sir John, with a polite Message, requesting he would order my grass to be restored, and that he would be obligeing as to enquire into the complaints of my people. I dispatched this Officer from parade that the grass might arrive in time, intending on my return home, to address Sir John by letter, with an explanation of the business. —

The Subidar returned seemingly hurt at the indifference with which Sir John treated my message & just complaint, upon which I sent note No. 1. to Sir John, and the next morning I was favored with his answer No 2, to which I replyed by No. 3, and at the same time addressed Col. Floyd as Commanding Officer of the Regiment with letter No. 4, to which I had his answer No 5.

From

1415 Fort St. George 17th May 1786

from Liquor—

After having dismissed the parade, a Sepoy & several grass Cutters came to me with a second complaint against a Dragoon of the same Corps, for assaulting him without provocation, with a sword drawn, when he was unarmed, and returning on the road near Sir John Burgoynes Garden with the grass Cutters under his charge. This Sepoy was so particular in his endeavours to avoid the Dragoon, that he not only informed him of the Corps he belonged to, or porting also that he was on duty, but he shewed him his Regimental breast plate, notwithstanding which the Dragoon still persisted in striking and abusing him. — From the return of the grass Cutters without Grass, and their confirmation of the Sepoys report, I was convinced that they had been very ill treated, and after deliberating upon the best mode of getting redress, and considering that, tho' I could not apply to Sir John Burgoyne in a military capacity, he being under arrest, yet as the Dragoon was

Fort S. George 17th May 1785

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From

1417

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

From his expressions therein & his attempts to Justify the Quarter Master. I considered myself obliged as an Officer to demand a Court Martial upon the Quarter Master / on the part of those, under my Command, who complained to me / as will appear by my letter N°6. — In which Ialso express my unwillingness to prosecute the Quarter Master & signify a desire of withdrawing my Complaint on his making proper concessions. but the Colonel has returned me no answer to this letter of complaint, and as the 23d. Regiment is not exempt from the Laws, by which other Corps preserve their regularity & good order, I think it may not be improper for me to repeat my application to the Colonel; but this must be submitted to your superior Judgment. —

I have now My Lord & Gentlemen, given you a faithful relation of the whole transaction, and tho' I humbly conceive that I am the only person who have any reason to complain, yet I never could have prevailed on myself to have troubled You with so unimportant

1418

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

unimportant & trifling a matter, was I not obliged to do it in my own justification, and in obedience to your Orders, which I have had the honor of receiving this day from the Secretary

I have the honor to be,

My Lord & Gentlemen,

with great Respect,

Your most obedient

& humble Servant

(signed) J Orr

Lieut.

Comm.t Gov.t M.G.d

Fort St. George
10th May 1785-

No 1

Mr. Orr presents his Compliments to Sir John Burgoyne, he sent a Subidar this Evening with Compliment.ts, to represent that a Dragoon of the 23d. Regiment had drawn his Sword upon an unarmed Sepoy and four grass Cutters of the Governors Body guard, and carried their Grass by force to Sir John's Garden, where part of the Regiments Horses are picketted, The Subidar is Just returned with an Answer, that if Mr. Orr had any business with Sir John he might wait upon him. ——

Mr. Orrs application to Sir John was a private one & never intended

as

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

as a matter of duty, which mode Mr. Orr pursued out of Compliment to Sir John, with an intention of submitting the matter entirely to him, as the agressor was stationed in his Garden — Mr. Orr now observes, that as the Message delivered by the Subidar is not couched in that genteel Stile which Mr. Orr conceives would come from Sir John Burgoyne, he cannot suppose it did, but that it has arisen from some — misunderstanding or want of explanation, and Mr. Orrs idea of the matter will continue so, until he is favoured with Sir John's answer. —

30th April 1785 —

No 2

Major General Sir John Burgoyne

Has received a Note from Lieut. Orr with a Complaint against a Dragoon of the 23d. Regmt. — if any Dragoon has behaved ill, he must be prosecuted by a Court Martial, & if Lieut. Orr wishes to prefer that Complaint himself to Major General Sir John Burgoyne, he will of course think it his duty to wait on Major General Sir John Burgoyne, and not send a Black Officer to him — M. Gen.l Sir John Burgoyne does not understand what Lieut.

Orr

1420 Fort St. George 17th May 1785

Orr means by a private application on a point of public Military duty, or Complaints. —

May 8. 1785 -

No. 3.

Mr. Orr is sorry to find from Sir John Burgoyne's Note. that the expression in his / of a private application / should not be understood. —

Delicacy to Sir John's unfortunate Situation prevented Mr. Orr from being more explicit, and as he could not address Sir John in a military capacity he, at the same time, thought it a Compliment due, on the present occasion, to leave the matter to Sir John's private decision, particularly as the Dragoon who had behaved so irregularly was Stationed in Sir John's Garden. — Such were Mr. Orr's motives, and he is sorry he cannot help observing, that he does not believe there is a single Gentleman in the Settlement who would not on a Similar Complaint, particularly a private one, have given immediate redress, by ordering the grass to be restored, and at least have taken precautions to prevent the like again, — as Mr. Orr is obliged to proceed in a public

manner,

1421 Fort St. George 17th May 1785

manner, he will, if possible, find out the name of the Dragoon and send a Crime against him to Col.o Floyd, or the Officer now Commanding the 23d. Regiment.—

7th May 1785.

No 4.—

Sir,

A Dragoon of the 23d. Regim.t who is Stationed with the Horses near Sir John Burgoynes House, drew his Sword yesterday Evening and attacked an unarmed Sepoy and four Grass Cutters of the Governors Body Guard, after using them very ill, he carried the Grass to Sir John Burgoynes Garden: tho' the Sepoy informed them of their Corps.— I thought it a Compliment due to Sir John to report the matter to him as a private Gentleman, his Situation not admitting any Military application to be made thro' him, but he has convinced me how undeserving he has been of that attention, which obliges me to Complain to you as Commanding Officer of the Regiment.— My present application is to request you will if possible prevent such irregularities in future, as my grass Cutters are already

1422 Fort St George 17th May 1785

already beginning to desert, in consequence of the bad usage of yesterday — nor could I prevail on them to return to their duty this morning, without sending a Guard of Sepoys for their protection; I have given the Guard strict Orders not to molest or offend any person, at the same time to be answerable to me for the protection of the Grass Cutters under their charge, I Judge it necessary to make this known to you as Commanding Officer of the Regiment, as your authority may preserve regularity amongst the party of your Regiment at Sir Johns, and prevent any accident that many happen between them and my Grass Escort, in case the latter should be again attacked. —

If I can find out the Dragoons name, who has behaved so ill, I will send a Crime against him. —

I am Sir
&c &c

Fort St George
17th May 1785 —

No 5

Lieut. Orr

Sir/

I received your letter of yesterdays date

1423

Fort St George 17th May 1785

date, complaining of Grass being taken &c.a —

I have made Enquiry, & find the story thus; Grass was stopd by a Quarter Master, going over the Island Bridge, towards Madras — He drew his Sword to alarm the people to compliance, as he brought it, the Commandant of the Governors Guard said it belongd to you, & spoke with proper respect — The Quarter Master gave up the Grass directly, & was going away, when many of the Sepoys present burst into a laugh — The Quarter Master turned back, told the Commandant He was on Duty, & it was improper in the Sepoys to behave so. ——

He afterwards met two people with Grass near Mr Balfour's and stopd them — a Sepoy came up, said it belongd to somebody. and called him a Banchute; for which the Quarter Master threshd him, but left the Grass. —

I believe you will perceive by this, The Quarter Master has not been to blame & that your information is not correct. —

As to what regards Major General

1424 Fort St. George 17th May 1785

General Sir John Burgoyne, I don't doubt but at a proper time, you will have proper notice on the Subject, I am

Sir

Your most obed.t

Humble. Servant

J. Floyd Cole

St. Thome

2. May 1785 —

No 6.

