1181

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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.

NJ
24.3.44

1345 Fort St. George 11 December 1787—

To the Honble. Major General

Sir Archibald Campbell K.B.

Governor &c. and President &c. Member of the

Board of Revenue,

Fort St. George.—

Sir, and Gentlemen,

I have the honor to forward

Copy of a Letter and its enclosures received from

the Chief and Council of Masulipatam relative

to a Representation from the French Chief at

Yanam respecting certain Gunneys which

have been stopped by the Renter of Nellepillie

on account of Customs— Not thinking myself

authorised to decide upon this Subject, I have

in conformity to the desire of the Chief and

Council written to M.r Dumas, but merely

informed him that I had referred the affair

to

1346. Fort St. George 11th Decr 1787.

to my superiors — and in consequence request &
and wait your Honor &c.a Commands. —

I presume the French &
Dustucks can have no effect out of their own
boundaries, Dustucks being & conceive Permits
or Orders which can be issued only by the
Governing Power, and it certainly will be
a great discouragement to the European and
Native Traders in the Company's Country
as well as a loss to the Revenue if all those
who trade under the French are to be
exempted from the usual Duties. —

I have the honor to remain
with the Greatest Respect
&c.a &c.a
Ellore
2.d November 1787.
signed Wm Oram

A true Copy
signed Wm Balfour Secry

1347. Fort St. George 11th Decr 1787

To. Mr. William Oram.

Manager of the Northern and Center Division of the Havaidy

Sir

I am directed by the Chief and Council to enclose to you Copy of a Letter which they have received from the Chief of the French Factory at Yanam, Relative to Some Guennies that Appear to have been Stopped by the Renter of Nellepalle for the non Payment of the usual Duties; and as this Man is immediately under your Authority I am further directed to desire you will Send an Answer to M. Dumas, on the Subject.

W. Revell Manager of the Southern Division of the Havaidy having had Occasion to mention in a Letter to the Board, an Application he had Received from the Chief of the French Factory at this place, upon a similar subject I am directed, for your information, to transmit to you an Extract from the Records containing the Opinion passed by the Chief of

and

1348. Fort St. George. 11th December 1787.

and Council upon that part of Mr. Revells Letter

Sam.l Y.e to Y.e

/signed/ And.w Scott

Masulipatam
1st. November 1787.

A true Copy
/signed/ Wm. Cram.

A true Copy
/signed/ Wm. Balfour Secry.

Gentlemen.

I have the honor to acquaint you, that on the 17th Instant, Seven Coolies were stoped at Ingeram, with Gunnys for the Factory of Yanam I immediately sent a Dustuck, and upon the reseival of your Rentor, I wrote the 18th to Mr. Yeats, your Chief of this Factory, who Answered me the 20th that he had no authority Over the Man, and that he pretended he had not seen my Dustuck but advesed me to write to you.

To avoid the delight of this Black Man, and the delay hurtful to the Interest of the Proprietor, I sent on the

1349. Fort St. George 11th December 1787.

the 23d of this Month three Men to present
my Duetuck to my Renter and in order
to certify his refusal, if it was so. The Answer
the Farmer gave was to ask the necessary
time to inform Mr Yeats his Chief; and
my three Men Returned at length, Gentlemen
the 26th of the Month I sent again the same
three Black Men who again presented the
Duetuck to your Farmer, who told them the
Gunnies could not pass without paying the
customary Duty and they have been abandoned
to the Renter.—

I do not allow myself to make
reflections upon what might authorise your
Farmer to observe this conduct. I confine my-
myself solely to request of you to send precise
Order to your Renter at Ingeram, that in future
I may not be under the necessity of making
you Similar Complaints; and that I may
not hereafter be liable to any thing of this
Kind, I trust you will at a proper time, &
send

1350

Fort S. George 11. December 1787

send the same orders to all the Renters, who
depend upon you, to prevent every Kind of
trick, always very heedful to the good understan-
ding, that ought to exist between our two
nations. —

I have the honor to send you an
enclosed Copy of the attestation of the refusal
that your Renter made to those persons who
have signed it. —

I have the honor to be with
the most perfect Consideration. —

Yanam
28th Octr 1787.

/Signed/ Demars Chief

To the Chief & Council of Masulipatam

A true Copy of the Translation
/Signed/ A.w Scott.

A true Copy
/Signed/ Wm Oram

A true Copy
/Signed/ Wm Balfour
Secry

Extract

1351. Fort St. George 11th December 1787.

Extract from the Minutes of Revenue Consultation of the 10th September 1787.

The Board are of Opinion, that the application of the Chief of the French Factory to pass such quantities of thread free of Duties, as his Merchants may think it necessary to distribute to the Weavers, is too indefinite; as all Merchants might thereby assume the denomination of French Merchants; but the Board at any rate conceive, it be the spirit of the Treaty, that British and French Subjects are in this respect to be upon an equal footing, and that Dustucks are intended to identify the Property and not to exempt it from the Customary Duties, which the subjects of all Nations pay equally.

A true Extract
(Signed) A.o Scott Secry

A true Copy
(Signed) Wm Cram

A true Copy
(Signed) Wm Balfour Secry
Pres

1350. Fort St. George 11th December 1787.

send the same orders to all the Renters, who's depend upon you, to prevent every Kind of trick, always very heedfull to the good understanding, that ought to exist between our two nations. —

I have the honor to send you an enclosed Copy of the attestation of the refusal that your Renter made to three persons who have signed it. —

I have the honor to be with the most perfect Consideration. —

Yanam
28th Octr 1787.

/Signed/ Demars Chief

To the Chief & Council of Masulipatam

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/Signed/ Dw Scott.

A true Copy
/Signed/ Wm Oram

A true Copy
/Signed/ Wm Balfour Secy

Extract

1351. Fort S.t George 11.th December 1787.

Extract from the Minutes of Revenue Consultation of the 10.th September 1787.—

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A true Extract
(Signed) A.o Scott Secry

A true Copy
(Signed) Wm Oram

A true Copy
(Signed) Wm Balfour Secry
Pres

1352.

Fort St. George 11th December 1787.

The President delivers in the following Minute.

President's Minute

December 1787.

The President begs Leave to acquaint the Board, that he has commenced with some Attention every Information and all the Documents in his Possession, which could throw Light upon the Matters in Dispute between the French Chief at Yanam, and the Company's Resident at Ingeram on the Subject of Duties and the Demand made by the French of their Right to siege the persons of Native Merchants under the British Flag, who may be indebted to the Subjects of the French Nation.

The Manner in which the last Treaty of Peace with France is expressed granting to them, generally, a Free Trade in the Companys Territories certainly warrants in a great Degree the Claim now set up by their Representatives of an Exemption from Duties, and that Claim has gained additional Force, from the 27th Article of the Provisional Treaty entered into between Colonel

President's Minute containing his Opinion on the foregoing Subject

Colonel Cathcart and the Viscounte De Souliac, which declares "that the Dustuchs of the Chief of Yanaon "and of the French Factory at Masulipatam shall "have free Currency in the Northern Sircars, and "secure a free Passage exempt from all Duties "whether on Exports or Imports for Goods which "shall belong to French Individuals or to the "French Companies".

Although the above Article in the Provisional Treaty has not to our Knowledge received the Sanction of the Court of London, Yet there is Reason to believe that it will be confirmed as far as relates to Duties payable to the Company but it will not be suffered to extend to an Exemption from any Inland Tolls or Market Duties, usually paid to the Zemindars as Proprietors of the Country unless the French can make it appear by authentic Documents that such an Exemption had actually obtained before the last War. The Construction thus put upon the late Treaty of Peace, the President understands is agreeable to former Usage.

1354. Fort St. George 11th December 1787.

Usage; according to which, there is Reason to believe, that the Dustucks of the French Chiefs & secured an Exemption from Duties to all the Articles of Merchandize passing through the Company's Districts, whether belonging to the French Companies or Individuals.—

Under these Circumstances there is no Doubt that the Gunneys going to the French Factory at Yanam, ought not to have been stopped at Ingeram to pay Duties to the Company's Renter, The President therefore begs Leave to propose, that Orders should be given to the Renter to restore the Gunneys, and to prohibet him as well as all the Company's Renters and Servants in the Circars from attempting in future to levy any Duties on Goods accompanied by the Dustucks of the French Chiefs. It must nevertheless be understood, that these Orders are only to continue in force until Advice is received from Europe of

disputing

Fort S.t George 11.th December 1787.

respecting the Manner in which these Matters have been arranged between the French and English Courts. —

The President is of Opinion, that the Board ought to approve the Answer given by Mr Yeats to that part of Mons.r Demari's Letter, dated 16. October 1787. in which he demands that the Person of Vardaya should be delivered up to him. —

It is true that the 20.th Article of the provisional Treaty entered into by Colonel Cathcart justifies Mr Demari on the Demand he has made; But the President is Known from undoubted Authority that the Article of the Treaty just mentioned is to be by the British Court, who are determined that impartial Justice shall be administered to the Subjects of France, whether Europeans or Natives in the same Manner as to our own Subjects, but this they must expect agreeable to the Customs of the Country, and not according

to

to such Laws as they may think proper to form.

This Opinion is meant to extend to all Matters of a Civel or Criminal Jurisdiction among the Natives themselves, or in Suits at the Instance of Europeans against Natives, either for Breach of Civel Contracts or the Commission of Criminal Offence.-

The President for these Reasons is decidedly of Opinion, that all Demands, such as that made by Mr. Dermis should be invariably rejected, until we receive further Instructions from our Superiors on this Subject

Upon strict Investigation of the French Rights to an Exemption from Duties, a Circumstance came to the Knowledge of the President that he was not before acquainted with. Namely, that British Merchants both Europeans and Natives, have for a Number of Years, before and since the late War, been subject to the Payment of these identical Duties, of

of which the French had complained, and from which they are exempted. This Distinction appears to the President to be extremely impolitic and unjust it is irksome and humiliating to our own Subjects and cannot fail to appear in every singular in the Eyes of the Natives, who would naturally expect that British Merchants would be at least upon an Equality in all Matters of Commerce with those of France; yet the Fact is otherwise.

As the President is informed from good authority that the Revenue collected by the Imports upon Goods, the Property of our own Subject, is very inconsiderable, he is of Opinion that the Matter should be represented to the Honble Court of Directors by the first Ships of the Season, and to request that their Permission may be obtained to remit those Duties in future, so as to put the British Subjects Europeans and Natives on a Footing of Equality with those of the most favoured Foreign Nation. —

Agreed

13.58. Fort St. George 11th. December 1787.

Agreed that Copy of the foregoing

Minute thereon to be sent to the Chief & Council at Masulipatam

& to the President at Ingeram, advising

them that the Board have Concurred in Opinion

with the President & direct that his Minute

be considered as containing the Line which

they are to take in their Discussions with

the French until the expected Orders from

Europe shall establish points in Consideration

upon a permanent Footing.—

the points in contestation

In order that the Courts of Directors

Minute thereon may be furnished with every Necessary Information

by which they may be enabled to judge of the

expediency of the Measure to be recommended

to them agreably to the latter part of the

President's Minute it is Agreed that the Chief

& Council at Masulipatam be desired to

acquaint Government with the Amount

of Revenue Collected in their District for

one Year by the Imports upon Goods

the property of British Subjects

Read

1359. Fort St. George 11th December 1787.

Read the following Letter

from the Members of the Vestry at Fort St. George.

To the Honble. Major General

Sir Archibald Campbell K. B.

Governor in Council & Commander and Chief

of

Fort St. George

Honble Sir,

From the Members of the Vestry at Fort St George with a Plan for the Establishment of an Asylum for destitute Male Children.

We have the honor to inform you that upon Receipt of the Returns of the Orphans & other destressed Male Children, from the different Garrisons on the Coast, agreably to the Orders you were pleased to issue for that Purpose, We took an early opportunity to resume the Consideration of the most eligible means of establishing some such permanent provisions for their Maintainance and Support, as may at once promote their private Happiness and fortunes in life and their Public usefulness.—

It

1360.

Fort St. George 11th Decr 1787.

It has been necessary to premise our Observations with the Remarks that this Seminary is to be confined to the "Orphans & distressed Male Children of the Soldiery: a Provision having already been made for the Females in the lately established Asylum:— The future happy & useful Lives of a Number of the tender Sex, who will probably owe to this Institution their rescue from Misery & Shame, will proclaim in more lasting & extensive degree, as well as in Language more unequivocal & affecting than any opinion here recorded, could do, the Merit of that Lady, whose Benevolence suggested, & whose Influence Exertions under considerable difficulties, have at length fixed, on a permanent footing, this humane Establishment.—

Two hundred and Thirty Boys have already been reported; the Support and Education

Fort St. George 11th Decr 1787.

Education of which number will require a very considerable Fund. Upon a calculation of the probable expence, formed upon the experience of the actual cost of Supporting those Seminaries already established on the Coast, Viz. the Charity Schools at the Presidency, Trichinopoly &c. it appears that upon the most Oeconomical plan, the most Oeconomical plan, the Amount, including all charges of Board Cloathing and Education cannot be safely rated at less than 10 Rupees Per Month for each Boy.—

As the object of the present Enquiry owes its existence to the recommendation of the Honble Court of Directors contained in their Letter of the —, that an establishment similar to the Orphan Society at Bengal should be formed on the Coast; We cannot doubt that the proposed Institution at Madras will meet with the same support from them, as that Charitable foundation.

At

1362

Fort St. George 11th December 1787

at Calcutta, the Company allow 5 Rupees
Per Month for each Boy, besides providing
the necessary building, Trusting therefore
that the same allowance would be made
here as at Bengal, about one half of
the Expence of the Establishment is at
once furnished and it remained only to
consider the probable Amount of, & the
means of raising a Fund, for the regular
Provision of the other Moiety

The Maintainance of 230 Boys
which is rated at 5 Rupees Per Month
independant of the Allowance to be expected
from the Honble Company does indeed
require a very large principal Fund — But
happily the repeated instances the
Settlement of Madras affords of Spirit
of Bounty in ordinary cases of Individual
distress where no return of Public Benefit
could be expected, yields a rational
ground of Assurance that their Liberality
will

will in this instance exert itself in some #
proportion to the Importance of the Object
And that those whose Generosity almost
daily extends its effects to single Subjects
of distress will be particularly forward # in
promoting the permanent happiness of
a Number of Children who have not only
the tendrest Claim on Humanity but
whose future usefulness promises amply
to repay the public the obligation they will
be under to it — At all events should the
sums subscribed prove insufficient to
support the whole of the Native destitute
Children of the Military on the Coast, the
Amount no doubt will serve to Maintain
& educate a number sufficient to justify #
the Consideration of this Institution as
an Object of great & Public Importance, &
consequently of Public Liberality. —

It seems then on all accounts
highly eligible & necessary, & We beg leave
to recommend it accordingly. that a #
Subscription should be immediately set
on

Fort St. George 11th December 1787.

on foot, We are at the same time humbly of Opinion that it might tend much to facilitate its Progress, that some Building should be fixed upon by Government as the proposed place of Education; this will serve to shew that the plan had already a beginning & would meet with no impediment on this score, in its Execution, after the Necessary Funds were realized.

In this view, We conceive it might also prove of Essential Assistance to the Institution, that Government should be pleased to allow their intended Bounty to be considered as commencing from this Period, — a Suggestion which We hope will not be deemed unreasonable.

When a sufficient Provision shall be thus made for the support of the School, We then propose to take into Consideration the formation of the Necessary Regulation for its Management — in the framing of which the rules of

of the Orphan Establishment at Bengal
will of course be chiefly attended to
The humanity of this
Institution and the extensive prospect
it holds forth of Public Utility, are too
obvious to require enlargement & the liberal
Spirit of this Settlement is too fully established
to render much argument necessary to
induce Gentlemen to contribute to its
Support in proportion to their respective
Abilities and to the Importance of the
Object— This voluntary tax on the benevolence
of the Settlement will relieve it from the
inconvenience that must otherwise from
time to time occur of partial Subscriptions
for the relief of particular Orphans—
while it is to be remembered that the former
will be instrumental in affording the
to
most essential and lasting relief Hundreds
instead of administering only to the assistance
of a few individuals. A Number of Children
who would otherwise be generally abandoned
to

1366 Fort St. George 11th Decr 1787.

to Ignorance & Vice, & prove Pests to y^e Society, will now be trained up to Knowledge Virtue, & usefully The consideration also to the Soldiers that his destitute Infant Children are maintained by the Public in general & in many instances by the bounty of this Officer in particular, will be a strong & endearing tie of attachment & Veneration to both and the reflection that the reward of his Services will follow him beyond the Grave, in the comfortable support & education of his Orphans, will no doubt have a powerfull tendency to banish all anxious apprehensions for their Welfare from his last Moments, & to smooth the Bed of Death, to many avaluable Veterans.

We have taken the liberty to trouble you with these Remarks, in the full persuasion that you will lend a ready ear to whatever it may be advanced, however obvious, in support of a Scheme for promoting the Happiness of any part of the Public under your Government,

8

Fort St. George 11th Decr 1787.

& in this confidence We beg leave to conclude #
with a Request that in order to give the Subscription
every possible Advantage, You will be pleased
to circulate it thro' the several Subordinacies
and Garisons on the Coast, accompanied with
such Recommendation and further Support
as the Object may appear to merit at your
hands — And that should what has been
suggested above respecting a Building for
the Purposes of this Seminary; & your
Wishes regarding the immediate Commencement
of the Honble Company's Allowance of
5 Rupees p.r Month for each Boy, be so
fortunate as meet with Approbation, You
will be pleased to make your Compliance
Public, at the time the Subscription is
circulated; — that it may appear this #
humane plan has not only the Sanction,
but also the Pecuniary & effectual Support
of Government

We

1368

Fort St George 11th Decr 1787

Fort St George
24th Novr 1787

We have the honor to be
&c &c &c

" Benjamin Mellingchamp
" Richard Leslie
" Robt Hughes
" Chas Oakeley
" Wm Webb.
"
" Jos du Pre Porcher.
" Wm Balfour.
" J. Moorhouse Lieut.
" Andrew Ross
" Patrick Ross Lieut.
" Henry Malcolm Lieut.
" Tho. Cockburn
" Nathl E. Kindersley

Agreed to assure the Vestry that
Minute thereon every support which Government is authorized
to give will be afforded in carrying into
Execution the Plan proposed by them but
ascertain as it is not possible to ascertain the Amount
of the Fund which will be raised by the
voluntary

1369 Fort St George 11th Decr 1787

voluntary Subscriptions of Individuals it must be recommended to the Vestry to make at the present a provision for the Support of only one hundred Orphans.—

Minute thereon.

Resolved that the Bounty of five Rupees P Month for each Boy be considered as commencing from the present Period & that endeavours be used for the procuring a building for the reception of the Orphans.—

Read the following Letter from the Committee of Works.—

To the Honble. Major General Sir. Archibald Campbell K.B. 13.
Governor in Council
Fort St George.

Honble Sir, and Sirs.—

From the Committee of Works, enclosing Extract of an application from Messrs Garrow & Soren Contractors for Brick & Chunam.—

Messrs Garrow and Soren & Contractors for Bricks and Chunam having applied to us to be allowed 2 Nauchs and 10 Sepoys to assist in protecting their Materials, and & agreeably

1370

Fort St George 11th Decr 1787

agreeably to usage under former Contractors,
we beg leave to recommend to your Honour &
that their application be complied with

We likewise recommend that
you will be pleased to direct that orders be
given by the Board of Revenue for the
Contractors being allowed to cut firewood and
Brushwood, and for their being supplied #
with Straw conformably to the practice
before the war, as is represented in the #
accompanying Extract of an application
from them.—

We have the honor to be
Sir &
Rt. Maunsell.
J. Capper

Fort St. George
10 December 1787

Extract of an application from Messrs. Garrow and Sorier

"In order to be found to the
Poligars that they should not prevent the
cutting Firewood and Brushwood at this
Pollams, which may be for the business
of

Fort St George 11th Decr 1787

"of the Contractor of the Bricks; The same to
"furnish con to make Charcoal to burn the
"Chunam —

"The Straw for the Cart &c. Bullocks
"which Transport Firewood and Charcoal from
"the Country for the Brick Kilns was purchased
"before the late War at 1/2 Fanams P. Bundle
"to Eastward, and at 1 Fanam per Bundle to
"the Westward of Poonamalee by the Permission
"of the Government, which privilege as well
"as for buying Bratty and Brushwood Bundles
"at the prices as formerly must be allowed to
"the Contractor"

A True Extract

[signed] J Balfour
C.W.Rs

The Board approve the (11)
Approved Recommendation of the Committee of Works,
& in consequence Agree that the necessary
Donations be given

Read the following Letter from

Mr Dighton —

To

1372

Fort St George 11th Decr 1787

To Mr John Chamier

Military Secretary

Sir,

I Received your Letter of the 29th Novr

1787.—

From Mr Dighton delivers over to Ramchunder the Money and Effects belonging to Venkat Row; encloses Receipt &c for the same.—

Agreeably to the Orders of the Board containd therein I have delivered over to Ramachchunder, the Money & Effects belonging to Venkatrouvee according to the List which was taken in my Presence at the time they were deposited in the House of Venkatrouvee near Poonamallee.—

I enclose the Allegation delivered to me by the Ramchunder, and the list of your Money & Effects as they were contained in Parcells, with Ramachchunders Receipt at the bottom of each List, in all Eighteen Numbers Also a Certificate from Venkatrow who was Present at the time the Money & Effects were Deposited.—

Poonamallee Cutcherry
7th December 1787.—

I am &c. &c.
(signed) Richd Dighton
Supr of the Jaghire

Ordered

1373

Fort St George 11th Decr 1787

Minute thereon.

Ordered that the Papers transmitted by Mr Dighton be lodged in the Office.—

The President lays before the Board the following Letter addressed to him by Brigadier General Horne.—

To His Excellency
Major General Sir. Archd Campbell KB.
Commander in Chief &c. &c. &c.

Sir,

From General Horne the Naut Colleries in the vicinity of Mellore have lately committed Irregularities occasioned (as he imagines) by the Mismanagement of the Nabobs Renter: recommends that an Enquiry be set on foot.—

In consequence of directions I received sometime ago from the Adjutant General four Companys of Sepoys were ordered from the 23d Battalion under the Command of Lieutenant Collin Campbell to reinforce the revenue Troops stationed at Mellore; since which I have received another letter from Colonel Malcolm dated the 1st Instant covering a card to your Excellency from hes Highness the Nabob, complaineing of the irregularities of the Naut Colleries, and that they carried off

1374 Fort St George 11th Dec. 1787

off 2000 head of Cattle from the Madura District

&c. &c.

I some time since addressed
your Excellency on this subject, and transmitted
Captain Smiths letter to me, giving an
account of their having burned the Pettah
of Mellore, with his opinion of the Origin
of these disturbances, which by various
Accounts since received I have reason to
think was exact, excepting the story of the
Money carryed off from the Cutcherie, which
I believe is greatly exaggerated and perhaps
entirely void of truth.

The Naick Colleries in the
vicinity of Mellore (the only Colleries who
have committed any irregularities lately)
are in three Divisions or Nauts, Viz.t the
Mellore Naut; Surragoody Naut, and the
Vellatoure Naut, the district they inhabit
lye to the N. E. of Madura, and are surround
by that province; by Nattam; by Toraiya
-coochy and the Lesser Maravva Country. —

Capt.n

1375 Fort St George 11th Decr 1787

Captain Smith having with the concurrence
of the Renters Deputy applies to the Chiefs
of these distrects to return to their Villages,
and restore the plunder they had carried off
promising them protection if they remained
quiet in future with the Renters assurances
that no higher demands should be exacted,
than what they had formerly paid — Two of
these Chiefs acquiesced and the Inhabitants
of their Destricts returned: but the Chief of
the Mellore Naut, has refused to comply
while the present Renter has the Manage=
ment of the Country: and as they publickly
declared their intention to cut of his Head
if they could get him within their power,
they assign as a reason for not complying
with Captain Smiths propositions, that
they cannot trust to any assurances the
present Manager may give, being certain
of his wreaking his vengance on them if
if they should Submit

W.th

1374 Fort St George 11th Dec. 1787

off 2000 head of Cattle from the Madura District
&c.—

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your Excellency on this subject, and transmitted
Captain Smiths letter to me, giving an
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of Mellon, with his opinion of the Origin
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Accounts since received I have reason to
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vicinity of Mellore (the only Colleries who
have committed any irregularities lately)
are in three Divisions or Nauts, Viz.t the
Mellore Naut; Soragoody Naut, and the
Vellalours Naut, the district they inhabit
lye to the N. E. of Madura, and are surround
by that province; by Nattam, by Soramma
-coochy and the lesser Maravva Country —

Captain

1375 Fort St George 11th Decr 1787

Captain Smith having with the concurrence of the Renters Deputy applied to the Chiefs of these distrets to return to their Villages, and restore the plunder they had carried off promising them protection if they remained quiet in future with the Renters assurances that no higher demands should be exacted, than what they had formerly paid - Two of these Chiefs acquiesced and the Inhabetants of their Distrects returned: but the Chief of the Mellore Naut, has refused to comply while the present Renter has the Management of the Country: and as they publickly declared their intention to cut of his Head if they could get him within their power, they assign as a reason for not complying with Captain Smiths propositions, that they cannot trust to any assurances the present Manager may give, being certain of his wreaking his vengance on them if they should Submit

With

1374 Fort St George 11th Dec. 1787

off 2000 head of Cattle from the Madura District &c.—

I some time since addressed
your Excellency on this subject, and transmitted
Captain Smiths letter to me, giving an
account of their having burned the Pallah
of Mellon, with his opinion of the Origin
of these disturbances, which by various
Accounts since received I have reason to
think was exact, excepting the story of the
Money carryed off from the Cutcherry, which
I believe is greatly exaggerated and perhaps
entirely void of truth.

The Naut Colleries in the
vicinity of Mellore (the only Colleries who
have committed any irregularities lately)
are in three Divisions or Nauts, Viz.t the
Mellore Naut, Sevagoody Naut, and the
Vellatoura Naut, the districts they inhabit
lye to the N. E. of Madura, and are surrounded
by that province, by Nattam, by Toramo-
-coochy and the lesser Maravva Country—

Captain

1375

Fort St George 11th Decr 1787

Captain Smith having with the concurrence
of the Renters Deputy applied to the Chief
of these districts to return to their Villages,
and restore the plunder they had carried off
promising them protection if they remained
quiet in future with the Renters assurances
that no higher demands should be exacted,
than what they had formerly paid - Two of
their Chiefs acquiesced and the Inhabitants
of their Districts returned: but the Chief of
the Mellore Naut, has refused to comply
while the present Renter has the Manage-
ment of the Country: and as they publickly
declare their intention to cut of his Head
if they could get him within their power,
they assign as a reason for not complying
with Captain Smiths propositions, that
they cannot trust to any assurances the
present Manager may give, being certain
of his wreaking his vengance on them if
if they should Submit

W. H.

1376

Fort St George 11th Dec. 1787

With respect to sending a larger force to bring these people to obedience I do not apprehend it would have the desired effect— The Troops now there, are competent to disperse any body they can bring to attack them at Mellore, but the nature of the Country they inhabit would make it difficult to coërce them to Submission or prevent them finding a refuge in their Hills, from whence when drove to extremities they could be able to commit depredations and plunder the open Country in defiance of any body of Troops we might station at Mellore.—

disperse

I am very sensible of the propriety and even necessity of giveing every proper assistance with the Companys Troops, to support the Authority of His Highness's Civil Government; and to enable his Aumildars Renters &c to collect the Revenue and conduct the business of their respective Departments

Fort St George 11th Dec. 1787

Department with Effect And I should not have hesitated a moment on receiving intelligence of the disturbances at Madura in sending Troops to enforce obedience to the Renters authority, had I not had very cogent reasons to believe, that he himself had, by his own improper, and unjustifiable conduct drove the Colleries of these Acts of irregularity;

It is but a few Years since these Collieries have been reduced to any order or that the Circar could collect a revenue from that part of the Country: and the late frequent changes of the Nabobs Managers there has doubtless been a great discouragement to the Inhabitants, who are still in a wild State, and require the nicest management, and most scrupulous justice to reconcile them to a Government they dislike.

Yet

Fort St George 11th Dec. 1787

Yet their conduct on this late occasion
however irregular it may have been, has
been conducted with a respect to the
Company's authority that could hardly
have been expected for such people, for
altho' there was only a Vaiques Guard
at Captains Smiths quarters — the
night they plundered and burnt at
Village of Mellon — they never offered to
enter his House, or to injure any
thing belonging to him — nor would they
have molested a single Sepoy, as they frequently
declared, if they could have released their Chiefs
and got hold of the Renter without it — And
although until Lately, it was dangerous to
travel through that Country, and Robberies
were very frequent, not a single Cooly going
or coming that Road belonging to any Officer
has been molested since this disturbance, and
several Gentlemen have lately passed that
way without any obstruction; though during
the night they cut and carry off the Grain,
and

Fort St. George 11th Decr 1787.

and Keep the Country in alarm; yet as I have frequent Accounts from both Mellore and Madura and have not heard of their having plundered such a Number of Cattle as His Highness mentions in his card to your Excellency, I conclude that account is exagerated, but I shall make a particular enquiry into the truth of it.

As I am persuaded numerous falsehoods and Misrepresentations are sent to his Highness by the enferior Renters & Amildars, to cover their own misconduct and oppression, whenever the Inhabetants oppose their iniquitous measures and are forced to fly from their Villages. I could wish His Highness would authorise one of his principal Foujdars or some other person of consiquence, to enquire on the spot into the real truth and cause of any discontent or disturbance that may arise in any of these distant provinces previous to any requisition being made of the Company's Troops. And if His

Highness

Fort St. George 11th December 1787.