Sir

I last night received your letter in answer to mine complaining of a Dragoon of the 23d Regiment. As I find he is a Quarter Master & that you know his name, I request you will bring him to a General Court Martial —

I will then make it appear that he has in several instances behaved very unbecoming the Military Station he is in, & with great Irregularity. also that the information upon which you observe mine to be erroneous / is not Just. —

The perusal of your letter which is chiefly in relation of the Quarter Masters story will in my opinion convince every impartial person how ill he has behaved, but particularly

1425

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

particularly that an improper expression, which says, he thrashed the Sepoy. — I will make it appear that neither the Sepoy nor the grass Cutters gave him the least provocation or offence, & that he assaulted them with a Sword drawn, when in the Execution of their duty — Surely this new mode of carrying on duty, by pursuing in offensive natures withdrawn Swords, will not appear well before a Court Martial & I am of opinion that Government would be highly displeased to hear that any Troops under them should be so employed. —

I am so averse to bringing the Quarter Master to a Court Martial, or to be the means of hurting him, that if he will acknowledge he is sorry for having beat & ill treated my People, and is convinced of the impropriety of thrashing them, as is the term in your letter I will instantly withdraw my Complaint — but as the Commanding officer of the people who have complained, I cannot do it on other terms. —

I am
Sir
&c &c

Fort St. George
3d May 1785 —

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Fort St. George 17th May 1785

Observations of the Board on the foregoing Subject—

Altho' the Board have thought proper to enter on Record the Correspondence that has passed between Sir John Burgoyne Colonel Floyd and Lieut. Ort, they are satisfied that the Matter should for the present rest as it is — It is their wish to remove as far as depends upon them the Differences that have taken place with His Majesty's Officers, and where they can avoid Complaints without materially suffering in their Authority it is their Intention, and always has been their practice to embrace the alternative — The Subject of the Correspondence speaks for itself and the Board have exhibited it here only with the view of shewing to their Employers an Instance among many others of the Spirit by which some of his Majesty's Officers are actuated in their Behaviour towards this Government and its Dependants — They cannot however but express their approbation of the Conduct of Lieut. Ort, which appears to them to have been every becoming & Meritorious. ——

Agreed

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

Agreed that the Letter from Sir John Burgoyne of the 2d. Instant with Lieut. Orrs Answer, also the above Observations of the Board upon the Complaint exhibited against Lt. Ott be transmitted Number in the Packet. —

Resolution in Consequence. —

Mr. Daniell delivers in the following Observations upon Colo. Ross's Letter to the Chief & Council of Masulipatam entered in last Consultation. —

Observations on Colonel Ross's Letter to the Board of Masulipatam, under Date the 24th April 1785.

Mr. Daniell's Observations on Lieut. Colonel Ross's Letter to the Chief and Council of Masulipatam. —

While Ellore continues to be considered the most eligible cantonment for the principal part of the Troops in the Masulipa=tam districts, no other out garrison will be of any material use — The situation of Ellore — in a troublesome Zemindary — commanding the Frontiers both South and Westward — its vici=nity to Masulipatam — and the abundance of Provision &c. all unite to render that a Garrison most proper for the Principal Cantonment —

The possession of Masulipatam with a sufficient body of Troops to keep the field

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

field are the best securities against any Enemy who may invade them and to preserve the Zemindars in that obedience in time of danger. —

It may be of some service to have a certain number of Sepoys Cantoned at Condipillee, and Circumstances should Regulate the number to be kept there — Condipillee is the high Road, or rather one of the high Roads to Hydrabad — the Fort of Gundiveur in the Nizam's territories is within sight of it — and the officer Commanding may sometimes obtain useful intelligence — altho' this part of security should depend more upon the intelligence obtained by the Chief of Masulipatam — The unhealthiness of the Situation of Condipillee in the unhealthy season is obviated to our Troops by their annual Cantonment at Bezoarra during that Period. —

The fort of Samulcotah might be of use for the Reasons mentioned by Colonel Ross. after a landing may have been effected by a European Enemy upon that part of the Coast — but the best mode of averting such an Evil is a sufficient Force with field pieces Cantoned in the Barracks at Coringa in readiness to move at

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

at a moments warning to any part of that Bay—
and that Port should be always occupied on a
declaration of War with any European Power—
Whether the Fort of Samulcotah may be put
into a state of defence or not, the above precaution
will always be found indispensably necessary at
that time, but no Sepoys should be stationed there
previous to it, that no Impediments mentioned by
Colonel Ross should be thrown in the way of
Trade artificers &c.— whenever the state of the
Company's treasury will admit of disbursements on
Fortifications, the Strength and defence of
Masulipatam is undoubtedly the first great
object— While that Garrison can be preserved,
we have little to apprehend for the districts—
It may perhaps then be thought necessary to
secure the Fort of Samulcotah for the reasons
mentioned by Colonel Ross and for preventing the
inclination of the Zemindars in favor of the French
or other European Power if ever they should effect
a landing— but I confess I am rather of opinion
it should be suffered to fall to decay— for if any
European Enemy should once get possession of such
a Fort in the very heart of the Rajahmandry

Circar

1430 Fort St. George 17th May 1785

Circar they would Collect the Revenues of those districts, and enable themselves to advance to the Southward to attempt the Reduction of — Masulipatam —

I say nothing of the Fort of Rajah = mundry as a post of defence — the Nullahs generally full by the over flowings of the Guadavery — and the River filled, no troops can possibly pass without great assistance from Boats — when the River falls the difficulties arising from the river and Nullahs may be easily overcome. —

I admit Colonel Ross's opinion in some degree respecting the Artillery at Ellore — a Few Brass six and three ℔rs should be left there for immediate service, because in the rainy season it would belong ere Guns could reach that Garrison from Masulipatam from the badness of the Roads, and under an Idea that those Guns may be sufficient for Artillery practice, the Rest should be secured in the Arsenal of Masulipatam — —

The roof of the Commandants house at Samulcotah should be repaired, if it is intended to be continued a Captains Command — otherwise the quarters are sufficient — those quarters should certainly

be

Fort St George 17th May 1785

be kept in Repair — but until it is determined — whether the Fortifications should be put into a state of defence, it is quite unnecessary to Rebuild Granaries or Storehouses —

The Bay and Port of Coringa may hereafter become of infinite importance — but the first consideration respecting the improvement of that Port must originate from the real utility of the Bay. — Mariners however differ widely in their opinions on the extent of utility to which the Bay may be applied. — Lest that it may be no longer a matter of Opinion, and that His Majestys Ships or any others may benefit by a perfect Knowledge of the Bay, I would Recommend that an Experienced Mariner and drafts-man may be immediately employed to take the Soundings bearings distances &c by which to form an accurate Chart of it; and the opinion of Mr. Hamilton on the benefits Resulting to the Company from the Trade Imports and Exports of that Port accompanied by that Chart will form a necessary piece of information to be forwarded to Europe for the future orders of our Constituents on that subject. —

If the shed in the Compound

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

adjacent to the Arsenal is insufficient to keep the Gun Carriages from the weather others should be built, (if it can be done) within that Compound, that all the Stores may be as much together as possible - If this cannot be done without incurring an additional expense by enlarging the Compound, and without encroaching on the new formed Streets, they should be built on a spare piece of Ground opposite the Arsenal where the Company's Timber is now deposited. ——

(Signed) J. Daniell

Read the following Letter from the Committee of Assigned Revenue. ——

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney &c
President and Governor &c Council
Fort St. George

My Lord and Gentlemen

From the Committee of Assigned Revenue the Renter of Arnee fails in the Payment of his Kist, and his Security declares his Inability to make it good Recommending that Government adopt some effectual Method to obtain it. —

The Renter of Arnee not having paid any part of a Kist of eleven thousand Pagodas which became due on the 30th March last, We called upon his Security Sumbajee Vakeel to the Raja of Tanjore to make good that Sum to the Company, but he declares his utter Inability to do so, on account of the want of rain in the Country

1433 Fort St. George 17 May 1785

Country which he represents has destroyed the Crops and prevented the Renter from supplying him with any Funds whatever to Discharge his Security, We beg leave to represent this Circumstance to your Lordship, &c. and to request, as Sumbajee the Security is in a Character which shelters him from the effectual Influence of the Committee, that you will employ your Endeavours to obtain Payment of the Rist. —