Highness could be induced to admit of the Commanding Officer of the District being joined to the person he should appoint to investigate these disputes, when of any material consequence, there would be a greater certainty of his being informed of actual facts; and I am persuaded many very considerable advantages would result from such a regulation to his Government. In the present case of the Naut Colleries I strongly recommend such a Measure being adopted, as the most likely means of restoring the Country to good order and also that their proportion of Pishcush or tribute may be ascertained, which if once clearly understood and agreed to I have no doubt but they will fulfil as long as no other Exaction are made: and if similar measures were adopted, and agreements entered into with the different Poligars; innumerable advantages would accrue from such a regulation, not only to

exactions

accrue

to the Revenues which are now with #
difficulty collected, but also to the safety #
and protection of all the Southern Provinces
by attacking to the Interests of Government
a numerous and Active body of Men capable of
affording during War most essential assistance
in defending the Country, and in supplying
our Army and Garrisons with Provisions; Who,
on the contrary are now in general justly
Dissatisfied and discontended, and would in
case of a War and an Enemy entering the
Country, undoubtedly throw off their Allegiance
and act against us. —

I beg your Excellencys excuse
for being thus prolix, and given my
sentiments so freely on a subject of such #
importance and delicacy with respect to the
Nabob - whose Jealousy of any interference
in his Civil Government I am no stranger
to; but as it is his real Interest so neither
would it be any diminution to his independ-

1382. Fort S. George 11. December 1787.

or Dignity as the Sovereign of the Country could his Highness be induced to request the assistance of the Company's Government to arrange and settle the proportion of Revenues the different Tributaries dependant on this Government should in future pay which on the Company's offering to become Guarantees to, they would I am certain gladly enter into a negociation to accomplish; and the strong conviction (could a measure of this nature be effected) that it would be a real and important advantage both to the Nabob and the Company, has been my chief and sole inducement in troubling your Excellency on such a subject.

I am with the highest respect
&c. &c. &c.
(signed) Matt.s Horne.

Head Quarters of the Southern Forces &c. Trichinopoly Decr the 7.th 1787.

Mr. Macaulay begs leave to enter the following Minute.

When

1383. Fort St. George 11th December 1787.

When I had the honor to lay before the Board my last Minute, respecting Barrack Masters, I prefaced the delivery of it by a declaration that it was not my intention to have written more on the Subject but should have suffered the Statements for which I had moved to speak for themselves if I had not felt myself compelled to reply to the Presidents Minute of the 13th October, when I found that part I had taken, and the opinions I had given were misconceived by him.

Mr Maunsell Minute declares that he never opposed the Institution of Barrack Masters & is of Opinion that the Comptroller General was remiss in not earlier reporting on the Barrack Masters Accounts

The Minute of the Presidents deliveries at Consultation last Tuesday has again placed me under the disagreable necessity of making a further Reply which shall however be as short as possible

After having repeatedly declared that I approved the Institution of Barrack Masters I was much surprized to observe an Assertion of the Presidents, "that I had taken means "to oppose it - I am confident that this Assertion

a portion will not appear well founded
when it is remembered that my &
endeavours have been directed to the &
discovery, & correction of those Abuses
in the Barrack Department by which
the good effects expected by the President
had in great measure been frustrated
I have uniformly approved the Plan, & am well
pleased to find by the President's &
Comparative Statement of Sick, that
the number in the Hospitals since the
Institution of Barrack Masters has
been less than it was before Barrack
Masters were appointed. I trust that
the Arrangement in all its branches
will in future be productive of the saving
expected by the President, and I have no
doubt of this bringing forward for this
purpose such Propositions, when the &
Auditor Report shall be received as
shall be the Ground work of a Regulation
that will effectually prevent all abuses
in future —

Upon

1385. Fort St. George 11th December 1787

Upon that part of the Presidents Minute, which remarks upon my apportion "that the Authority of the Barrack Masters extends to Madura &c. &c." I shall take leave to observe that there certainly was good reason to suppose an Authority existed for supplying Madura &c.a When the Words of the General Order Announced their appointments, as Barrack Masters to the Southward of the Coleroon &c.a when Bills during near a twelve Month were regularly made out by them & paid & when it was universally admitted by the Paymasters whose Interest it would have been to contend it had they not thought Barrack Masters warranted by General Orders in so extending their appointment to all Forts and Posts within the Space prescribed to them, whether garrisoned by European Troops or not

If the Comptroller General of Military Accounts had audited, & reported upon the Current Accounts, as soon as they came in, which it was his duty to do, his extension

Fort St. George 11th December 1787.

extension of Power on the part of the Barrack Masters would have been exposed to the Presidents Animadversions long ago, & their unauthorized interference & exorbitant & Charges would have been checked at an earlier period. —

I shall conclude with observing the Board that when the subject shall again be revised / as it will of course be, when the Audit of the Comptroller & General is laid before us / I shall discuss it, as I have uniformly done, upon fair impartial & general Grounds. —

Fort St. George
10th December 1787.

Signed / R.t Maunsell.

Read the following Letter from the Military Paymaster General. —

John Cranmer Esq.r
Military Secretary. —

Sir,

From the Military Paymaster General stating what he has forwarded of the Books in his office for the years 85-86 &c

I was honored with your letter of the 28 Ulto desiring to be informed when the Books

1387. Fort St. George 11th December 1787.

Books of this Office for the year 1785 will be brought up, & also in what state the Books for 1786 are at present — I have the honor to acquaint you, for the information of the Honble Board that the Books to the 30th April 1785 are balanced, & that I have every reason to hope that the Adjustment of them, which has been retarded by the drawing out the late Barrack Statements will be finished & the Books to that period sent in to the Accountant by the 25th Inst —

The Journal for the year 1786 is nearly brought up & there is every prospect of that sett of Books being compleated & sent in by the latter End of April next

Every possible attention is now paid to this business, & I beg you to assure the Honble President in Council that nothing shall be wanting on my part to have the Books brought up to as late a period as is practicable. —

I have the honor to be
&c &c
(Signed) Alexr Davidson

Pay Office Madras
4th December 1787 —

Read the following Letters entered in the Miscellany Books Nos. 30. 31 )

From

1386

Fort St. George 11th December 1787.

extension of Power on the part of the Barrack
. Masters would have been exposed to the
Presidents Animadversions long ago, & their
unauthorized interference & exorbitant &
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it, as I have uniformly done, upon fair
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Fort St. George
10th December 1787. —

/Signed/ Rt. Maunsell.

Read the following Letter from
the Military Paymaster General —

John Shannier Esqr.
Military Secretary. —

From the Military Paymaster General stating that forwarding up the Books in his office for the years 85–86 are

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what

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the 28 Ultº desiring to be informed when the
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&c &c
(Signed) Alex.r Davidson

Pay Office Madras
11th December 1787.

Read the following Letters entered in the Miscellany Books (Nos. 30. 31.)

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1386. Fort St. George 11th December 1787.

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Fort St. George
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I have the honor to be

&c &c

(Signed) Alex.r Davidson

Pay Office Madras
11th December 1787.

Read the following Letters entered in the Miscellany Books Nos. 30. 31.)

Toom

1388 Fort St. George 11th December 1787

From the Paymaster at Palamcotah, desiring permission to retain two additional Checkledars & two Armourers for the purpose of keeping in the Arms in Repair, unless it should be the pleasure of Government to withdraw from Palamcotah such proportion of the Arms as exceed the Complement for the Garrison.

From the Paymr of Palamcotah

Agreed that the Paymaster at Palamcotah be permitted to retain two additional Checkledars & Armourers

Minute thereon

From Mr Harry Taylor enclosing the Affidavit made before Mr Holland one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace.

From Mr H Taylor

Ordered that the Affidavit be lodged in the Office, & that Copy of it be

Minute thereon

1389. Fort St. George 11th December 1787.

to be sent to the Military Paymaster General for his guidance.

Arch.d Campbell
John Holland
Ja.s Kasanajor
R. Maunsell

Lt. Geo.d Marten 97

1388. Fort St. George 11th December 1787

From the Paymaster at Palamcotah

From the Paymr of Palamcotah desiring permission to retain two additional Checkledars & two Armourers for the purpose of keeping in the Arms in Repair, unless it should be the pleasure of Government to withdraw from Palamcotah such proportion of the Arms as caused the Complement for the Garrison

Minute thereon Agreed that the Paymaster at Palamcotah be permitted to retain two additional Checkledars & Armourers

From Mr Harry Taylor

From Mr H Taylor enclosing the Affidavit made before Mr Holland one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace

Minute thereon Ordered that the Affidavit be lodged in the Office, & that Copy of it be

1389 Fort St. George 11th December 1787.

to be sent to the Military Paymaster General
for his guidance.

Archd. Campbell
John Holland
Jas. Kirkpatrick
R. Maunsell

Lt. Colonel Masters

1390 Fort St. George 4 December 1787.

# Diary

&c
11. The following Regulations for the Department of the Comptroller General of Army Accounts having been sent this day in Circulation, were approved & despatched.—

## To Colonel Capper

Comptroller General of Military Accounts

Sir,

To the Comptroller & General of Military & Accounts with & Regulations for his Office—

I am directed by the Board to furnish you with the following Instructions for your Guidance in the Execution of your Office as Comptroller General of Military Accounts.—

You are to examine and audit all the Military Accounts of the Presidency together with those of the Out Garrisons in the Carnatick and Canara where the Company have Troops and for this & purpose you are empowered to send for Accounts and Vouchers as often as you shall think necessary from the different Offices, and to call upon & the

Fort St. George December 1787.

11. The Persons holding such Offices to give you every Information you may require Concerning their respective Accounts.—

In all Accounts whatsoever that fall under your Examination, you are to reject any Charge that may appear directly contrary to the Orders or Regulations of the Board or any Charge not properly supported, and in consequence to require the Person in whose Accounts such Charge shall be made, to refund or give immediate Credit for the same, nor will the Board admit of an Appeal to them from any Person, who may conceive himself aggrieved by your proceeding, until you shall have certified that the Money have been so refunded or passed in Account to the Credit of the Company Provided you are satisfied that the Balance in favor of the Person, so Ordered to refund, is sufficient.—

All Orders that may be made in future relative to any new Charge in the Military

1392. Fort St. George December 1787.

Military Department shall be communicated to you officially, and you will be permitted on application to the Secretary to have access to the Consultations in order that you may collect such Orders and Regulations as may have heretofore been made relative to Accounts

The great object of your appointment being the Reduction of the present heavy Expences of the Company, you will of course keep that always in your Mind, and in the progress of your Examinations as Comptroller General of Military Accounts you perceive any Expences that can in your opinion with propriety be reduced or curtailed, you will forthwith report them with your Sentiments for the Information of the Governor in Council.

The Board direct that whenever you discover any Instances of Irregularity neglect, or Inattention to the Orders of Government you immediately report the

1393 Fort St. George December 1787

to the Governor in Council.—

In Order that Government

may be furnished with Statements of #

Military Expenditure in Every Department

at the Presidency, Out Garrisons &c. the

Honble the President in Council is pleased

to direct that as soon as the Monthly Accounts

are received and Audited an Abstract be laid #

before them, comprehending the Accounts of

the preceding Months and remarking the

Increase and Decrease of Expence, for which

Reasons are to be assigned—The Balance of

Cash remaining in the Hands of the several

Departments, is at the same Time to be #

reported.—

In the Execution of the above

Service you may depend upon the firmest

Support and Assistance of Government and

should your Labors be Successfull in #

retrenching the present heavy Expences

you will be entitled to and will receive

every

1394 Fort St. George December 1787

11. every future Encouragement which the
Board can possibly give.—

Fort St. George
11th December 1787— Sam Sg.— Sg.—
/signed/ John Chamier Secry

12. Sent the undermentioned Letters for their
Sd, B, Nos 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41.

To the Members of the Vestry.—

To the Members of the Vestry.— Every
Support, which Government is authorized
to give will be afforded them in carrying
into Execution the proposed plan for the
Maintenance of the Orphans, and distressed
Male Children of the Soldiery on this Coast
an Establishment of 100 Boys to take place,
for each of whom 5 Rupees P Month will
be allowed by the Board.—

To Mr Davidson

To the Military Paymaster General
Government have consented to relieve
Mr Henry Taylor from the Sum of Pag. 10,670
for which he was held responsible to the
Company, by Mr Commissioner Jackson

To

1395

Fort St. George December 1787

11

To Mr Oakes — To the Paymaster at Palamcotah — the Board approve his retaining 2 Chuklears and 2 Armourers for the purpose of repairing the Old Arms —

To the Board of Revenue — To the Board of Revenue, enclosing Extract of a Letter from the Committee of Works with a Paper of Requests from the Contractor for Bricks & Chunam, & desiring they will give the necessary Orders, agreeably to the Recommendations of the Committee —

To Mr Anderson — To Mr George Anderson, returning him his Bills for Pay &c. audited by the Commissary General —

To the Hospital Board — To the Hospital Board, with Copy of a General Order this day issued — Mr Gahagan to visit the Presidency —

13. To the Paymaster at Madura — the Grain now in Store to be kept until the new Crop is gathered in, when it will be exchanged by the Nabobs Managers —

To Mr Latham

Circular to Barrack Masters — Circular Letter to Barrack Masters, to transmit to the Board a Return of the number

1394 Fort St. George December 1787.

11. every future Encouragement which the
Board can possibly give.—

Fort St. George
11th December 1787.—

Sam. Ed. Ed.
/signed/ John Chamier Secry

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A, B, No. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41.

To the Members of the Vestry.—

To the Members of Madras Vestry — Every
Support, which Government is authorized
to give will be afforded them in carrying
into Execution the proposed plan for the
Maintenance of the Orphans, and distressed
Male Children of the Soldiery on this Coast
an Establishment of 100 Boys to take place,
for each of whom 5 Rupees P Month will
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Fort St. George December 1787

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Circular to Barrack Masters — Circular Letter to Barrack Masters, to transmit to the Board a Return of the number

number of Lamps daily supplied with Oil in the Garrisons furnished by them specifying the number of Lamps appropriated to Gates of every discription Guard Rooms &c. &c.

Circular Letter to Paymasters, on the same Subject, & desiring they will report to Government the number of Doolies, and Dooly Boys kept up by them, & and the purposes for which they are employed.

Circular to paymasters

Dispatched the following Letters —

To John Hollond Esqr.

President

&c. Members of the Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

To the Board of Revenue with Copy of Minute & acknowledgement by the President on the subject of the Destruction of the French in the Circars.

In reply to that part of your Letter of the 24th Ult. which relates to the Destruction of the French in the Circars to be stopping of some Gunneys &c.

Jan.

1397.

Fort St. George December 1787.

12

I am directed by the Board to inform you that they have concurred in Opinion with the President, & adopted the recommendation contained in a Minute delivered in by him on the Subject.

I have the honor to enclose Copy of the Minute, & am directed further to inform you that the necessary Directions will be transmitted to Masulipatam & Ingeram.

I have the honor to be

&c. &c.

Fort St. George
11 December 1787.

/signed/ John Shamier
Secty

To Mr. Mathew Yeats
Resident at
Ingeram.

Sir.

I am directed by the Board to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter dated the 25th October.—

To the Resident at Ingeram on the foregoing Subject.

Having taken the above into Considerations with Sundry Papers laid before them by

Fort St. George December 1787.

12.

by the Board of Revenue on the same subject together with a Minute delivered in by the Honble the President, Government has approved & adopted the Measures recommended in the President's Minute, Copy of which is inclosed.

You will be pleased therefore to consider the President's Minute as containing the Line which you are to take in your Discussion with the French Resident at Yanaam, until the expected Orders from Europe shall establish the points in Contestation upon permanent footing.

Fort St. George
12 December 1787.

I am Sir, &c. &c.
(signed) John Chamier Secy

To Anthony Sadleir Esqr
Chief &c. Council
at
Masulipatam

Gentlemen,

The Board of Revenue having laid before Government Sundry Papers

To Masulipatam on the same Subject. & desiring the said Papers Government what range the Amount of Revenues collected in their District for one year by the Imposition on Goods, the property of British Subjects

1399.

Fort St. George December 1787.

12.

Papers transmitted to them by Mr. Cram relative to the Stopping of some Guinneys & to the validity of French Dustucks in the Circars, the same have been taken into particular Consideration by the Honble the President, who has entered a minute on the Subject—

The Reasoning in the President's Minute, & the recommendations contained therein, having been approved & adopted by the Members of the Board, are to be the rule for your Guidance until the expected Orders from Europe shall establish the Points in Contestation, upon a permanent Footing.—

The Board desire you will acquaint them what is the Amount of Revenue collected in your District for one Year by the Impost upon Goods, the property of British Subjects: in order that the Court of Directors may be furnished with the necessary Information by which they may be enabled to judge of the expediency of the Measure that will be proposed by them as recommended in the President's Minute.

I have the honor to be
&c. &c.
(signed) John Chamier Secy.—

Fort St. George
12 December 1787.—

by the Board of Revenue on the same subject together with a Minute delivered in by the Honble the President, Government has approves & adopted the Measures recommended in the Presidents Minute, Copy of which is inclosed-

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Fort St. George
12 December 1787-

I am Sir, &c. &c.
(signed) John Chamier Secy

To Anthony Sadleir Esqr.
Chief &c. Council
at
Masulipatam

Gentlemen,

The Board of Revenue having laid before Government Sundry Papers

For Masulipatam on the same Subject, & desiring the sentiments of Government what may be the amount of Revenue collected in their District for one year by the Imposts upon Goods, the property of British Subjects

1799.

Fort St. George December 1787.

12.

Papers transmitted to them by Mr Oram relative to the Stopping of some Guinneys & to the validity of French Dustucks in the Circars, the same have been taken into particular Consideration by the Honble the President, who has entered a minute on the Subject—

The Reasoning in the President's Minute, & the recommendations contained therein, having been approved & adopted by the Members of the Board, are to be the rule for your Guidance until the expected Orders from Europe shall establish the Points in Contestation, upon a permanent Footing.—

The Board desire you will acquaint them what is the Amount of Revenue collected in your District for one Year by the Impost upon Goods, the property of British Subjects: in order that the Court of Directors may be furnished with the necessary Information by which they may be enabled to judge of the expediency of the Measure that will be proposed by them as recommended in the President's Minutes

I have the honor to be
&c. &c.
(signed) John Chamier Secy—

Fort St. George
12 December 1787—

1400 Fort St. George December 1787.

12

Recieved the undermentioned Letters

(entered in M.B. N.o 42. 43. 44)

From Major Wemyss

From Major Wemyss stateing that he is Executor to the Estate of the deceased M.r Marter Assistant Surgeon, & requesting that the Subsistance due to the said Estate may be discharged.

To the Military & Paymaster General.

In consequence of the foregoing, a Letter was addressed to the Military Paymaster General desiring him to liquidate the same in the manner practised with Claims of a similar Nature / Vide M.B. N.o 45. /

From Col. Floyd.

From Colonel Floyd enclosing Bill for stabling, which he requests may be discharged

From the Paymaster at Trichinopoly

From M.r Johnston

stating that the Grain in Store is old, & growing musty, & requesting leave to deliver it over to the Nabobs Managers that he may replace it with an equal quantity of fresh Grain.

1401 Fort St. George 14th December 1787.

At a Consultation Present

The Honorable. Major General

Friday Sir Archibald Campbell Kt, 13,

the 14 December President

1787.—

John Holland, James Henry Casamajor

&

Robert. Maunsell Esqr.

Minutes of last Consultation

read and approved.—

Read the following Letter

from the Military Board.—

To the Honorable. Major General,

Sir. Archibald Campbell, Kt, 13,

Govanor &c. &c. &c. in Council

Honorable Sir.

From the Military Board with Regulations for the Engineer's Department & Copies of Minutes on the subject by Lieutenants Colonel Gells & Malcolm

The accompanying Regulations proposed by Lieutenant Colonel Ross for the Engineers Department, having undergone a most careful perusal, and investigation at our Board,

&c

1402. Fort St. George 14 December.

We have the honor to submit them to your consideration, and approval, previous to their insertion in the new Book of Military Regulations.—

We have likewise the honor of laying before you, Minutes of Lieut.ts Colonel Geils & Malcolm, on the paragraph of Lieut. Colonel Ross's Regulations for the Engineer Corps, respecting the Chief Engineer taking command of the Trenches.—

We have the honor to be,

&c. &c.

" J. Capper.

" Thomas Geils

" Henry. Malcolm

" James Campbell

" John Durand

. J. Moorhouse

Lieutenant

Fort St. George

Friday 7th December 1787.

1403

Fort St George 14th December 1787.

Lieutenant Colonel Geils is clearly of opinion that the Chief Engineer, or Commanding Officer of Artillery, who may occasionally visit the Trenches Batteries, or Out Posts as their respective Stations may call them, ought not to assume or take the Command from Officers specifically appointed in L: C: to such duty, for the reasons. That he does not see it necessary to the conducting the detail in either Department:- That by such an assumption they come upon general duty which pointedly precludes them during its continuance from any Regimental interference, the avowed assumption of their visiting the Trenches, and, That if one or other should at any time assume the Command, he conceives there might be a very great impropriety in their relinquishing it again but by order of the Commander in Chief, which would confine them to a particular situation, when their attention ought to be more generally directed

(signed) Thomas Geils
Lt Col. A.I.G

Fort St. George
11th December 1787.

Do

1404 Fort St. George 14th December 1787

I do not object to the Regulations of Rank and Command to be held by the Chief Engineer and the other Officers of that Corps, because I understand it to be agreable to the rules and discipline of War, But I do not consider it regular that it should make a part of the Book, we have been directed to revise and frame, because in no part of that Book does the point of rank and command affecting the Officers of Cavalry, Artillery & and Infantry, appear, which necessarily & ought to be inserted, if the rank and command of Military Officers is considered a proper subject to be treated of in the work on which the Military Board is now employed.—

If to establish the rights, by rank and Command of Military Officers is to be considered as one of the purposes for which the Book of Regulations was originally framed, or for which it has lately been ordered to be revised and compiled; I am of opinion we ought to go comprehensively into the subject, and not partially by

Fort St. George 14th December 1787

by a selection of only one Corps and one Point; but it does not appear to me a subject in the province of the Military Board, except so far as relates ✠ exteriorly to the Rank and Command among the Native Troops, and to that of the Commissioned European Officers over the several Ranks among the Native Troops.—

The usage of Military Service in general establishes fully the Authority of an Engineer Officer's Commission to be the same ✠ according to its date as that of the Cavalry, Artillery and Infantry, and the special orders of the Honble the Court of Directors and of this ✠ Presidency, under date in the orderly Book, 21st February 1775., regulates for the Company's Service what it was deputive in twelve Years ago on this subject—

For all the above reasons I beg leave to state my opinion, that if the point of Rank and Command to the Officers of the Engineer Corps only is to be inserted, the Book will be deputive

defective, and that as far as I can judge of the
purposes for which it is to be compiled, the
rights of Rank and Command among Military
Officers (with the exceptions already stated)
applicable to the Natives of the respective Ranks)
cannot consistently and regularly make a part of it

(signed) Henry Malcolm

The Board approve the Regulations
Minute thereon — for the Engineers Department, (with the
exception of the 5th Article) & direct in Consequence
. Agreed that the Military Board be desired to
insert them in the New Book of Regulations

Read the following Letter from
the Deputy Accomptant General.

To John Pannier
Military Secretary

From the Deputy Accountant enclosing Copy of a Paper shewing the extra amount drawn for on Account of the Kings Troops & Batta to Prisoners & recommending that no Claims be received for Military Arrears of Dec. 1785. after the 1st. Payment

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive
Your Letter enclosing extract of a Letter from
the

1407. Fort St. George 14th December 1787.

The Bengal Government and from their Accountant General — with respect to the Estimate required by them of the further Sum to be drawn by Bills of exchange having compleated some time since the drafts to be made on Account of the King's Troops and Batta to the Prisoners, the Enclosed Paper will shew the reason of our having exceeded the Amount in our Jeneral Estimate of 30th April last, and that it is not in our Power to form an Estimate of the Sum still remaining due for the Military Arrears of 31st December 1785, but it is submitted whether an order of Government might not be issued for all claims of Military Arrears of December 1785. to be made, on or before the 1st. May next; when the Register should Close, and after that time none to be received or Acknowledged. —

Accountant Jeneral's Office 12th December 1787.

Sam Y. - Y. -
(signed) Robert Woolf
Dep. Accountant
Amount

1408. Fort St. George 14. December 1787.

| | C.Pr. | Pags |
|---|---|---|
| Amount drawn on the Bengal Government on account of the King's Troops and for the Batta to the Prisoners | 13,74,845. 8/ | 32,786.4.49 |
| Amount in the General Estimate of 30. April 1787 | | 29,302.— |
| Exceeding the Estimate | | Pags 28,759.4.49 |

Occasioned as follows, viz.t

When the Estimate was formed, the Amount of Batta due to such Officers, as are now Captains Lieutenants, was intended to be discharged by Certificates for Bonds of the Bengal Government, but upon an Application to Government by some of these Officers, it was ordered that during the time they were below the rank of Captain Lieutenants, they should be allowed to draw their Arrears of Batta in Cash in the same manner as the rest of the Subalterns, this caused an excess of Pags 23,000 the remaining 5,000 Pags was owing to the Indents from the Kings Paymaster having

1409. Fort St. George 14th. December 1787.

having so far exceeded the Estimate.—

In regard to the Estimate of

Military Arrears of 31st. December 1785 it

required by the Bengal Government, We have

no materials from our Military Paymaster

General; who declares it is totally out of his

power to form a probable Estimate of what

further claims may yet come in,— tho' there

is a possibility they may Amount to a

considerable Sum: many may be still

outstanding depending on Adjustments of

Accounts for issues of Grain &c.— The only

Article to be ascertained, is the Gratuity

due to the Field Officers since September 1783.

to December 1785. estimated at Pagodas 60,000—

but this depends on the orders of the Court

of Directors to whom it has been referred

signed/ Robert Woolf

Dep.y Accountant

Agreed

1410. Fort St. George 14th December 1787.

The Account to be transmitted to Bengal

Agreed that the Account furnished with the foregoing Letter be transmitted to Bengal.—

a General Order to be published relative to Claims for Military Arrears.—

Resolved that a General Order be published, notifying that all Claims for Military Arrears prior to the 31st December 1785 be delivered into the Mily Paymaster General's Office on or before the 1st May next—at which time the Register will be finally closed.—

Read the following Letter from

Pedircat.—

To the Honorable Major General
Sir Archibald Campbell K.B.
President &c. Council
at
Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Pedicat requesting the Interference of Government in respect to a Debt due by the Estate of the late Mr Sebastiano Dias to the Orphan House at Negapatam.—

The Gentlemen in Charge of the Orphan House at Negapatam, have represented to us, that Mr Sebastiano Dias the

1411 Fort St George 14 December 1787

The Widow of Michael Zanders, departed this
Life on the 9th of last Month, being indebted
to the said Orphan House, in the Principal
Sum of 500 Pagodas, with an Interest of 240
making together the Sum of 740 Pagodas,
and that the said deceased Widow having by
her last Will and Testament appointed
Messrs Jacobus Wilhelmus Swart, and
Francois Rousseau to be her Executors,
they have prevented the Sequastration of
the Estate, so that the aforementioned
Sum has not been obtained on Account of the Orphan
House.-

We have the honor to acquaint you,
that this Sum was Borrowed from the House in the Year 1781.
And as a Debt of this Nature has a preference to
all others, We take the liberty to request that your
Honor will be pleased to instruct the Commanding
Officer at Negapatam to order the Executors to pay to
the Gentlemen in Charge of the Orphan House the sum
due by the late Widow without further delay

We have the honor to be with greatest Respect
&c. &c.

Pullicat
12 December 1787-

/signd/ Wm Blaauhamer
&c. Council

1412. Fort St George 14th December 1787.

Mr Mathewson

Agreed that Copy of the foregoing be sent to Mr Tallofield & that he be directed to enquire into the Subject & report upon it.

Read the following Letter from the Comptroller General of Army Accounts.

To The Honble. Major General Sir. Archibald Campbell K.B.

Governor in Council.

Honble Sir

From the Comptroller General of Army Accounts requests Instructions upon certain Points previous to his final Audit of the Barrack Masters Accounts.

Before I could proceed to a particular Audit of the Barrack Masters Accounts, it was necessary for me to Know from them if they had any Authority for having in my Opinion deviated from the original Orders of Government in supplying the Native Cavalry & Infantry with Doolies. & other Articles not allowed by the new Regulations. From their Accounts as well as from their Answers to my Letters, it clearly appears that the Sepoy Serjeants & other have

1413. Fort St. George 14th December 1787.

have received the different Articles charged; but as they are not particularly specified in the new Arrangement, I must request to know of your pleasure whether these Charges are to be allowed in the Accounts of the Barrack Masters, which are now before me, & likewise whether or they shall be continued in future. Of these or also it is necessary to observe there are different descriptions. Serjeants of Sepoys doing duty in Garrison - where European Corps are likewise stationed; others belonging to Battalions at Out Garrisons, & even some with Detachments at other inferior Out posts. The Sepoy Serjeants stationed at the Presidency have hitherto been indulged with the same Allowances as those of the Europeans Corps.

When these points are or determined, I shall of course proceed to the more Minute Examination of the Accounts, & endeavor precisely to ascertain, First, if each Article has been distributed in due proportion according to the Regulations. And next what is the exact

amount

1414. Fort S.t George 14.th December 1787.

Amount of the Overcharges. In the first I shall
finds but very little difficulty, because the Signature
of the Officers Commanding at different places
ascertains to me the number of Men under #
their Command & likewise the number of Gates
& Guards for which Lamps &.c are required #
but as the Barrack Master of the Center #
Division accounts to me in his answer to
my Letter for an encrease in the prices of
several Articles by stating, that he has been
subject to several Extra Expences by the #
removal of the European Corps from Arcot
to Poonamalee & from Madras to Walajah-
bad & likewise from the difficulty of procuring
Barrack Utensils & Oil at the new Cantonment
I must trouble You to inform me before the
Accounts are finally Audited, whether these #
Additional prices charged by him are to
be allowed & to what extent

I have the honor to be with great Respect
&.c &.c
(signed) J.n Capper C. G. A. A. Gen.l

Fort S.t George
12 December 1787.