We have the Honor to be,
My Lord & Gentlemen
Your most obedient
humble Servants
Chas. Oakeley
(signed) David Haliburton
Geo. Moubray

Fort St. George
4th May 1785 —

Agreed that the Committee of Assigned Revenue be desired again to call upon Sambaya, to make good the Sum for which he is Security, acquainting him that if he do not pay the Money, proper Representations will be made to the Rajah his Master, & the Country will be immediately

Minute thereon —

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

immediately taken from the Man, for whom he is Security — The Board trust that these Intima= =tions will be attended with good Effects. ——

Sir John Burgoyne's Letter of the 3. Instant taken into Consideration. —

The Letter from Sir John Burgoyne of the 3d. Instant / entered in the Diary / being taken into Consideration the Board proceed to give their Sentiments and to make some Observations upon it. —

Minute thereon

Minute in Council 17th May 1785 —

Sir John Burgoyne in his Letter of the 3d. Instant has enumerated the particulars, on which he grounds the Insinuation contained in a former Letter that he would but little suppose a Project, so much for the advantage of His Majesty's Service (as that of recruiting the 23d. Regiment of Dragoons with Horses / would meet with any assistance, or Support from the Government of Madras. ——

We have experienced such disrespectful behavior, and Language in the Conduct and correspondence of Sir John Burgoyne, that We think ourselves fully justified in the resolution, We have taken to receive no further communications from him,

Relative

1435

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

relative to the 23d Regiment of Dragoons, unless they be transmitted thro' the regular channel. —

Sir John Burgoyne charges us with refusing our aid to his Majesty's Service, because We declined interfering in a Contract, or Bargain, which was concerted between the Governor General & Council of Bengal, and himself, without the Intervention of this Presidency, and without our being then sufficiently apprised of the Conditions of such Bargain, to enable us to judge of the Requisitions made by Sir John Burgoyne in consequence of it. —

Sir John Burgoyne thinks probably that it will answer his purpose to mix his Majesty's high name with his own concerns; but We trust our Employers will not for a Moment be deceived by so weak an attempt to cover with the respectable Name of our Sovereign, the private Interests, and Passions of an Individual.

But Sir John Burgoyne seems on every occasion to think, and to act, as if the Servants of the Company and the Finances of the Company are to be equally at His call for whatever Purposes he shall be pleased to dignify with the appellation of His Majesty's Service, and that the Company's

Fort St George 17th May 1785

Government is not at liberty to judge on such occasions what is best for the Interest of its' constituents, under pain of being censured for refusing, or withholding its aid from his Majestys Service, as if there were any distinction in this country, between his Majestys and the Companys Service, or that the Interests of the one, could be promoted by a sacrifice of the Interests of the other. —

The Instance of General Lang's Promotion to his present rank is adduced by Sir John Burgoyne, as another Proof of our disregard to his Majestys Service. — This Measure we were compelled to by Sir John himself, for the purpose of maintaining the Rights of the Companys Govern.t and the Peace of their affairs, We were authorised to do it, by Charter and by a special Instruction from the Company in February 1781, & reiterated in the General Letter of the 7th September 1783 — Your conduct be disapproved by his Majesty, as Sir John seems to insinuate, our Employers must answer for us, since we acted in obedience to their Instruction, and for the Benefit of their Service. —

The other Instances brought by Sir John Burgoyne, to prove our inattention to his Majestys Service, are all suppositions founded on the same principle as the foregoing — that is to say, that his Majestys

Fort St. George 17th. May 1785

Majesty's Service is not only to precede, but to exclude all other Service, and that We are not at liberty to apply the Company's Money, as We may think best for the Relief of their Exigencies— Our reason for not wishing to recruit the Dra= =goons, was because We thought it an idle waste of public Money to have more Men than = Horses— We are of the same opinion still, and that these Men who were enlisted for the 23d. Regt. would better have been transferred on this Account to the Infantry, where they could be of use—

The Charge of ordering the Troops that came round from Bombay, to Bengal before the Regiments here could = recruit from them is not well founded — = The Fact is that the Troops from Bombay were not disembarked on account of the lateness of the Season, The Ships Admiral Hughes and Camden on board of which they came were obliged to proceed to Bengal without loss of time, however during the few days they remain'd in the roads, there was an opportunity which we believe was not neglected to enlist such

of

of the Troops on board as were disposed to remain in India. —

The Board did certainly object as Sir John Burgoyne observes to the Project of buying Horses for the Regiment because they were unable to bear the additional Expence that would be incurred thereby and because the Necessity of recruiting Horses did not press so strongly, after the War was at an end, as the heavy Barthen of the Company's Debts and arrears to the Army which required and do still require almost the whole of our current resources. Sir John makes great use on this Occasion of the Approval which his Project for recruiting Horses obtained from the Governor General and Council of Bengal but this Approval which seems to have been obtained by the Surprize of a direct application to them, makes nothing against our Argument since the Gentlemen at Bengal were not informed of the Reasons we had to urge against the Project, and appear by their subsequent Letters to us, to have been conscious of the Impropriety of interfering in a matter which purely belonged to the Detail

of

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

of this Presidency —

Our Motives for not making a Reformation in the manner of supporting and feeding the Horses of the 23d. Regiment are explained in our Letter to the Governor General and Council at Bengal of the 10th Instant and whether any alteration should now take place is left to their Judgement, for as they have taken up the Business of this Regiment in part by contracting with Sir John Burgoyne for Horses, it will be more regular and perhaps more beneficial to the Public, as well as creditable to themselves that they should have the whole Arrangement of it. —

As to any resentment to Sir John Burgoyne which he supposes in the board we are conscious of intertaining no Sentiments of that kind towards him. ——

Read the following Letter from Colonel Straubenzee. —

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.
President & Governor &c. Council of Fort St. George

My Lord and Sirs/

I have the honour to inform

1440

Fort St. George 17th May 1785 —

From Col. Straubenzee represents the bad Quality of the Mutton sent to Poonamallee for the use of the Garrison. —

you that the Mutton for the use of this Garrison, has been for some time past so very bad, as to occasion great complaints among the men. I beg leave to request, that your Lordship &c. will take such steps, as you may judge necessary, to procure us provisions of a superior quality. —

I have the Honor to be,

My Lord & Sirs

Your most obedient

Humble Servant

(signed) F. Straubenzee

Col.

Poonamalee
May 12th. —

The President informs the Board that as soon as the above Letter was received he directed an Enquiry to be made into the causes of Complaint against the Provisions at Poonamalee, & has ordered such steps to be taken, as he hopes will prevent future Complaints, the following Letter is in consequence drafted — & ordered to be Dispatched. ——

The President orelates the steps taken by him in consequence of the foregoing Letter —

To Colonel Straubenzee
Commanding at Poonamalee. —

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honble

President

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Fort S.t George 17.th May 1785

to Coll.o Stratenzee
Directions have been
given to remedy the
Evil complained of
by him. ——

President & Council to acknowledge the Receipt
of your Letter of the 12.th Instant & to inform
you that in consequence of your Letter to the
Board complaining of the badness of the Mutton
supplied for the Garrison of Pondamalee, the
Merchants who purchase & bring Sheep
from the Northward to sell to the Butchers
at Madras, & in it's Neighbourhood have been
sent to and required to furnish the Butchers
who supply the Troops at Pondamalee with
better Sheep than they have hitherto done.
which they have promised to do accordingly in
presence of the Butchers who were sent for
at the same time - If therefore they should
neglect to do so, & that the Complaints of the
Soldeers respecting this Article of Provisions
should not be removed, you are requested
to represent it again to the Board, who will
do any thing that is possible to have them
supplied better, tho' it will happen in spite
of all that can be done, that the Sheep will
not be equally good at all times, & this is
likely to be the case in the Interval between
the expenditure of the old, & the arrival

of

1442 Fort St. George 17th May 1785

of a new Flock. as they fall off for want of Pasture if kept any time about this place. —

I am
Sir
Your most obed.t Serv.t
(signed) John Chamier
Sec.y to Secrecy

Fort St. George
17th May 1785 —

The President lays before the Board the following Letters entered in Country Correspon:
Nos. 55-56. —

From the Bibby of Cananore requesting that some Effects & Goods belonging to two Maldiva Merchants, which were sent to Madras, & seized, should be restored to the Owners —

Substance of a Letter from the Bibby of Cananore —

She Boats with the Goods mentioned in the Bibby of Cananore's Letter were taken by His Majestys Fleet some years ago — It is impossible for the Board to give any relief to the sufferers. —

Minute thereon.

From the Rajah of Travancore, — desiring that the Sepoys whom he sent to Tinnevelly during the War, may be returned to him. —

Substance of a Letter from the Rajah of Travan=core —

Agreed that Mr. Irwin be desired to send back the Sepoys to the Rajah of Travancore and that Orders be sent to Capt.n Bilcliffe to attend

The Rajah's Request to be complied with —

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Fort St. George 17th May 1785

attend to Mr. Irwins Requisition from this purpose—

Read the following Report from the Committee of Stores.—

Fort St. George 9th May 1785

At a Committee of Stores—

Present

Lieut. General Ross Lang
Lieut. Coll. Patrick Ross
Lieut. Coll. Jos. Moorhouse
Bryan Scottney Esqr. (absent)

Read Proceedings of the 9th & 20th Ultimo.—

Report of the Committee of Stores the 9th May, with the Boards Remarks thereon.——

In consequence of an Order of the Right Honble President & Council in the former ordering the contractor for Gun Carriages to "Stop till further orders"

a Letter, a Copy of which is to be laid before the Right Honble President & Council, has been received & is now read from Mr. Scottney. The Commander in Chief & Commissary Genl. of Stores remark, that

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Fort St George 17th May 1785

having a few days ago, been in the Contractors yard they there saw the Carriages &c in very great forwardness & every thing in the exact state represented in the Letter from the Contractor

To be complied, but no no more put in hand till further orders —

As the Gun Carriages & Limbrils that have been with the Army during the War and have served in the Field nearly 4 Years without becoming unserviceable, except those rendered so by the Enemy's Shot, are now, by long and severe service, much shaken, & the wood so much decayd, that the Bolts & nails begin to loosen, it is not to be expected they can be used much longer —

The Committee therefore convinced of the truth of what Mr Scattney says, in stating the Loss he must sustain, if now obligd to desist, & of the merit due to him in having hitherto so well acquitted himself; as well as thinking it highly necessary for the good of the Service

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Service that the Contract should be complicated, beg leave to recom=
=mend that the Carriages &c mentioned by the Commander in Chief and Commissary Genl. of Stores to be in such forwards=
=ness, be finished & received. —

The Committee further beg leave to observe that previous to the above mentiond order of the Right Honble President & Council, 6 new 12 Pdr. Garrison Trail Carriages came in from the Contractor which they found well finish'd & fit to be received — To be received

Read Letter from the Actg Mil.y Secretary enclosing two Indents from Cuddalore, which it is agreed shall be compli'd with as far as the State of the Stores will admit. Approved

The Commissary Genl. of Stores lays before the Committee a Proof of Negapatam Ordnance which it is agreed shall accompany these Proceedings. ——

also Indents from Chingleput the Amount of

Pagodas

1446 Fort St. George 17th May 1785

Approved

Coonam allow to be complied with as far as the State of the Stores will admit. ——

Ross Lang

(signed) " Patrick Ross

" J Moorhouse

Read the following Letter from the Resident at Tanjore with Enclosure —

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.
President & Governor
&c. &c. Council. —

My Lord and Gentlemen Fort St. George

I have the honor to transmit you Copy of a Representation which I have received from Lieut. Coke the Senior Officer of Sibendies in behalf of the Officers and Men of that Corps, and in particular the Situation of the Officers of the 4th Battalion who are reduced by the late Orders. ——

With regard to those Officers as their merit, and Services in the late war seem to be universally acknowledged, and they are considered as equal to the best native Officers in the regular Corps,

From the Resident at Tanjore, enclosing a Representation of Lieutenant Coke the Senior Officer of the Sibbendies in behalf of the Officers and Men of that Corps; and recommending their Situation to the favorable Consideration of the Board ——

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Corps. I promised Lieutenant Cobe to recommend their case to your favorable Consideration. Should your Lordship &c.a approve of allowing them as a provision during Peace, the Pay of — Sibbendy Officers, the Expence to the Company would be no more than 26 Pag.s to Month, a Sum that would be well bestowed if it prevented their entertaining in any foreign Service and preserved their attachment to the Company.— Respecting the pay of both the Officers and Men of the Sibbendy Corps I apprized Lieut.t Cobe that they must not expect any Increase, and on his reporting to me yesterday that the Men of the 4.th Batt.n who were wanted to compleat the other Battalions to the Establishment had unanimously refused to entertain, I desired him to give every Man his discharge who asked for it, and to enlist others from the Country in their Room. ——

On account of their Services it were to be wished that the whole of the 4.th Batt.n could be retained as Sibbendies but the necessity of effecting every possible reduction of Expence prevented my giving them any hopes of it. — I trust however that your Lordship will approve

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approve of my intention to pay the discharged Men
3 or 4 Months of their Arrears as soon as their
Accounts are adjusted. ——

I am concerned to inform your Lordship &c.a
that Cawder Cawn died a few days after I had
communicated to him your Resolution in his favor,
and has left a Widow and large Family in
great distress — His Brother has strongly urged
me to intercede with your Lordship &c.a in
their behalf, and obtain for them the Allowance
which Cawder Cawn was to have enjoyed. —
This, on account of the precedent it would
establish, I can not venture to ask, but I should
be happy to receive your permission to present
them with a Sum of Money, or to relieve
them in any other way that your Lordship and
the Honorable Board may approve. ——

I have the Honor to be with
the greatest Respect. ——

My Lord & Gentlemen
Your most obedient
faithful Servant
/Signed/ J Hudleston

Tanjore
3.d May 1785 —

To

1449 Fort St. George 17. May 1785

To John Huddleston Esqr.

Resident

Tanjore

Sir

In consequence of the Orders of the 8th April, reducing the Sibendy Corps to their former establishment and allowances, I address you to state the Situation of the native Officers & Sepoys of those Corps, who have unanimously requested me, as Senior Officer, to represent their Hardships thro' you to the Board.

At the time the Sibendys were raised, the long Arrears due to most of the Officers from his Highness the Nabob, from whose Service most of them were taken by Colonel Barrows, rendered the small allowance they were to receive monthly, an object for them to accept, as they could not quit the Country to seek another Master without forfeiting all hopes of recovering what was then due. Provisions were also at that time 50 Per Cent cheaper than at present, & their Situation in the different Villages so enabled them to live almost for nothing. At present the case is widely different, not only

1450 Fort St. George 17th May 1785

on Account of the exceſſive price of every neceſſary of Life, but the habit & name of a Soldier, ſo far from aſſiſting them in procuring what they may want, precludes them from the common priviledges of every other Inhabitant, of purchaſing in the Bazars thoſe Articles which are neceſſary for their maintenance, unleſs they agree to pay the most exorbitant price— They have during the War been employed on every fatiguing Service, & have always behaved in ſuch a manner as to merit the thanks of the Officers under whom they ſerved.— They beg the length of Arrears they labored under, while thus employed, & the patience with which they ſubmitted to every hardſhip, in hopes of meeting their reward when peace ſhould be eſtabliſhed— They hope when theſe circumſtances are properly repreſented to the + Board ſome alteration may be made in the Order reſpecting them, as otherwiſe they will hardly be able to ſupport themſelves and Families, ſtill leſs to keep up that appearance which they have been taught it their duty to obſerve—

The Native Officers of the 4th Batt.