1415. Fort St. George 14th December 1787.

Taken into Consideration

The Board having taken the foregoing into Consideration, Agree that the following Reply be sent to Col: Capper

To Colonel James Capper
Comptroller General of Army Accounts

Sir,

The Reply.

In reply to your Letter of the 12th Instant. I am directed by the Board to inform you that the Allowances granted extended to the Serg.ts of European Corps are to be to the European Serg.ts of Native Corps in Garrisons and Cantonments where Europeans troops are quartered, and also in Garrisons & Station where no European troops are Quartered, The former to be supplied by the Barrack Masters and the latter by the paymasters

The Board have also agreed, that one Dooly be allowed to each Regement of Native Cavalry but do not approve of any Charge of that Nature being made for the Native

1416. Fort St. George 14th. Decr 1787.

Native Infantry

In all other respects the Regulations

are to be the Guide by which you are to audit

the Barrack Masters Accounts - Any deviation

from the Regulations or any Extra Charges

or additional prices are of Course to be rejected

Fort St. George
14th December 1787.

Sam. Hy. Hy.
(signed) John Chamier Secy

Read the following Letters entered

in the Miscellany Book No. 46-47.-

From Mr Surgeon Gordon.

From Mr. Gordon, Surgeon &

enclosing a Memorial addressed to the &

Court of Directors, which he requests may be

forwarded to them.-

Ordered Accordingly -

From Lieut Trer

From Lieutenant Trer &

stating that not being furnished with &

a Quarter as Deputy Post Master at &

Trichinopoly he has repaired one that

was Condemned, & expended upon it one

hundred

1417 Fort St. George 14. December 1787.

hundred & fifty Pagodas which he Solicits may
be reembursed to him.—

The Repairs made to the Quarter
Master Attendant

having been executed without Authority the
Board cannot to endemnify Lieut. Freer to the Extent
he has requested— In consideration of the necessity
of his being supplied with a Quarter, it is
however Agreed that he be paid 50 Pag.s on
account of the Expences he has encurred.—

Ordered that General Horne
be advised of the above & informed that the
Quarter in question is to be Considered the property
of the Honble Company.—

Exd. Cs.

Arth. Campbell
John Bellord
Jn.o Hasanajor
R. Maunsell

1412. Fort St. George December 1787.

Diary

15 Sent the following Letter to Bengal

To the Right Honorable Charles Earl Cornwallis K.G.

Governor General in Council

at

Fort William

My Lord.

To Bengal. With Copy of a paper from the Accountant, shewing the extra Amount drawn for, on Account of the Kings Troops & Batta, to Prisoners &c. G: O: published that no claim for Military Arrears to the 31st. December 1785 will be received after the 1st May next

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a Letter under date the 24 October ult last from the Supreme Council; & in Conformity to the request of the Accomptant General at Calcutta, now enclose the Report made to us on the Subject of his application to your Lordship.—

We have published in General Orders a Notification that all Claims for Military Arrears to the 31st December 1785 not presented before the first of May next, will be absolutely rejected

We have the honor to be

&c. &c. &c.

Fort St. George
15. December 1787.

(signed) Archibald Campbell

&c. Council

To

1419. Fort St. George December 1787.

16th Dispatched the following Letters entered in
M. B. Nos 48. 49. 50. 51. 52.

To the Paymaster at Trichinopoly

To the Paymaster at Trichinopoly. To
acquaint the Board at what Period the new
Corps will be gathered in, after which Application
will be made to the Nabob on the Subject of
exchanging the Grain now in Store.—

To the Military Board

To the Military Board, the Regulations
for the Engineers Department approved
with the Exception of the 5th Articles.—

To the Resident at Nagore—

To the Resident at Nagore, enclosing
Copy of a Letter from the Chief Council at
Tellicat on the Subject of a Debt due to the
Orphan House at Negapatam.—

To Colonel Floyd

To Colonel Floyd.—enclosing his Bill
for Stabling signed for Payment.—

To Brigadier General Horne

To Brigadier General Horne, Lieut
Trier Deputy Post Master at Trichinopoly
is to be reimbursed 50 Pagodas, for repairing
a Company's Quarter.—

Received

1420 Fort S. George December 1787.

16. Received the undermentioned Letters entered in M.B. No. 53.. 54.. 55...

From Lieutenant Coke, at Tanjore, requesting

From Lieut Coke, Payment of his Arrears of temporary Allowance and of the Sum granted for Passage Money

From the Paymaster at Madura, Desiring

From the Paymaster at Madura.. to know if he is to acquiesce in Captain Hugh Campbells Request of taking Charge of the Barracks Masters Employ in that Garrison and if so how it is to be conducted.

From Mr Samuel Johnston, Payd.

From the Paymaster at Trichinopoly at Trichinopoly requesting Leave to visit the Presidency on Account of his private Affairs.

Received the following Letter from General Conway & Mr Moracin at Pondicherry.

To

1421. Fort St. George December 1787.

To his Excellency Sir. A. Campbell K.B.
Commanding in Chief the Forces of his Britannic
Majesty on the Coast of Coromandel Governor &
General of Madras &c. &c.

Fort St. George.

Sir,

From General Conway & Mr. Morrien, inclosing Copy of a Letter to them from Mr. John Scot, with their Answer, on the Subject of a Debt due by him to Mr. Meltern

Mr. John Scot has contracted at Tutocorin a Debt with Mr. Meltern employed by the Dutch India Company, the latter having learnt that Mr. John Scot had retired some time since to Pondicherry, has appointed an Attorney to prosecute the recovery of what is due to him the Orders of the King forbid the interference of the Superior Council & refer only to two Arbitrators the Judgement of all Matters in dispute between two Strangers, Mr. Melterns Attorney has presented to us a Petition against Mr. John Scot. we have made Mr Scot acquainted with it for him to reply to it. but instead of doing so he has wrote us a Letter Copy of which and of our Reply we have the honor to send you We

request

1422 Fort S.t George December 1787.

16

request your Excellency to honor us with your
Advice upon the present Question, that is to
inform us how you would act at Madras
if a french Subject declined the British
Jurisdictions against a Stranger

We have the honor to be

/signed/ Conway - Moracin

Attrue Translation

T.s Chase.

french Translator

Pondicherry
11.e December 1787.

To the Honble General Conway

Governor General of all the French Settlements
in India

and
Moracin Esq.r

President of the Supreme Council &c.a &c.a &c.a

Pondicherry.

Honorable Sirs

Having received an order from
you, to answer to a demand made on me
by M.r Danzas pro M.r Metson for a
Sum of Money said to be borrowed by me at Batavia
as

1423. Fort St. George December 1787.

16 A long description of the many misfortunes that have fallon one in trade, and the cruel treatment I have suffer'd from the dutch - of which my compliat Vein has been the Subsequent consiquence, Would be useless and take up that time - Appropriated by you to more important objects -

I shall only say in answer to your requisition - that I am an English man Subject of his Brittannick Majesty that Madrass - and has been the place of my abode and that for these Eighteen Months past I have held two Public and respectable employments under that Government an entire Stranger to the Laws and Customs of this Settlement, being only a temporary resident, having Neither Witnesses, or other proofs here, to shew the Illegality of Mr. Mitchin's demand I cannot in Justice to myself although entertaining the Highest respect for you Gentlemen enter into any defence before you - nor submit my cause to

1424 Fort St. George December 1787.

16.

to your judgement as I humbly conceive
that with due submission to your Authority
that as an Englishman, inhabitant
of Madras. I am not amenable to any
court of justice here for Debts encurr'd
by mercantile misfortunes, under another
Government but at the same time #
that I declare this, give me leave to #
add, could it be possible for me to
procure the necessary Vouchers - that
would be wanted on a Tryal - I have
so great an opinion of the Honour
and Equity of my judges - and the
justness of my cause that I would
willingly Waive this Privelidge -

If Mr. Mahern had thought
his demand proper to have brought
before an English tribunal - he ought
and Certainly would have done it #
During my long residence at Madras
and

1425. Fort St. George December 1787.

16 and where he was perfectly acquainted with my being. Whose as a British subject under a British Government he could with propriety, have prosecuted me, and Would have had every ∴ Justice done him- and I declare upon my ∴ Word, and honour, Which (although unfortunate) I have ever kept inviolable that so far from having left Madras to avoid his prosecuting me- I never heard he thought of commencing one.

And I here most solemnly Pledge myself- the Instant I return to Madras to appear before the Court of Judicature there and answer to my King and Country, for any demand he may have on me.—

I shall now conclude Gentlemen ∴ With entreating you to grant me that Protection that the Laws of all Civilized nations afford the unfortunate Stranger and which has ever more particularly distinguish'd the french

I have the Honor to be

&c: &c:

/signed/ John Scot

Answer

Pd Pondicherry December 8th 1787.

1426. Fort St. George December 1787.

16. answer.

Mr. John Scot

Sir,

We received this morning your favor of the 8th instant - you represent that as an Englishman, inhabitant of Madras, you are not amenable to any Court of justice in Pondichery, for debts encurred by mercantile misfortunes under another government - it is our duty and inclination to respect the privileges of all Nations. But do not conceive that a creditor has a right to claim his property in all Countries; if the debtor Was a french Subject, We would not hesitate in admitting the request of his creditor of whatever nation he should be. But our regard for Foreigners is such, that We have resolved to transmit Copy of your letter, and of our answer to his Excellency Sir Archibald Campbell intreating him to favor us with his advice upon the matter. We hope for

1427. Fort St. George December 1787

16 Sir, that you will not leave this town
until we receive his Excellencys Answer,

We have the honor to be

&c. &c.

(signed) Conway / Moracin /

Pondicherry
10. December 1787.

A true Copy

Conway. Moracin

The following Report of the Attorney
General in the Case of M.r John Scott, as above
stated is ordered to be entered hereunder. —

To the Honble. Major General Sir. Arch.d Campbell
K.B.

Hon.ble Sir.

From the Attorney General with his Opinion of the Question containing in the foregoing Letter from the Government of Pondicherry Enclosing a proposed Draft in Answer —

I have very maturely considered the
Question contained in the letter from the Government
of Pondicherry, and consulted all the books that
I imagened could give me information on the
Subject, but I have not been able to find anything
that could justify a departure from the almost
extempore opinion I had the honor to deliver
you

Fort St. George December 1787

16.

you on Friday last. The Mayors Court in which
all civil Actions must be commenced is in ev-
every respect extremely confined - it is limitted as
to place, as to person, and as to matter and no
which three heads all Jurisdiction whatsoever
must be ranged. The first of these or the Locality
of the Courts Authority is the only one that seems
at present necessary to consider - and in this
respect the Charter says That they may
Madras or within
try all civil suits arising within the Factories
or districts under this Presidency. to these it
appears to be restrained for the powers given
them implies a negative - That they shall
not take cognizance of any matter arising
elsewhere. so far are they therefore from
having Authority to try causes arising
between Foreigners in a foreign Country, that
they cannot try those between British
Subjects arising in any part of the British
Dominions

Fort St. George December 1787—

16. Dominions, except that immediately under the Government of this Presidency. even debt & contract & other transitory Actions which ⁊ generally follow a Man where ever he goes will not pursue him here with effect, unless by ⁊ his own allowance, for if he pleads to the ⁊ jurisdiction the suit is at an end, and the Court can not proceed further without exceeding their Authority.

Molloy in his treatise de Jure Maritimo & Navali says that Colonies & plantations are often made priveledged places, & that to encourage ⁊ Settlers to resort to them, the Inhabitants are declared not to be empliadable there for any debt contracted elsewhere, and instances Virginia ⁊ where a Man could not be sued for a debt contracted in England. In this respect Madras bears ⁊ a stronger resemblance to Virginia for the only reason why the Court here should be so circumscribed seems to be that which is assigned by this Author— a Security from their debts at home seems to have been held out as a bait to engage people to enter into

1430

Fort St. George December 1787

N.
16.

into the Company's Service, which at the time
the Charter was granted had little else to invite
them.—

I have the honor to enclose the draft
of a letter to Messrs. De Conway & Moracin in
Answer to theirs of the 11th & not to expose the narrow
limits in which our Civil Court has power to move
I have purposely avoided giving a direct Answer to
the Question they propose but acknowledge the
Law of Nations & their Authority to proceed in
the Suit commenced before them against M. &
John Scot.

I have the honor to with great respect
&c. &c.
[signed] Benj.n Sulivan

Fort St. George
17th December 1787

To His Excellency General Conway
Commandant General of the French Settlements
in India
Governor of Pondichery &c. &c.

To John Francis Moracin Esqr.
President of the Supreme Court of Judicature, Commissary
General of the Colonies &c. &c. &c.
at
Pondichery

Gentlemen,

I have been honored with your favor

The Draft—

1431. Fort St. George December 1787

16.

favor of the 11th Inst: relative to the Suit com-
menced before you against Mr. John Scot, and
beg leave to thank you for the indulgence you
have shewn him as a British Subject, in
paying any attention to his address to you
of the 8th of this Month.— If the Civil Judicature
in the first instance at this Settlement
were lodged with me & the Council I should
be able to give a direct answer to the Question
you propose, but having jurisdiction in those
matters only that come before us by Appeal,
& not knowing exactly what rule would
be observed in the Case you mention by
the Mayor & Aldermen, who are invested
with original Authority, I can only #
express my entire concurrence with you #
in opinion that a Creditor has a right to #
claim his Property in all Countries. I conceive
that debt & Contract are of a transitory #
nature, and follow the person of the Debtor
to

1432.

Fort St. George December 1787.

16.

to wherever he thinks proper to retire #

The plea of immunity from your jurisdictions

which Mr. Scot has inconsiderately setup

must be of disservice to himself if your

further indulgence does not impute it

to an ignorance of the right which every

nation professes of obliging Foreigners, #

who take refuge in it, to pay their just #

Debt in whatever place contracted. —

I have the honor to be with

the most perfect Esteem & Respect

&. &. &

Fort St. George
19th Decr 1787 —

/signed/ Archd Campbell

The Draft recommended
by the Attorney General,
to be copied fair & #
dispatched —

Ordered, That the Draft recommended
by the Attorney General to be Sent to Genral
Conway and Mr Moraiin, be copied fair and
Dispatched. —

Recieved the following Report from
the Hospital Board. —

Hospital

1433.

Fort St. George December 1787.

16

Hospital Board

Dec.r 10.th 1787.

From the Hospital Board stating the medical arrangement for Field Service — The European Regiment at Trichinopoly inoculates for the small Pox with Success — Messrs Whyte & Gahagan to visit the Presidency Mr. Harris to take charge of the Medicines at the General Hospital Mr. Briggs to be put in General Orders as Surgeon to the Chingleput Detachment — An additional Writer is requisite for their Secretary. —

In conformity to the Order of Government to draw out Regulations for care of Sick in the Field, a matter of the utmost moment to the welfare of the Service, the Hospital Board feel much pleasure in submitting to the consideration of the Honble Board the following Arrangements to serve as Regulations in addition to the present General Orders.

Let it be supposed there is an Army of 10000 Men in the Field 4,000 of whom are Europeans the rest Natives, three Shengs one

1434

Fort St. George December 1787.

16.

come under consideration Vizt.