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

Batt.r particularly request that their Situation may be considered; they have every Claim on the Service which the patient endurance of Hardships, and a Strict Attention to their Duty during the course of the War can give; and they are now left destitute of every means of Support, unless they chuse to adopt the only Road left open to them, that of taking Service with those whom they have long considered as their bitterest Enemies. ——

General Lang, when he commanded to the Southward, promised them, as well as the + Officers of the other Liberdy Corps, that He would represent their Services & Merits to Government in such a manner, as to secure them Commissions in the service of the Company and they have no doubt but the General will now bear testimony of the truth of what they have alledged of their general good Conduct. ——

The Honble Board have established a provision for all the native Officers of other Corps which have been reduced and the officers of the 4.th Liberdy

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Fort St. George 17th May 1785

Batt.n hope that some provision may be made for them, 'till Vacancies may happen in the other Battalions, which they may fill —

Let me request you Sir, to represent the Situation of these men to the Honble Board, with such Argument as you may think necessary to urge in their favor, & believe that nothing could have induced me to trouble you on the Subject but a Conviction of the truths which they have stated, and a wish to prevent a number of Valuable Officers, who would do honor to any Service, from leaving ours and going over to that of an Enemy. —

I have the Honor to be
Sir
with respect
Your most obedient
& humble Servant
Thom.s Coke Lt.
Comm.g 1st Batt.n
Sebendies. —

Tanjore
28th April 1785

A true Copy
(Signed) J Hudleston

Lieut.t Cokes Representation disapproved of by the Board —

The Board disapprove very much the Letter from Lieut.t Coke, & direct the following Letters to be written to him, and to Mr. Hudleston in consequence. —

To

1455 Fort St. George 17th May 1785

a good effect, & prevent idle applications to Government in future. —

I am
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
(signed) John Chanier
Actg Secretary

Fort St. George
May 17th 1785.

To Lieutenant Thomas Coke —
at Tanjore —

Sir

The President at Tanjore having transmitted to the Board Copy of a Letter which you have judged proper to address him on the subject of the late Orders for the Establishment of Subbendies, I am directed to express the strong displeasure of the President & Council, who find it difficult to account for your conduct in making representations upon points, & Measures on which the Govern=ment had already determined, & issued their Orders — It is the duty of an Officer, especially of one favored as you have been, to discourage all unreasonable application from those under his Command, & especially to and

To Lieutenant Coke, highly disapproving his Conduct, on transmitting his Representation to the President of Tanjore —

the

1456 Fort St. George 17th. May 1785

The Company on every retrenchment of expence, to the utmost of his power, instead of presuming to propose alterations in their Orders, for such retrenchments. —

At the End of every War there must always be a great Number of Officers and Sepoys necessarily reduced. — It is the case in all Services in the World, & those who enter into them well Know before hand the advantages & disadvantages that are possible to occur and take their Chance accordingly. —

The necessity of every possible Oconomy is much stronger in the mind of Government than any Chimera you may entertain of a few discharged Sibbendys going over to the Service of Tippoo, —

It is hoped that this Letter of admonition will have a proper effect upon you in your future conduct. & that I shall have no occasion to address you in a Similar Style. —

I am
Sir
Your most Obed. Servt.
(Signed) John Chamier
Act. J. Secy

Fort St. George
17th. May 1785 —

1457 Fort St. George 17th May 1785.

Read the following Letters from Masulipatam with their Enclosures (entered in No. B Nos. 35, 36)

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K.B.
President & Governor &c Council

Fort St. George

My Lord & Gentlemen

We are honored with your Commands thro' your Secretary, under date the 23d. ultimo, and every possible means shall be used to hasten the Lappies; but it is not always in our power to dispatch one Lappy the instant another comes in, unless an additional number of Peons were to be employed, because it is otherwise necessary to detain the Southern Lappys, for instance till the arrival of those from Maddapollam, Ellore & Condapilly, which, in rainy weather particularly, do not always arrive at the same time; we shall however be careful not to detain any Lappys after all those on which its dispatch depends are collected.

Colonel Ross in his letter Copy of which we forwarded to your Lordship &c under date the 26th. Ultimo, having recommended that a part of the Escarp wall of the Ditch should be immediately rebuilt, we have the honor herewith

From Masulipatam, relative to the Lappies; enclosing the Engineer's Estimate of the Expence to be incurred in rebuilding a Part of the Escarp Wall of the Ditch; — & requesting the orders of the Board on the Lunatics at this Settlement.

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Fort St. George 17th May 1785

herewith to transmit you our Engineers Estimate of the expence, and request your orders as soon as possible, whether or not it shall be undertaken that it may be completed before the setting in of the heavy Rains, which Colonel Ross thinks necessary. —

We think it necessary to acquaint your Lordship &c that there are three people here who are insane, one of whom was the second Mate of the Company's Ship Admiral Hughes, left on shore by Captain Smith when he was at this place; and as there is no proper place for confining Lunaticks, we have been under the necessity of renting a House for him; There is also a constant Monthly expence incurred by maintaining those unfortunate Men, in consequence of which we — Orequest to know whether your Lordship &c would have us send them to the Presidency, from whence there are frequent opportunities of sending them to Europe, which may possibly Orecover them. —

Masulipat.m
3. May 1785

We have the honor to be
Very respectfully
My Lord & Gentlemen
Your most Obt & humble Servts
(signed) James Rodges
John Peter Boileau
Tho. Barnard

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To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Governor &c. Council of
Fort St. George

My Lord and Gentlemen

We have already had the honor of acquainting you, that the Troops embarked on the Snow Lenora for the Northern Subordinate Settlements, were landed at Nizampatam, and We have now the satisfaction of informing Your Lordship &c. that they are arrived at Guntoor under the Command of Captain Smith, and that the Invalids and Pensioners will immediately march into this Garrison, and the Artillery proceed to Ellore. —

From Masulipatam; the Troops embarked on the Snow Lenora arrive at Guntoor — Enclosing Captain Smith's Representation of the Conduct of the Master of that Vessel, in Consequence of which they — Resolve not to pay his Bill for Freight.

We have written to the Chiefs and Councils of Vizagapatam and Ganjam, acquainting them with what has happened, and that we have applied for your Orders in what manner to dispose of the Invalids — destined for those factories, which We hope soon to be favoured with. —

We thought it necessary to call on Captain Smith to inform us by what means it arose that the Troops should have been

Bomack

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

so much distressed for want of fresh water, as to occasion the necessity of their being Landed, at a considerable distance from this place, and we have herewith the Honor to transmit to your Lordship &c. a Copy of his Reply, together with a Paper of Information of the Circumstances, signed by three Officers who were on Board, in consequence of which we have Resolved not to pay the amount of the Bill which you have drawn on us in favor of Captain Power until we receive your further Orders ——

The Leonora has since got out of the Bay by means of the Land wind, but as she has not put in here we have reason to suppose that the Commander has purposely passed this Port. ——

We have the Honor to be
very Respectfully
My Lord and Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
Humble Servants
James Hodges
John. Peter Boileau
Tho. Barnard

(Signed)

Masulipatam
4th May 1785 } ——

Fo

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Fort St George 17th May 1785

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Governor &c Council
of
Fort St George

My Lord and Gentlemen

From Masulipatam representing the Conduct of Lieut. Macalister as extremely unwarrantable: in having insulted the Civil Government in the Person of Mr. Hodges the acting Chief; and stating the steps taken by them in Consequence. ——

We are concerned to be under the necessity of troubling you on the subject of a Circumstance which happened here yesterday Morning; but when it is considered that to have passed it over unnoticed, would have been little less than relinquishing our Authority in this Place, as a Civil Government, we persuade ourselves that your Lordships &c will approve of the measures we have taken, and afford us the fullest support— For the particulars of the Circumstance alluded to, We beg leave to refer your Lordship &c to the enclosed Extract from our Minutes of Consultation, which, We trust, need no Comment, to convince you of the egregious and Public insult offered to the Civil Power here, in the Person of Mr. Hodges, who is in Charge of the Settlement, & when in a manner in the actual exercise of his Duty, by a Lieutenant belonging to the Garrison— We shall therefore proceed to acquaint your Lordship &c with the measures which we have

taken

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taken in consequence ——

Mr. Hodges having assembled us in Council, and Reported to us what had passed, We Agreed that a Letter should be written to the Officer Commanding the Troops in Garrison, informing him, that Mr. Hodges having exhibited a charge against Lieutenant Macalester, for insulting him in the most gross and Public manner, We Required he would put the Latter immediately under Arrest.— This Letter, the Secretary was directed to deliver himself to Capt.n Prendergast, and that we might leave an opening, in case Lieut.t Macalester should, from reflecting on the impropriety of his own conduct chuse to avail himself of it before it was too late, we charged Mr. Scott, on delivering the Letter to mention the contents to Capt.n Prendergast, & inform him, that unless Lieutenant Macalester consented to apologize to Mr. Hodges in Public orders, or in the presence of those who had seen what passed, or in any other manner which might be perfectly satisfactory to Mr. Hodges, he was to carry our requisition into immediate execution. ——

We remained till the Secretary returned,

who

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

who reported his having delivered our Letter, and that the Commanding Officer would send for Lieut.t Macalester and speak with him, after which he would Reply to it.— Mr. Scott likewise informed us that he understood from the Commanding Officer that our Requisition by Letter would not warrant his putting Lieutenant Macalester under Arrest, unless a formal Crime was delivered to him in writing.— We waited some time longer for Captain Prendergasts answer to our Letter, but as we forsaw there might be some Delay before Lieut.t Macalester came to a determination respecting the apology, we required, it was resolved that in case his Reply, when received, should not inform us that Lieut.t Macalester was willing to make such a Concession as we thought admissible, that the Secretary should immediately write him to Comply forthwith with our Requisition to put that Officer under Arrest— & altho' we thought the formality of sending the Crime in writing altogether unnecessary, as our Letter had sufficiently expressed it, yet that we might not leave any opening of this kind by which

our

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

our Requisition could be evaded, the Secretary was ordered to write out the Crime, conformable to the words of our Letter to Capt. Prendergast, and sign it before us, that it might if necessary be enclosed to him. —

In the Evening we received a Letter from Captain Prendergast enclosing one addressed to him by Lieutenant Macalester, but as it appeared therefrom that the latter, had not by any means a proper sense of our Indulgence in affording him the opportunity of retrieving his misbehaviour, and had not Complied at all with the Conditions we had stipulated, our Requisition to put him under Arrest, was repeated by the Secretary as Agreed upon, and this has accordingly been carried into Effect. —

We should not have been so Minute in reciting all the above particulars to your Lordship &c., if it were not to shew the reluctance with which we proceeded to such an Extremity. —

We find it necessary upon the present occasion to call your attention very particularly to one Circumstance attending it, Mr. Macalester has denied in direct and unqualified

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

unqualified terms the right of the Chief to exercise any Authority even over his most trivial Servants: if he disputes the Chief's Authority in such a case, there can be no doubt of his opinion concerning that Authority upon any occasion where his own Conduct, or that of the Military in General, in Matters of a Civil Nature, may require any degree of restraint or Controul.— The truth is, that this Doctrine of the Independency of Europeans, but more especially of the Military, on any Authority here Competent to a Controul of their actions, is by no means peculiar to Mr. Macalester, altho' we have not known it before at any time so directly asserted— The Members of Council have for a long time past, found it necessary to resort to the Authority of the Chief, when Acting seperately from him, in their judicial Capacity, as often as the Conduct of Europeans, or their Servants, has come at all under enquiry; And altho' this was attended with much inconvenience, taking up the time of the Chief in trifling enquiries, and diverting his attention from important business, whilst it tended to bring the Authority of the other Members of Council into Contempt & discredit, and thereby weakened their Exertions, yet so long as the

Chiefs'

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Chiefs Authority remained undisputed, we judged it better to submit to these inconveniences, rather than to bring a matter forward for your decision, which we have thought, tho' perhaps mistakenly, you would have been better pleased to leave untouched: At present we conceive that there is an absolute necessity for your interference, and we beg leave to request that in whatever manner, and in whatever degree it may be your pleasure to delegate judicial Powers to us, you will be pleased to give it the Public Sanction of your Authority, and Appointment, so that there may no longer remain any doubts of our Competency to those acts, which the due exercise of those Powers may require — One Article we shall presume to point out to you as a necessary part of any Regulations on the Subject in question, that any of the Members of Council shall be Competent to require the attendance of Natives of all Discriptions and in whatever employs, whether the Servants of Officers or serving any other Persons —

We have the honor to be
every respectfully &c
(signed) James Hodges
John Peter Boileau
Thos. Barnard
"

Masulipatam
5th May 1785

1467 Fort St. George 17. May 1785.

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Governor &c Council
of Fort St. George

My Lord and Gentlemen

We have the Honor to inform
You, that in consequence of an Order not to make
up any Stores without express permission, we
judge it necessary, to prevent the inconvenience
that might arise from a demand of Stores, which
the discontinuance of making them up might deprive
us of an opportunity of supplying, to take measures
to be duly provided at all times — We therefore
directed Indents to be made out of the Stores necessary
for the consumption of a certain time (six Months)
at all the Cantonments in the District, and to
these We directed the Storekeeper here to add
his yearly for this place. — We have now
the Honor to lay them before your Lordship &c
in seperate Statements, one containing such
Articles as are made up at this place, and
as these are particularly in demand, we hope
to be favored with your Orders to put them in
hand immediately — the other Statement,
containing such Articls as are forwarded

From Manufactures
relative to Stores
adopted by them
in Consequence of
an Order not to
make up Stores
without express
Permission —

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from Madras, a supply thereof, will we hope,
be given, in such proportion as may be convenient. —

We have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
My Lord and Gentlemen
Your most obedient
Humble Servants —

Masulipatam
7th May 1785 —

James Hodges
(signed) John: Peter: Boileau
Tho.s Barnard

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Governor &c.a Council
of
Fort St. George

My Lord & Gentlemen

from Masulipatam, enclosing Copy of an Estimate delivered in by the Engineer of the Expence for erecting a Shed, to preserve the Gun Carriages from the Weather —

Your Commands communicated to us by Your Secretary under date the 27th and 30th Ultimo and 4th Instant we have been duely honored with — In consequence of the first, a letter has been written to Colonel Braithwaite requesting his Sentiments regarding the best Arrangement of the Troops in this District. —

We had resolved previous to the Receipt of the second, not to Pay the Bill you had been pleased to draw on us, in favor of the Commander of the Leonora without further orders as your Lordships

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Lordship &c will have perceived from our address of the 4th Instant — The last of the above letters has just been received and Your orders, therein signified to us, shall be strictly attended to. —

We had the Honor of transmitting Your a Copy of the Estimate delivered in by our Engineer for Rebuilding a part of the Escarp Wall, with our Letter of the 3d Instant; and We now Enclose Copy of one for erecting a Shed to preserve the Gun Carriages from the Weather — as Colonel Ross recommended this to be done before the setting in of the heavy Rains in June. we intended that it should have been undertaken without Delay, if the Expence should not have amounted to any thing considerable; but on finding that the Estimate amounted to 700 Pagodas, it was judged necessary to call on Capt.n Prescott to inform us of the dimension & manner in which it was to be constructed; in consequence of which he has acquainted us, that the Shed is to be 120 feet in length, 22 feet in Width, with a dead Wall on one side and Pillars on the other, the whole to be built in Mud, but well pointed with Chunam; & to be covered in with Tilat Tiles, a Coat of Plaister, and Pan Tiles above — We request therefore to be favored with your directions whether

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whether or not the Shed shall be erected. —

We have the Honor to be
Very respectfully —
My Lord & Gentlemen
Your most obedient
Humble Servants

Masulipatam
10th May 1785 —

/Signed/ James Hodges
John. Peter. Boileau
Tho.s Barnard

In Answer to which the following Letter is agreed to be sent. —

To Anthony Sadleir Esq.r —
Chief & Council at Masulipatam —

Gentlemen

I am directed by the Right Honble President and Council to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 3d, 4th, 5th, 7th & 10th Instant with their several Enclosures, and to inform you that you are to send the Invalids, destined for Vizagapatam & Ganjam, by the first proper Sea Conveyance which may offer, & also avail yourselves of the first opportunity of sending to Bombay the Second Mate of the Ship Admiral Hughes

to Masulipatam.
in Answer to the
five preceding Letters. —

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Fort St. George 17th May 1785

Hughes who belongs to that Presidency — with respect to the other Lunaticks, they must be continued as at present, until some better mode can be devised for their accommodation.