Carriage, Covet. and Hospital

Staff —

1st. The Carriage for many

reasons, but chiefly that of

practicability should consist

of Doolies and Waggons. —

It has ever been found,

that Carriage bearing the

proportion of less than 8 Men

to the 100, upon actual Service

has been insufficient to convey

the Sick with the Army.

and carry them to places of

Shelter and when the Distance

from a fixed Hospital is

more than a hundred &

Miles, a greater proportion

will perhaps be necessary

but as his Majesty's and

the Honble Company's

Europeans are now, it is

hoped

1435. Fort St. George December 1787.

16

hoped inured to the Climate,
this number may prove #
sufficient for Carnatic Service.

The Doolies #
should be six feet long, two
feet six Inches wide
with, #
rattaned in the bottom, #
the Bamboo three feet
above the Rattans and the
Feet six Inches high, it
should be furnished with
a Bed two Pillows and
a Quilt covered with a
Bolster of painted Canvass
and carried on the shoulders
of five Bearers. —

The Body of the
Waggon should be four
feet wide and six long,
which will be found #
capable occasionally of
carrying four men to #

1436. Fort S.. George December 1787

16.

be slung on four Steel Springs
and run on four Wheels, &
covered with a Bullock or
Awning of painted Canvass
at the bottom rattaned and
covered with a Pallar. Each
Waggon should be drawn
by four Bullocks with proper
Drivers..

It is intended by &
the above distinction of &
Doolies and Waggons that
the worst cases should be
carried in the Doolies, the
rest in the Waggons.

According to the &
foregoing Calculation, there
should be 320 Doolies with
1,600 Bearers and 120 Waggons
with 480 Bullocks.

A Mastry and four
Assistants should superintend
the Doolies.

An

1437.

Fort St. George December 1787.

16.

An expert Serang and four Tindals who are have been accustomed to Wheel Carriage should attend the Waggons.

A Mastry Smith and Carpenter with each ten Workmen should be appointed for the repair of the Doolies and Waggons as well as Pattan men and Taylors

That the whole of this part of the arrangement be properly conducted, an officer commissioned for the purpose should be appointed to command them.

2. Cover for Sick and Wounded.

For this purpose it is recommended that six

1436. Fort S.. George December 1787

5/6.

be slung on four Steel Springs
and run on four Wheels, &
covered with a Bullock or
Awning of painted Canvass
at the bottom rattaned and
covered with a Pallas. Each
Waggon should be drawn
by four Bullocks with proper
Drivers..

It is intended by &
the above distinction of &
Doolies and Waggons that
the worst cases should be
carried in the Doolies, the
rest in the Waggons.

According to the &
foregoing Calculation, there
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A Mastry and four
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the Doolies.

An

1437.

Fort St. George December 1787.

16.

An expert Serang
and four Tindals who is
have been accustomed to
Wheel Carriage should
attend the Waggons.

A Master Smith
and Carpenter with each
ten Workmen should
be appointed for the
repair of the Doolies
and Waggons as well as
Pattan men and Taylors

That the whole of
this part of the arrangement
be properly conducted, an
officer commissioned
for the purpose should
be appointed to command
them.

2. Cover for Sick and
Wounded.

For this purpose it
is recommended that
six

1438. Fort St. George December 1787

16.

six Field Officers Tents &
with six Necessary Tents
for the accomodation of
the Sicks, and two Markies
for the preparation of
Medicine and Medical
Attendants to sleep in.
be distinguished as a
Field Hospital.

When the Army
halts, as many Doolies
as may be found necessary
to have the Bamboos taken
out, and placed in the
Tents, to serve as Cotts for
the Sick.

3.d Hospital Staff

As it is presumed
that every Corps will have
its own Surgeon or Assistant
Surgeon, and is supplied
with

1439. Fort St. George December 1787.

16.

with Medicines upon taking the Field yet it appears necessary there should be.—

One Surgeon General of the Army with a Secretary

One Head Surgeon of the Field Hospital with six Hospital Mates,

12. Nurses,

6 Servants for fomentations and Glysters,

6 Sweepers, and

6. Massaulgies

One Apothecary with two Assistants and 6 Helpers—

One Victualler with a Baker and 6 Cooks.—

The Apothecary and Victualler to be each allowed 10 Carts for carrying their respective Stores.—

The Surgeon General and Head Surgeon each a Mastry and 12 Coolies for

their

1440.

Fort St. George December 1787.

16.

their different apparatus,
and the Hospital Mates
each four Coolies for carrying
their Instruments.

All Medicines and
Dressings to be prepared
by the Apothecary, and
Articles of Cookery by the
Victualler Agreeable to
the Order of the Surgeons
for Hospital use.

As it has already
been supposed that every
Corps is to have its own
Surgeon, and that he is
supplied with Medicines
and Instruments when
he takes the Field, it is
necessary, that a Mastry
and twelve Coolies be
allowed to every Regimental
Surgeon, for the purpose of
Carriage

4.
16.

Carriage; but as that number will not be sufficient to # carry all the Stores that the Surgeon of an European Regiment will find necessary he should indent to the # Apothecary in Camp, for Wine, Spirits, and other # bulky Articles from time to time.—

An Assistant # Surgeon with a Native Corps should be allowed # Six Coolies, and should # indent to the Apothecary in Camp from similar Articles.—

Having thus gone through the Medical # Arrangement for Field # Service, it remains with the Hospital Board now only

1442. Fort St. George December 1787.

16.

only to draw out an #
Estimate of the Expence #
attending it Agreeably to
the Orders of Government;
but as the Nature of the
Service is such, the hire of
Bullocks, and the pay
of Drivers, Coolies &c.a
so complicated, that it
is difficult for them to
ascertain the actual #
expence, they are therefore
induced to hope that
Government will be #
satisfied with their having
brought into one point
of View the Arrangement
itself, by which those #
familiar with Field
Calculations, the pay of
Field Servants, and the
hire

1443. Fort St. George December 1787.

16.

hire of Carriage will be
enabled to doit with ye
precision. &c

The Hospital Board
beg leave to acquaint ye
Government, that they
have received a letter from
A. W. Mein Surgeon ye
with the First Battalion
of Europeans at Trichenopoly,
informing them, that a
Malignant kind of Small
Pox had appeared there ye
and been fatal, but having
found one Patient with
the benign sort, he proposed
to General Horne the ye
Necessity of inoculating
the Regiment which the
General Approved of — Mr.
Mein therefore from this
patient

1444. Fort St. George December 1787-

4/16

patient, after preparation
in Baron Dimsdales
method inoculated Twenty
of the Soldiers and gives #
hopes of the best success, as
when his letter was #
dispatched, the Inspection
had taken place, and the
part shewed favorable #
Signs.—

The Hospital Board
having received a letter #
from Mr. Gahagan #
soliciting leave to come
to the Presidency, and
specifying that he has
obtained the consent of
his Commanding Officer
have the Honor of recom-
mending his request to
the Honble Board &c.

1445. Fort St. George December 1787.

16.

Mr. Whyte Head Surgeon having left Trichinopoly agreeably to the leave he obtained, the Board have directed Mr. Mein Surgeon to the 1st Battalion of Europeans, to receive all Returns and make out the monthly report to them till further orders; and it is hoped Government will be pleased to publish this in General Orders.

Mr. Thomson's promotion from Hospital Mate in charge of Medicines at the General Hospital at Madras, having left that appointment vacant in consequence of Mr. Harris Hospital Mate having

1446. Fort St. George December 1787.

16.

having declared that the
publication of his Dictionary will not interfere with any part
of this Duty, the Hospital
Board beg leave to recommend that Mr. Harris be appointed to fill
that Station. -

The Hospital
Board in their Proceedings
of the 10th Ultimo, having
stated their Sentiments
on Mr. Ferrier's obtaining
leave to proceed to Europe,
and Government having
been pleased to direct that
Mr. John Brigg should
be put on the effective
list and succeed Mr. Ferrier,
as Surgeon of Vegazapatam,

they

1447. Fort S.t George December 1787.

16.

they have made an Arrangement
accordingly and recommend the
same being made public in
General Orders.

The Hospital Board
have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of a Letter from #
Government, relative to their
furnishing the Superior #
Board with a Copy of #
their Proceedings at the #
end of every Year, the Secretary
having informed them, that
his executing this Duty #
will prevent his attending
and even make it impossible
for him to keep up the #
Records of the Board, the #
correspondence and Accounts
of the Apothecary, Purveyor
&c.a without any additional
Writer

1448.

Fort St. George December 1787.

1/6.

Approved

Writer, as he has at present only one. They hope his request will not appear unreasonable, and that Government will be pleased to allow him another Writer.

/signed/ And.w Berry
Surg.n Hosp.l B.d

At a Consultation Present

The Honorable. Major General
Sir Archibald Campbell K.n B.
President

James Henry Casamajor
&
Robert. Maunsell Esq.r

Mr. Holland, indisposed

Tuesday
18.th Dec.r
-1787-

Minutes of last Consultation
read & approved.—

The President delivers in the
following Minute.—

After

1449. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

President transmits, introducing Copies of Letters from Lieutenant Colonel Gaitskill Remarks thereon &c.

After the Decision of the Board respecting the Case of Lieut. Colonel Geils, the President received from that Officer, several Letters dated the 28th of October the 15th of November and the 3d and 5th of this Month, on the subject of his Disappointment in not succeeding to the Command of the 1st Battalion of Artillery at the Mount. As these Letters contained a variety of Matter which appeared to the Governor to be foreign to the Case of Lieut. Colonel Geils, and which reflected in a high Degree, on the Conduct of this and Lord Macartney's Government, the President returned them to that Officer, & and advised him to state his case fully, without those unnecessary Reflexions; as they might lead to Replies in Refutation, that would Invalidate his Assertions, & enjure his Cause, and give less Weight

and

1450 Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

and Propriety to his Claims

Lieutenant Colonel Gyles having thought

proper to pursue his Original Ideas and to request

that his Letters may be allowed to go upon the

Record, in their present Form; and conformable

to their different dates; The President lays them

now before the Board, with such Remarks &

as occurred to him in perusing them, together &

with the answer received from the Military Secretary

on the Subject of the Charge brought against

him and his Office.

His Excellency Sir. Archibald

Campbell K. B. &c. &c. &c.

Commander in Chief

Fort St. George 28 Oct. 1787.

Sir,

Lieutenant Colonel Gyles's Letters to Sir Archibald Campbell, claiming the Command of the 1st Battalion of Artillery with the President's Remarks.

1. I consider myself so extremely aggrieved in being kept from the Command of a Battalion of Artillery, by two Junior

#1451. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

Junior Lieut: Colonels; that I am
confident your Excellency will be
induced to give me your support,
when en justice to myself and
the Commission I have the
honour to bear, as well as to
prevent the possibility of a wrong
impression being made on the
Hon^ble Court of Directors, or
their supposing for a Moment
some other existing cause, under
so marked a deviation from
the established usage of the
Service, than simply what it
states; that to avert an evil
of such magnitude; I have
to request Your Excellency will
be pleased to submit to the
Hon^ble Board the following
Circumstances,

1450 Fort St. George 18. December 1787.

and Propriety to his Claims.

Lieutenant Colonel Gyles having thought proper to pursue his Original Ideas and to request that his Letters may be allowed to go upon the Record, in their present Form; and conformable to their different dates; The President lays them now before the Board, with such Remarks as occurred to him in perusing them, together with the answer received from the Military Secretary on the Subject of the Charge brought against him and his Office.

His Excellency Sir. Archibald Campbell K. B. &c. &c. &c.

Commander in Chief

Port St. George 28 Oct. 1787.

Sir,

Lieutenant Colonel Gyles's Letters to Sir Archibald Campbell, claiming the Command of the 1st Battalion of Artillery with the President's Remarks.

1. I consider myself so extremely aggrieved in being kept from the Command of a Battalion of Artillery, by two of Junior

#1451. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

Junior Lieut: Colonels; that I am
confident your Excellency will be
induced to give me your support,
when en justice to myself and
the Commission I have the
honour to bear, as well as to
prevent the possibility of a wrong
impression being made on the
Hon'ble Court of Directors, or
their supposing for a Moment
some other existing cause, under
so marked a deviation from
the established usage of the
Service, than simply what it
states; that to avert an evil
of such magnitude; I have
to request Your Excellency will
be pleased to submit to the
Hon'ble Board the following
Circumstances,

Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

Circumstances that their Opinions
thereon may be upon Record for
the use of my Honble Employers,
and together with this may go
a Number in the next Packet for
Europe. I am not in possession
of your Excellencys Representations
of the 8th June and the beginning
of August last to my Lord Cornwallis,
and have as a little doubt but of
their being framed with a view,
that the most impartial justice
might be done to Lieut Colonel
Sydenham and myself. Yet
as a Man is avowedly partial
and claims a right to his own
Method of stating a subject
so nearly interesting himself,
and from thence might furnish
lights - suiting a situation like
mine, under the most aggravating
circumstances -

November

Lieutenant Colonel Gyles has acknowledged,
in a subsequent Letter of the 5th of November,
that he has got the Papers here
alluded to.

circumstances that can affect an
Officer that might otherwise escape
the penetration of the Commander
in Chief. I should also beg leave
to observe, that were Lieut Colonel
Sydenham for like reasons #
permitted to state his Claims,
I have no Idea they would exactly
meet mine, but I should be relieved
from a very embarassing Situation
in an apparent opposition to
the Commander in Chief's opinion
the matter would be fairly at
issue between us, and it would
then rest with your Excellency #
to determine, which of our two #
pretensions were best founded #

2. Impressed with every respect #
that as an Officer I owe the #
Commander in Chief and having
otherwise the Highest sense of my
Lord Cornwallis's Honour and Integrity

I

1454. Fort St. George 18th Decer 1787.

I am to request your Excellency will lead His Lordship's Attention to the particular hardship of my situation, and particularly point out, as the origin of all this, the false construction put upon the ## Orders of the Directors in 1781 respecting my Appointment, the very great expence I have been at in making two Voyages to England, for the express purpose to have this adjusted; my absolute loss of pray &c. ascertained by the Right ## Honble Board of Controul to exceed the Annual Sum of £900 Sterling, and entire loss of seven years at any time of life to which hardly any value can be affixed. All these Circumstances taken into Consideration, together with

It appears that the false Construction put upon the Orders of the Court of Directors in 1781. must apply to Lord Macartney's Government, as this Charge is brought forward without any proof in support of it, and is marked in Terms not less harsh than disrespectful to that Government it is presumed the Honble Court of Directors will give it that Consideration it deserves.—

It appears however from the Records, that the Orders of the Court of Directors are as follow: 34 Par: Directors Letters dated 2d February 1781.—

"We direct that a Brevet Commission of Major of Engineers be granted to Captain Thomas Giles We approve your Appointment of him to be Field Engineer and when so employed he

with the present Monthly loss of between two or three hundred Pagodas in being deprived of my Command, will I doubt not under your Excellency's Statement & have considerable effect

he is to receive the pay and allowances of a Major

And it likewise appears from the Records that the General Orders published in Consequence by Lord Macartneys Government in 1781 was as follow.

"Fort St. George 17 July 1781.

G. O.

The Honble Court of Directors having been pleased to appoint Captain Thomas Gils a Major of Engineers by Brevet, hers to take Rank as such from the 8th day of July 1781.

It is also on Record, that on the 31st of July 1781, Capt Lieutenant William Sydenham was appointed a Captain of Artillery in the Room of Captain Gils promoted in the Engineers Corps; by which it appears that Major Gils was to all Intents and Purpose regularly removed from being a Captain of Artillery to the Rank of Major in the Corps of Engineers, and that Captain Lieutenant William Sydenham had succeeded regularly to the Vacancy occasioned by the Promotion of Major Gils.

From the 17th of July 1781 when the Orders of the Honble Court of Directors were published, respecting the Appointment of Capt. Thomas Gils, as Major of Engineers by Brevet to the Month of January 1783, it appears that

Major.

1456 Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

Major Giels had silently acquiesced in his Appointment to the Corps of Engineers, and in his Removal from the Artillery. As his Acquiescence was without any Address or Remonstrance on the Part of Major Giels, there is very just Reason to conclude that the Promotion took Place with his own Consent, particularly as it was a Measure which gave him advanced Rank in another Corps.

Had the Honble Court of Directors ordered a Brevet Commission of Major in the Army to be given to Captain Thomas Giels instead of a Brevet Commission of Major Engineers; that Officer might have been considered to all Intents and Purposes, a Captain of Artillery holding the Brevet Rank of Major in the Army; but as the Orders of the Honble Court of Directors positively state, that a Brevet Commission of Major of Engineers be granted to Captain Giels, who is to receive the pay and allowances as Major, when employed as a Field Engineer, they certainly express that Captain Giels is to be considered as an Officer belonging to the Corps of Engineers with the Brevet Rank of Major, and that his Brevet Rank should entitle him to draw the pay and allowances of Major when employed in the Field.

To suppose that the Court of Directors could have any other Intention by their Order of the 27 February 1781. would be to contend, that they meant to be totally irregular and unjust on that particular Occasion. For there is not in the whole of the Company's Records, or upon the Records of the King's Army, one Instance of an Officer being permitted to hold a Commission in two seperate Corps, that were actually upon the same Establishment, and of the same Equality of Rank in the Army: Staff Officers hold one Rank only in a Corps and the other in the Army, but

but it was never known that they enjoyed at the same time a Commission in two Corps that were of the same Equality in Point of Rank.—

Such being the Case, it is certain beyond a Doubt that Lord Macartney's Government had put a fair and just Construction on the Order of the Court of Directors in 1781, and that the Request of Lieut. Colonel Giels to the Commander in Chief" to draw the Attention of "Lord Cornwallis in forcible "Language to the peculiar Hardships of his "Situation; and particularly to point out as the "Origin of all this the false Construction put upon "the Orders of the Directors in 1781, respecting "his appointment," was a very unbecoming and disrespectful Conduct towards that Government

It likewise appears that from the Month of February 1782 when Major Giels went home from Trincomaly, until his Arrival at Madras in 1787 as Lieut Colonl, a period of upwards of 5 Years, this Officer has not done One Hour's Duty in India. How far such Conduct may entitle him to pay for that time, or his Expences in making two Voyages to England, is left to the Judgment of the Honble Court of Directors.

It will naturally occur to your Excellency to dwell on the hardship, that any Bengal Regulation adopted perhaps for the Occasion, should at Madras injure my Military Rights and Fortune; and if Lieut Colonel Sydenham sustains any disadvantage by my Return to India, it also will be suggested by your Excellency his having derived his present accession of rank from the mere Circumstance of

It is difficult to reconcile this Assertion to that in the Extract of his Letter to Earl Cornwallis, when he says, "had he "remained in the Country it is impossible that he could have left his Battalion, as he belonged to, or at least was ordered to be returned in, Corps of

Engineers

1458. Fort St. George 18th Decr 1787.

of my Absence, and in direct # violation of the Company's Orders 21st September 1785. That I must have remained a Major still had, I not been forced to Europe for the sole purpose of having my Corps and Rank ascertained and determined.

His Lordship being fully impressed with the foregoing Circumstances, I must now request, the following # question may be submitted for his Opinion, and I appeal to your Excellency and the Gentlemen of Council, # wishing it to be recorded; if it was or was not, my situation in every respect at the time of my Arrival

Whether in justice Lieut Colonel Gyles should be deprived of the Command of a Battalion

stronger

Engineers, until he brought out the # present Order, explanatory of the # Company's Decision on his Case. So that the very Reason, or a stronger, would have been against him if he had remained at Madras, than exists at this Time on his Return with a Lieut Colonels Commission.

And Sir Archibald Campbell # implicitly followed the Rule which Lord Cornwallis had established respecting Officers coming from # England with superior Rank to the Deputies #

1459. Fort St. George 18th. Decr 1787.

Battalion of Artillery where there was neither Rule nor Usage in existance nor other pretense whatso-ever that could possibly preclude him and since the Order of 16th. Instant whether in justice or any Military Propriety a Supernumerary Officer should be in the Command of a Battalion, when an effective and his Senior Officer, holding a Commission for the same Corps remains without one.

In order to throw as much light on the Subject as lays in my power, and without designedly with-holding a Circumstance, whether it may make for or against me, I shall here take the liberty of inserting a Copy of my Lord Cornwallis's Letter to your Excellency which his Lordship furnished me with at Calcutta

Calcutta June 22d. 1787.

I have received your letter of the 8th Instant with the enclosures; in which of those who had remained at their Post in the constant Discharge of their Duty; it is certain that Colonel Gells would have been considered as the Supernumerary Lieut. Colonel of Artillery to serve on Major's Pay: But as he was willing to give Credit to Colonel Gells's assurances, that his Returns to England was merely to ascertain his Rank; and as he was likewise of opinion, that the youngest Lieut. Colonel of Artillery ought in Justice to be considered the Supernumerary Officer to serve on Major's Pay, he recommended to the Board, that Lieut Colonel Sydenham, apparently the Junior Lieut Colonel of Artillery, should for the present be named in Order as Supernumerary Lt. Col.: to serve on Major's Pay; until the Pleasure of the Court of Directors should be known. By this Means every Increase of Expence to the Artillery Establishment was avoided, and Lt. Colonel Gells by having the full Pay of his Rank, had his Situation made as easy to him, as the uncommon and extraordinary Circumstances of this Case could well admit. But although Sir Archibald Campbell has thus far differed from Lord Cornwallis in his Decision respecting the Supernumerary Lieut Colonel of Artillery he is nevertheless firmly of Opinion, that as the Removal of Lieut Colonel Gells in England from being Major in the Corps of Engineers to the Rank of Lieut. Colonel in the Corps of Artillery was subsequent to the appointment of Lieut Colonel Sydenham in the Country, from being a Major in the Artillery to the Rank of Lieut Colonel in the same Corps; and also as Lieut Colonel Sydenham was appointed to the Command of that Battalion which was vacated by the Resignation of Lieut

Col.

which you wish to know my sentiments on the Case of Lieut Colonel Lyell, and to be informed what Rule I have adopted in the Bengal Army for a similar Occasion. It is a matter that has lately occupied my serious attention, on the Reports of the Return of some Officers of high Rank to this Establishment and I have come to a determination that no Officer in the regular Command of a Corps shall be dispossessed in favour of a Senior Officer coming from Europe, unless I receive a positive Order of the Directors for that purpose, but such Senior Officer must wait till a Vacancy happen, I think this Rule conformable to justice and I believe every Military Man will agree with me that it is the best for the Service. —

Cornwallis"

Colonel Pegault, and as he has uniformly distinguished himself as an able, judicious Officer, and has brought the Battalion from a state of the greatest Relaxation in the highest good Order and Discipline, it would have been the Height of Injustice to Lieut Col. Lyenham and of injurious Consequence to the Service at this Instant to take him of that Command; Had the Bengal Rule been strictly attended to, Lieut Colonel Gale would have been placed upon Major Pay instead of Lyenham which would have marked his Situation with a Degree of Inferiority which he does not at present experience —

It appears from The Record that at the Major Gale on his Return to India 23d of August 1784. was informed by Lord Macartney and his Government, that he was to be considered and returned as Major in the Corps of Engineers, and that his application should be referred to the Hon.ble Court of Directors for their ultimate Decision on what Corps he was to be placed; yet instead of waiting for the Decision of the Hon.ble Court of Directors to whom his Case had been so referred, thought proper to proceed to England the 9th Sept.r thereafter. This was therefore an Act of his own Will and not of Necessity. —

It appears likewise from the

1461. Fort St. George 12th December 1787.

I did myself the honour of addressing Your Lordship the following Letter dated the 12th June accompanied by the general Order issued at Fort St. George the 7th Announcing my Return to the Service and ordering me to take my Rank and Post accordingly.—

"At the same time I have the honour of transmitting to your Lordship the Accompanying Papers, I beg leave to state, having been reduced to the necessity of proceeding to England at a great Expence and loss of time, in order to determine to what Corps I was to belong and be finally fixed, and that during my Absence, an Augmentation of the Artillery took place and the two Senior Officers were appointed to the Command of the first and Second Battalions.—

"Your Lordship will please to observe that at this time I was ordered to be returned in the Corps of Engineers, but the particular Circumstances of

the Records that Major Gaile, from the time he went home from Trincomalee in January 1782, until his last Arrival at Madras as Lieut Colonel of Artillery in June 1787, had done no Duty in India for the Space of 5 years & 5 Months consequently, to all Intents and Purposes he comes under the very Description of Officers here alluded to by Lord Cornwallis.—

When Major Gaile went to England, it was a voluntary Act of his own. It is certain that he might have avoided that Expence, by submitting his Case in a Memorial to the Honble Court of Directors, who would have given him a Decision upon it. And this would be agreeable to the Order of the Court of Directors respecting Complaints or Grievances from the Company's Servants in India.—

1462 Fort S.t George 18.th Decen.r 1787.

of my Case, were referred by the
Government to the Court of
Direction, to determine the
immediate Corps I was finally
to be fixed in.

"In Consequence of
this reference I requested permission
of the Madras Government to
proceed to England to have this
matter speedily and finally
adjusted, without injury to my
Rank or Views in the Service -

The two Senior Officers
at this time were Lieut.t Colonels
Rogault and Tanner, the former
being appointed to the Command
of the first, the other to that
of the Second Battalion. -

Had I remained in
the Country it is impossible
I could have had either Bat-
talion as I belonged to, or at
least

least was ordered to be returned in
the Corps of Engineers; until I
brought out the Present Order
explanatory of the Company's
decision on my Case; so that the
very same or a stronger Argument,
would have been against me, if I had
remained at Madras, than is at
this time on my return with
a Lieut.t Colonel of Artellery's
Commission.—

"Lieut Colonel Regault
going home, the Town Major
Sydenham in Prejudice of his
Commanding Officer Sanner,
was Appointed to the first Bat-
talion and Command of the
principal Station of the
Artellery at S.t Thomas's
Mount, with every honour
and advantage annexed to that
Station.—

Upon

On this Paragraph it is only
Necessary to remark, that as the two Battalions
of Artellery have been since their first
Establishment considered as distinct
and independent of each other, that they
are the same in Point of Strength, Honour
and Emolument; and as the Vacancy of
a Lieut Colonel happened in the 1.st Battalion
of which Lieutenant Col.o Sydenham was
the Major, he succeeded to the Command
of that Battalion, and to the Command
of the Mount, where it was stationed, as
a Matter of Course, without the least
Prejudice or Injury to Lieutenant Colonel
Sanner

1462 Fort S.t George 18.th Decer 1787.

of my Case, were referred by the
Government to the Court of D.rs
Directors, to determine the Imm.te
immediate Corps I was finally
to be fixed in.

"In Consequence of
this reference I requested Permission
of the Madras Government to
proceed to England to have this
matter speedily and finally
adjusted, without injury to my
Rank or Views in the Service -

The two Senior Officers
at this time were Lieut Colonels
Regault and Tanner, the former
being appointed to the Command
of the first, the other to that
of the Second Battalion. -

Had I remained in
the Country it is impossible
I could have had either Bat-
talion as I belonged to, or at
least

least was ordered to be returned in
the Corps of Engineers; until of
I brought out the Present Order
explanatory of the Company's
decision on my Case; so that the
very same or a stronger Argument,
would have been against me, if I had
remained at Madras, than is at
this time on my return with
a Lieut. Colonel of Artillery's
Commission.

"Lieut Colonel Regault
going home, the Town Major
Sydenham in prejudice of his
Commanding Officer Tanner,
was Appointed to the first Bat-
talion and Command of the
principal Station of the
Artillery at St Thomas's
Mount, with every honour &
and advantage annexed to that
Station.

Upon

On this Paragraph it is only
Necessary to remark, that as the two Battalions
of Artillery have been since their first
Establishment considered as distinct
and independent of each other, that they
are the same in Point of Strength, Honour
and Emolument, and as the Vacancy of
a Lieut Colonel happened in the 1st Battalion
of which Lieutenant Colo Sydenham was
then Major, he succeeded to the Command
of that Battalion, and to the Command
of the Mount, where it was stationed, as
a Matter of Course, without the least
Prejudice or Injury to Lieutenant Colonel
Tanner

1764. Fort S. George 18. Decr 1787.

Upon my Arrival His Excellency Sir. Archibald Campbell told me, he understood your Lordship had come, or was about coming to a resolution that Officers arriving from # England though of Superior Rank, were not to succeed to the Command of Battalions # 'until a Vacancy happened. Hearing this to be Your # Lordships intentions, and not Knowing but it had actually taken place, and # was meant to extend to this Settlement, Sir. Archibald Observed, he could not with # propriety appoint me to # a Battalion, but would state my Situation to your Lordship, and recommended I would # also state what I had to say upon

Tanner, who remains satisfied in his Station at Warriore Cantonment; and at all Events was the only Person who could have a Right to represent the contrary had it been the Case. Lieut. Colonel Gowdie therefore in presuming thus to reflect upon the # Injustice of Government, has acted a partly no Means consistent with the Common Rules of Respect due from him to his Superiors.

upon the Subject. In consequence
of this permission, and after
submitting this address to His
Excellency's perusal, I beg leave
to state to your Lordship, that
by a forced Construction being put
put upon the Directors Order,
I was removed from the Artillery,
by which I lost all my allow-
=ances as an Artillery Officer.