The Escarp Wall is to be completed according to Col.e Ross's Recommendation; & conformably to the Estimate transmitted in your Letter of the 3d. Instant, — with respect to the Shed for containing Gun Carriages the Board direct me to remark, that the Estimate is overy high, & desire you will consider whether the Expence may not materially be reduced, if Palmeiras were used, instead of Beams; the former might be cut down by the issuing of Dustucks, & brought to Masulipatam by the Company's Lascars — The Board also are of Opinion that the Shed should be built within the Compound adjacent to the Arsenal if it can be done, as all the Stores would then be together. — but if this can not be done without encurring an additional Expence by enlarging the Compound, & without encroaching on the new formed Streets, the Shed should be erected on a spare piece of Ground, opposite to the Arsenal where the Company's Timber is now deposited. — You will be pleased to attend to those Remarks & take care that this Work be executed as cheaply as possible —

The Indent of Stores to be forwarded from the

1472 Fort St. George 17th May 1785 —

Presidency has been sent to the Committee of Stores, who will comply with it, as far as in their power. — The List of those which are in demand & which are usually made up at your Settlement, is now returned to you; and I am directed to inform you that your Storekeeper is to provide them, together with such small Stores from time to time, as can be made up at Masulipatam as good & as cheap as at the Presidency of which a comparison will be made when the Charge is brought forward —

Agreeably to the recommendation in Col.e Ross's Letter of the 24th Ult.o the Board desire you will direct the defective Parapets & the Chief's Garden House to be repaired, in the manner pointed out by the Colonel. —

In conformity also to Co.l Ross's Opinion the Board direct that no more Guns be kept at Ellore than what is absolutely necessary for the Artillery Practice; the rest must be secured in the Arsenal at Masulipatam — This arrangment you will settle with Col.e Braithwaite. —

The Board have duely considered your Letter of the 5th Instant, and at the same time that they approve the Measures you have taken, have determined to signify their strongest displeasure to Lieut.t Macalester, who has offered such

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Fort St. George 17th May 1785

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1472 Fort St. George 17th May 1785 —

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The Board have duely considered your Letter of the 5th Instant, and at the same time that they approve the Measures you have taken, have determined to signify their strongest displeasure to Lieut. Macalester, who has offered such

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

such an Insult to your Authority — You may be assured that the President & Council will, upon every Occasion, support the Civil Government, and will never suffer it to be insulted with impunity; they have in the present instance directed Lieut. Macalister to make a full & satisfactory Apology to Mr. Hodges, & have warned him against the Consequences which will resault from the Commission of a similar offence — I enclose under a flying Seal the Letter now addressed to Lieut. Macalister. —

I have the Honor to be
Gentlemen
Your most obed.
Humble Servant
(signed) John Chamier
Acting Secrety

Fort St. George
17th May 1785 —

To Lieutenant Macalister

at Masulipatam

Sir

The Council of Masulipatam having reported to the Board the particulars of your Conduct on the 4th Instant & the insult which you offered to the Acting Chief of that Settlement, I am now to signify to you the Commands of the Right Honble President & Council —

To Lieutenant Macalister directing him to make a full & satisfactory Apology to Mr. Hodges, on Pain of the severest Displeasure of Government, and assuring

As it is their determination never

1474 — Fort St George 17th May 1785

to pass unnoticed a contempt of the Authority of the Civil Government, they will of course severely reprove, & punish those who shall wantonly insult it — In this point of view, they consider your Conduct towards Mr Hodges, who was in charge of the Settlement, & they therefore direct you immediately to make a full & satisfactory Apology to him on pain of their severest Displeasure, ——

Altho' the Board are thus pleased in consideration of your general good Character to pardon the Offence you have committed, upon the conditions abovementioned, I am directed to warn You against the Commission of a similar Act which would be immediately followed by admission from the Service —— I am

Sir

Your most obed.t Servant

(signed) John Chamier

Act.g Secretary

affairing him that the Commission of a similar act would be instantly followed by a Dismission from the Service ——

Fort St George
18th May 1785 —

Read the following Letters as entered in the Miscellany Book Nos 37, 38, 39, 40, 41.)

From Colonel Reinbold dated 9th Instant enclosing three Letters from Major Kruse, from Capt.n Browns; & from D.r Schwartze with Certificates (lodged in the Office) & desiring, that as there is an absolute necessity for those Gentlemen to return to Europe,

From Col. Reinbold —

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

Europe, they may have a free Passage on one of the Company's Ships, conformably to the Agreement between His Majesty & the India Company —

Agreed that Colonel Reinbold be informed, that if the above Gentlemen have his permission to return to Europe, & are desirous of proceeding on any foreign Ships, the usual Allowances granted to His Majesty's Officers, Returning to England will be paid to them; but if this should not be agreable, they must wait until the Board have it in their power to order them passages on the Company's Ships. —

Minute thereon

From Mr. Irwin dated 3d. Inst.

From Mr. Irwin enclosing a Translation of the Report of the Sherristadar of the District, on the subject of Boats for the Rivers Cavery & Collerroon, from which Report it appears that the Publick and not the Renter would be affected by a Toll being taken by Government, & that it has been usual for the Inhabitant to pass those Rivers with his Goods duty free. ——

Minute thereon

Agreed that Copy of the foregoing be sent to the Committee of Inland Revenue, & that they be desired to take up the Subject which is particularly within the Line of their Charge, & to

Fort St. George 17th May 1785

to authorize a proper Person to build the Boats upon the former Plan & as cheap as possible. —

Agreed that the Committee be further desired to ascertain how this Matter was in the Nabobs time, & to reestablish it on its former footing. —

From Col. Davies — From Lt. Colo. Davies dated 14th May advising that the destruction of Chillumbrum will be completed the 22d Inst. —

Minute thereon — Agreed that Colo. Davies be desired, when the service shall be accomplished to send the Detachment of Lascars to Arcot, to consign the remaining Stores to Mr. Hosford, & to proceed himself to the Presidency. —

From Col. Nixon — From Colonel Nixon dated 12th May, stating that the Sepoys from Malpaddy made good their March to him, by secret & unfrequented paths, from whence he conjectures that Tippoo has no intention of suffering our People to be molested, or of procuring subsistence for them. —

Minute thereon — Agreed that Colonel Nixon be informed that there appears no good reason to suppose that the Sepoys would be prevented from coming from Malpaddy, the Common Road, which he must be directed to try, & thus authenticate the Cause of Complaint that proper representations may be made in Consequence to

1477 Fort St. George 17th May 1785 —

to Tippoo Sultaun —

From Genl Campbell

From General Campbell dated 6th Instant enclosing an Application from Lieut.t Col.o Knox, for the payment of Arrears due to the Officers of the 36th Regiment, & requesting some mode may be adopted to put them on the same footing with several of the same Corps, to whom Bills on Bengal were granted. —

Minute thereon

Agreed that General Campbell be informed that in order to put all the Officers of the 36th Regiment upon the same footing, Bills will be drawn upon Bengal for the Amount of the abovementioned Arrears due the 1st September last. —

The President acquaints the Board that Audy Narrain has offered a Penalty Bond for his good Behaviour —

The President informs the Board that Audy Narrain, who is confined in the Polligars Prison for Misconduct has offered a Penalty Bond of two thousand Pagodas as a Security for his future good behaviour, if he be released —

Ordered that the Bond be accepted — received and the Prisoner released. —

" Alex.r Davidson

"

" J. Darnell

"

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Fort. St. George. May 1785.

17th Received the following Letter from

Bengal.

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney

President &c. Council at

Fort. St. George

From Bengal; desiring that official Statements of the Resources and Wants of this Presidency may be transmitted them, for a General Adjustment of the Accounts in India; and something an Account of the Bonded and direct Debt of all the Company's Settlements in India; and requiring an Account of the Resources drawn from Tanjore and the Circars, within the last three years with a Statement of Drafts on the Court of Directors and an Account of Receipts by the Duties Collected and by the Produce of the Sale of Import Europe Goods and the Amount of the Temporary allowance substituted in the Room of half Batta.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

We have received your Letter of the 12th ultimo.

The Letter you did us the Honor to write us the 29th December with the Accounts, answered in the regular course of Post.

We regretted, after the new Constitution of your Government which took Place on the 12th February, and the subsequent Period of your Lordships &c.a delayed Measures you had in Contemplation, that you would have furnished us with those Official Statements of your Resources and Wants, which, notwithstanding our former Representations, you had not found it either convenient or agreable to transmit to us in the Manner required, for a General adjustment of the Company's Accounts in India.

Instead

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Fort St. George. May 1785.

17th. Instead of sending official Accounts which would have exhibited to us a perfect Representation of your absolute wants, and which would have enabled us, with the similar Statements from the other Settlements to apportion with Justice any Surplus Resource in the Power of this Government. You continue to repeat to us in general the urgent terms the Exigencies of your Government and you seem to have taken great Offence at a Paragraph in our Letter of the 7th February, which contained a special Answer to yours of the 4th November in which you express your Apprehensions of an approaching Famine. The Passage which you have misconstrued is in the following words.—

"If however the Exigencies of your Presidency are in reality so very pressing as your Representations of Movements but last declare, we consent to waive our former Resolutions so far as to allow you to draw Bills upon us to the Extent of Two Lacks of Current Rupees provided

Fort St. George. May 1785.

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17th "that Sum be absolutely and bonâ fide
"applied to the purchase of Rice, delivered
"immediately into your Store, but as we
"positively restrict the Permission to the
"Provision of Rice alone, so we desire that
"you will not avail yourselves of this
"License but in the Event of your being
"forced to it by absolute Necessity"...

By expressing Ourselves in
these Terms we could not mean to Question
"your Veracity" and in the Event of the
real pressure of the distress which you
apprehended we gave you a Power of
drawing upon us to relieve it to a certain
degree... For regard to the general Duty
of your Government we observed to you
in the same Letter, but you seem to have
overlooked that part of it, "That we should
"give an immediate and attentive Consider-
"ration to your Representation respecting
"the state of your Exigencies, and should
"adopt such early Measures for your
"Relief as the Situation of our own affairs
would

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Fort St. George. May 1785.—

#17

"would admit of."—

Our Accountant General having furnished us with Observations on your Accounts of the Supplies sent from hence and We transmit the purport of his Observations in the inclosed Extract from his Letter of the 11th. of this Month, and we require you will be pleased to furnish us as speedily as possible with the respective Accounts specified by him and you will be pleased to transmit them Quarterly.—

We think it necessary to acquaint you that we have formed the compleated Account in our Power of the Bonded and Annual Debts of all the Company's Settlements in India.—

The Amount of the Bonded Debt payable in Bengal Current Rs
on 1st. February 1785 Principal 1,61,78,025-6-11-
Interest accrued thereon to 1st. Feby 85. 9,96,920.4.

The Amount of the Current & other Debts of this Govern=ment payable in Bengal was 2,11,49,516-11-9.
3,83,24,462-6-8

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Fort St. George. May 1785.

17th

That of. Fort St. George was
in June last. ---------- 5,123,296-12-1-
Arrears ---------- 11828555-11-11-
That of Bombay on the
8th. November ---------- 2460493-5-11-
Arrears ---------- 5235496-7-7-
We have not yet received any
official Accounts from China
or Bencoolen but believe
the debt of the former to be ---------- 278400---
making the Total of the
Company's debts ---------- 8,790,727-11-7-

From this Statement of the Com-
pany's Wants in all their Settlements, and
from the Accounts of Supplies with which
we furnished your Government from
the 30th April, the Company will determine
whether we have not paid a due attention
to the particular exigencies of your Govern-
ment since the Cessation of Hostilities.
The Support we afforded you, during the
War, is a Subject that need not be re-
peated. —

We desire you will, as soon
as Convenient, furnish us with an
Account of the Resources which you
have drawn from the Province of Tanjore

and

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Fort St. George. May 1785.

17 and from the Sircars within the last three years, in the same manner as you have been pleased to furnish us with the Accounts of Revenue, collected by your Committee of Assigned Revenue in the Carnatic. We wish to have a Statement of your drafts on the Court of Directors within the same Period, together with an Account of your Receipts by duties Collected and by the produce of the Sale of Import European Goods.

These Statements are necessary for our Information in forming general Regulations which we shall adopt for the Relief of all the Company's Settlements, the Support of their Commerce in China and an equal Distribution of every Surplus Resources which this Government can apply beyond its own absolute Necessities.

We hope there is no Occasion to assure you further that we shall exert Ourselves to the utmost to render the Reduction of your Forces which you

1484

Fort St. George. May 1785.

17th Wreaten in your Letter of 26th Ultimo & unnecessary; We are making every possible Reduction in the Expences of our own Establishment and upon receiving the accounts which we have required from you, we shall take care that the Arrears of your Establishment shall be put on a regular footing of payment with those of our own troops and those of Bombay.—

If any thing new had occured on the Subject of the Remonstrances from the officers of your Military Establishment; Remonstrances which we think with you of a most alarming Nature, or if you had thought it necessary to have taken any further Measures, relative to so critical a Business, we doubt not but we should have heard of it.—

We wish to know the whole Amount of the Half Batta or of the Allow=ance substituted in its stead as it is now paid to the Officers under your Establish=ment.—

Before August next, we do not conceive it will be in our Power to

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Fort St. George. May 1785.

17th supply you with Rice from this Point at so cheap a Rate, as we now understand it that Article can be procured by you, which we learn is from 60 to 70 Pagodas per Garee. This is a Rate at which no Merchant in Bengal will undertake to deliver it untill the Change of the Monsoon.—

The Rice you received from Captain J. Smith, stands the Company. according to your Engagements with him, and as you have been already informed, Sicca Rupees 67573.8. Exclusive of that Sum, we agree to your drawing upon us to the Amount of the Two Lacks which we authorized in our Letter of 10th January and in the event of any very pressing distress, We extend this License to the Amount of Five Lacks.—

We shall attend with pleasure to your Proposition on the Subject of an Investment: We have a General Plan in Contemplation and which we mean to submit to the Company by the first Dispatch for Providing a general Investment

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Fort St. George. May 1785.

17th of the most Profitable. Manufactures of the Company's different Settlements to be provided at the cheapest Rate as a Remittance for discharging the Interest of the Company's Debts.

When our Plan is brought to Maturity we shall take your Opinion upon that part of it which relates to your Presidency.

We have the Honor to be

My Lord and Gentlemen

Your Most Obedient

Humble Servants

John Macpherson

John Stables

Chas. Stuart

(Signed)

Fort William
the 18th. April 1785.

18th Sent the undermentioned Letters which are entered in the Miscellany Book, Nos. 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54. A

To Captains Bibliffe

To Captains Bibliffe, directing him to return the Sepoys belonging to the Rajah of Travancore who entered the Company during the war, on Mr. Irwins Requisition for that Purpose.

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Fort St. George. May 18th 1785.

To Mr Swing — To Mr. Swing on the same Subject

To Bengal — To Bengal:- Inclosing Copy of the Board's Minute, on the Subject of Sir John Burgoyne's Letter of the 3d. May.—

To the Committee of Stores — To the Committee of Stores, inclosing an Indent of Military Stores wanted for the Garrison of Masulipatam on which they are directed to give their Opinion; To Majr. Corbett & Boyd: to inform Government whether Captain Power of the Snow Leonora, was properly provided with Provisions and Water to perform the Service for which Government freighted his Ship.

To Majr. Corbett & Boyd. Masters attendant

To the Paymaster General.— To the Paymaster General; inclosing an Extract of a Letter from the Governor General and Council, relative to Accounts, to which he is required to pay Attention.—

To Mr. Bourne — To Mr. Bourne, Public Secretary at Bengal, enclosing a Return of Recruits embarked on the Swallow for that Presidency.—

To Major Genl Campbell &c. — To Major General Campbell Informing him, that Government are willing to draw Bills on the Supreme Council in favor of the Officers of the 36th Regiment for their Arrears to the 1st September last and directing him to withdraw the detachment at Gingee, leaving only a Jemidar's Guard.—