The Order Subsequent to this
is singular and I hope your
Lordship will excuse my
inserting it. Lieut. Sydenham is
appointed Captain in the room of
Major Giels removed to the Corps
of Engineers. I am Senior to James
and Sydenham in the Service,
my going to England was a
matter of Necessity in time of
profound Peace to get a business
settled

Lieut. Colonel Giels has made
a Mistake in his Quotation of this order,
which he says followed his being removed
from the Artillery to the Engineers in Consequence
of the "forced Construction put upon the
Directors Order," and which instead of being
so singular, as he states it, stands thus"
Captain Lieutenant William Sydenham is
appointed a Captain of Artillery in the Room
of Captain Giels promoted in the Engineer
Corps" which last Order was the natural
Consequence of the former one of the 17. July 1781.
removing him to the Corps of Engineers
with the Rank of Major in that Corps.
And this Mistake is so far deserving Notice,
that by stiling himself a Major, and Capt.n
Sydenham

settled I found it impossible to
do in this Country, so long as
Lieut Colonel Sydenham, who
from his Office as Town Major
had so much of the Governor's
Confidence, and whose immediate
Interest it was to oppose me,

I take leave to state
further to your Lordship,
that it is not only the loss of Regimental
Command that marks my
Situation as a hard one, but
Sydenham though junior ✠
Lieut Colonel and ought to be
Supernumerary is in the ✠
Genral Command of the ✠
principal division of Artillery
Lieutenant Colonel ✠
Russell arrived some little ✠
time since, and has been ap-
pointed to a Battalion, in the
room

Sydenham only a Lieutenant, it shews a
Disparity of Rank which did not exist,
and which if not justly stated might serve
to establish an Impression of the Hardships
of his present Situation. Lieut Colonel Sydenham's
being in the Confidence of Lord Macartney &
certainly do not do him a Discredit, but
the Inference drawn from it by Lieut
Colonel Gibb, towards his Lordship and
his Council does not appear to be unjustifiable or just

Lieutenant Colonel Gibb having
requested Permission to go to Bengal immediately on
his Arrival at Madras, it would have been ✠
absurd to have given him a Command, which
he could not possibly enjoy during his Absence

It is difficult to comprehend the
Meaning of Lieut Colonel Gibb in stating the
annexed Cases, as they have no Similarity to
his own. Lieut Colonel Russell was no more
than second in Command to the 1st Battalion
of

1467 Fort St. George 18th December 1787

room of Lieut Colonel Durand convicen
as Supernumerary.

Major George Maule and
Major Johnston arrived since me
at Madras, having returned by
permission of the Court of Directon
to his Station, is to enjoy his former
Rank in the Corps of Engineers.

A variety of similar
instances may be quoted, which
I do not look upon so much as
cases in point, tho they actually
are, as with a view to point out
to your Lordship no such usage
has hitherto taken place on the
Ed. Coast, and I beg to refer to the
usage of His Majesty's Service
particularly to that of the
Royal Artillery. a thousand reasons
may be adduced which must occur
to your Lordship why such a Regulation
as disputing

of Europeans, General Horne being the
Colonel, was on the Spot with his Regiment
and returned it regularly to the Commander
in Chief: Majors Maule and Johnston
were arrived with Permission from the
Court of Directors to enjoy their former Rank
in the Corps of Engineers. But their Case
is likewise dissimilar to that of Lieut Colonel
Gils, for he came out to possess a Rank
which he had never before enjoyed as there was
but one Major allowed to the Engineer Corps
agreable to the Peace Establishment settled
for Madras, and as Captain Banks had
succeeded to the same Rank in regular
Succession, during the Absence of Maule
and Johnston, the Board resolved to consider
the Junior Major Johnston and Banks as
Supernumeraries on Captain's Pay with
a View to instruct the Engineer
Corps to the Orders of the Court of Directors.

1472 Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

after Lieut Colonel John Rigault
and from the 1st of May 1785 and
also a Brevet Commission as
Major in the Army from the
8th of July 1781. Lieut Colonel
Geils is to take his Rank and
Post Accordingly. By order of
the Honble Governor in Council
(signed) J.C. Secretary

I was favoured with
the following Answer from my
Lord dated the 25th of June.—

The Regulation of
which I propose submitting
to the Court of Directors is by
no means applicable to your
case; it being only intended to
prevent Officers who have been
many Years in Europe returning
to enjoy the profits of High Rank,
to the prejudice of those who have
remained in the Country.' In

Fort St George when the new Arrangement for
the Army took Place and in Consequence of
the same Order the Court of Directors have
now given "to rank next to, and immediately
after Lieut Colonel Rigault in the Artillery"
he could not with any degree of Justice or
propriety have the Date of his Lieut Colonels
Commission, one day sooner than the 16th of April 86
the day on which the New Arrangement for the
Artillery at Fort St George took Place. It will
appear therefore, that there has been a very
palpable Mistake or Inadvertency in the
Clerk in the India House in antedating the
Commission of Lieut Colonel Geils, one
Year sooner than it was possible he could
obtain it by the Regulations established
by the Honble Court of Directors.—

There appears likewise a very
curious Inadvertency or Mistake at the India
House in granting to Lieut Colonel Geils
a Brevet Commission of Major in the Army
from the 8th of July 1781. with Orders to
take Rank and post accordingly. "Because
in July 1781. Captain Geils had only Obtained
the Brevet Commission of Major Engineers
and for this obvious Reason that the Court
of Directors did not mean to injure the
other Captains of the Army who had by Seniority
and Gallant Services, a full and honorable
claim to their Justice, for in the Engineers
Corps, there was not a Captain of equal
Rank to Captain Geils although there was
26 in the Army.— Had the Honble Court of
Directors in 1781. given Captain Geils a Brevet
Commission of Major in the Army; that
officer

1473. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

In regard to the peculiar Situation in which you at present stand, I can only say it is a Rule in the Bengal Army, that an Officer possessed of a regular Command, is never removed to make way for a Senior Officer arriving from England; but such Senior Officer remains as Supernumerary, until a vacancy happens; and I believe most Military Men will agree, that such a Rule is most Consonant to Justice and the good of the Service. I admit however the extraordinary hardship of your case, and should have been very glad, to have had it in my power to give an Opinion that would have tended to promote your wishes. —

Cornwallis

I had the honour of enclosing

Officer would have superseded three Captains in his own Corps and twenty three Captains in the Army, who were Senior to him at that Period; an Act which would be totally inconsistent with that Liberality and Justice, which has ever distinguished their Conduct towards those Gallant Officers, who had displayed uncommon Exertions of Zeal and Fidelity, through a Series of the most adverse and distressing Events that ever Troops were exposed to. Such being the Principles which directed the Hon'ble Court in 1781 not to grant to Captain Gisborne Brevet Commission of Major in the Army that Officer cannot surely have a better claim to it now, that he has been 5 Years and 5 Months of that Period without being on Home Duty in India.

It is however necessary to remark, that in their own Army at Madras, but in their own Army at Madras, but in which Officers derive from their Commissions in their Specific Corps except when the Staff holds during the time they fill those Appointments. A Brevet Commission of Major in the Army to Lieut Colonel Gisborne can be of no manner of use, as his Lt Colonels Commission only gives him Rank in that Corps, which is the Inferior Rank. — Were a Line Rank to be established at Madras, and on the Principle that Officers were to take Rank from the Date of their last Commissions, this Brevet Rank of Major in the Army to Lieut Colonel Gisborne would give him a Situation in point of Rank beyond what in Justice he ought to enjoy over the rest of the Army. —

The Reason why His Lordship conceived that the Regulation was not applicable to the Case of Lt Colonel Gisborne, arose from a Misstatement of his Case, which originated from himself, as appears by

reason was, the King only having granted, as I understood him. Can. Seniority would often prove detrimental to the Officer, and the Company would be at the great Expence of moving whole Bodies of Men many hundred Miles; whereas in the other Instance it requires moving the Officer only.

one Warrant, in other respects he did not, without such an appeal being made to him as the act of Parliament directs.

During my residence in Bengal, I was at particular pains, to make myself acquainted with standing Orders of that Establishment by application to the Adjutant General. Copy of whose letter I have the honour of laying before your Excellency. I am also in possession of every Order issued by the Commander in Chief in India from the time of His Lordship's first arrival 'till he left Calcutta the end of last July, and from thence can take upon me to contend the existance of

of any Rule in Bengal that goes to deprive an Officer in my Situation of Command, and if there was, I should contend the propriety of admitting any Rule upon this Establishment, but under certain forms, from Bengal or any other Establishment whatsoever.

What I must admit as having great Weight, is my Lord Cornwallis's opinion, & but as His Lordship has formed it on what he supposed to believe was the Rule in Bengal or expressly to guard against Captain Brooke or & some other Officers who had been long absent, returning to the Service, and I had a right to be judged by the Rule of & the Establishment I belonged to, or

or even granting it without
extent, and supposing in
the room of an Opinion, that
it was an express Order of His
Lordship's as it does not reach
your Excellency till five or
six weeks after my Arrival
at Madras on the 3d of June,
and date of your Excellency's
Order of the 7th giving full
Efficiency to my Commission,
and if your Excellency had
not thought proper to
require this Opinion, it might
not yet have arrived, when in
such case like every other
Officer I should have fallen
into my proper Station in
the Artillery Imprimis by your
Excellency's Candour, on the
Propriety

G.S.

propriety of a Rule being formed
under such adventitious Circumstances and whether its operation
might not as well be carried back
five years as six Months or six
Weeks, in which it must be in order
to deprive me of what has been
given to every other Officer without
exception as well before as since
my Arrival, and in a very recent
and pointed instance to Lieut
Colonel Russell. It may
be alledged Lieut Col. Russell
has no immediate Advantage to
from his Appointment with
pleasure embrace any opportunity
of declaring to your Excellency,
that the Pecuniary advantages
Lieut Colonel Sydenham enjoys
at present are but a secondary
Consideration, and I would with
pleasure give them up to him
or any other Person your Excellency
thinks

Lieut Colonel Gyles seems to
forget that his Case happens to be a
new Case, and the first that has taken
place in this Government, that the
shifting himself from an inferior
Situation in the Artillery to a
Majority in the Corps of Engineers.
and then back again from a Major
of Engineers to a Lieut Colonel of
Artillery is likewise new and unprece-
dented in this or any Service. Therefore,
that what he asks has been given to every
other Officer before or since his Arrival
is by no Means well founded; because,
the only Cases he has been able to state,
are in no Shape similar to his.
Without inverting to what has
been, or what has not been the Custom
formerly, it is only necessary to State
that the Case of Lieut Colonel Gyles,
and Lieut Colonel Sydenham was
referred to Lord Cornwallis for his
Opinion, and that in Consequence of
that Opinion, which his Lordship
applied expressly to the Case before him;
Lieut Colonel Sydenham has been
confirmed on the Command of the
1st Battalion of Artillery to which
he succeeded, and was regularly
appointed in his own Right, as one of
the two effective Lieut Colonels of
Artillery

thinks proper to be permitted to do duty in my proper Station in my Corps.

His Lordship mentions a positive Order from the Directors. It is impossible for me to conceive what more positive Order I could have, than that contained in the 69th Paragraph of their General Letter 21st September 1785, and a Commission from them which I apprehend supercedes all other Orders and expressed in the Body of that Commission that I am to rank next to, and immediately after Lieut Colonel John Rigault. Would any Paragraph in a General Letter, however strong it may be, give Tanner or Sydenham Rank of one; and your Excellency must be sensible, that if any human foresight

Artillery on this Establishment; sometime before the Appointment of Lieut Colonel Gels to the Artillery took place on England, remained which time he could not either in Fact or Reasoning be considered as belonging to that Corps; and it appears by his own Statement, that until that time, and so long as he was in India, he was returned in the Corps of Engineers. Although the Boarding might have been warranted in considering Lieut Colonel Gels as the Supernumerary Lieut Colonel of Artillery, yet in Obedience to the Orders of the Honble Court, directing that the Junior Officers of each Rank above the Number allowed to the Establishment, should be considered as Supernumeraries, the Board have considered Lieut Colonel Sydenham in this Light with the Pay of Major, till the pleasure of the Honble Court of Directors shall be known; But it could never be intended by the Board, that this Measure should operate against his Right to command a Battalion after the Guided Line taken in Consequence of Lord Cornwallis's Opinion founded on the Rule established by His Lordship at Bengal; a Rule which his Lordship as well the Commander in Chief on the Coast thinks, most conformable to Justice and the good of the Service.

1481. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

foresight could have conceived the
necessity of such a thing, it would
have been no difficulty for me to
have obtained such an Order
from the Honble Court in its
most ample form.

My Commission seems
in the present instance to be
treated as a Brevet. I beg leave to
state its being a full Commission
appointing me to Corps, and
otherwise a Legal Instrument in
every point of view, and I think it
would be fair to suppose my
situation to be no wise different
from one of his Majesty's Officers
arriving under similar circumstances

Your Excellency I am
confident, will not for a moment
suppose from what I have said
in Defence of what I humbly
conceive my rights, that I mean
to

In this Reflexion Lieut
Colonel Ford forgets himself, because
if this Commission was treated as a Brevet,
he would neither receive Pay, Gratuity
or Off Reckonings, as a Lieut Colonel
of Artillery.

to convey an Idea of the most
distant disrespect of the Commander
in Chiefs Opinion; and I have
uniformly declared I had every
confidence of your Excellency
doing me justice; or if your decision
did not meet my Views in every
respect, I am ready to impute
it to your Excellency's not
having seen the injury I am
likely to sustain in it's utmost
extent.—

I now take the opportunity
of repeating this confidence, and
shall still be extremely happy
if your Excellency will do me
the favour of taking the whole
upon Yourself judging me by
that Standard; and the customs of
the Establishment I have always
belonged to, and been led to believe
I had a right to appeal to in such cases.

Your

1483. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

Your Excellency must be
sensible how much as an individual
I ought to be interested in the
present Case; and my Lord Cornwallis
allows its peculiar hardship.
If it were otherwise I should
nevertheless think my self bound
to Combat, by every proper means
in my power, the introduction of
a Rule which must in its consequences
be partially oppressive upon the
Lieut. Colonels of the Corps, to
I have now the honour of being
at the Head of, and on no other
part of the Service; and call upon
your Excellency, supposing it
not to be done away in my own
case, some means may be devised, that
as I shall be the first in the Service
to suffer from such a Rule, I may be
the last to feel its influence. I

Your

1484. Fort St. George 18 December 1787.

Your Excellency readily
comprehends what I allude to; —
that where there are only two —
Battalions of Artillery, and
four Battalions and six —
Brigades, where Lieut. Colonels
of Infantry may be appointed,
a Supernumerary Lieut Colonel
of Artillery will be five times
as long of succeeding to a Commandant
as a Supernumerary Lieut:
Colonel of Infantry, otherwise
circumstanced in every respect
the same.

Were a parallel drawn
between this and the appointment
of Officers to the Command of
Sepoy Corps, however it might
suit a particular Argument, the
parallel in itself would be
perfectly unfair For if —
supposed a Sepoy Captain, who

has

1483. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

has besides 32 Companies of H
European Infantry to be appointed
to, to wait only seven Months for
a Vacancy, a Supernumerary H
Lieut. Colonel of Infantry would
be two years and a Supernumerary
Lieut Colonel of Artillery no less
than ten Years before he can have
a Battalion, or succeed to a Vacancy

If the first Period is H
doubted which I apprehend to be
much nearer the truth, my
prospect of succeeding by Vacancy
to the Command of a Battalion
of Artillery is in twenty Years,
half my life time, and the precise
term I have already served
the Honourable Company.

I have only further
to observe that the Regulation
in Bengal respecting Super=
numerary Officers, in general,
and

Lieut Colonel Geils might
as well state as a Grievance, that as there
are Nine Lieut Colonels of Infantry,
and only Two Lieut Colonels of
Artillery in the Establishment of
the Coast Army, the Chance of the
Artillery Officer for Succession to
Rank is less than that of the Infantry,
which is very true if the Matter is
considered in one Point of View only, but it
is

1484. Fort St. George 18 December 1787.

Your Excellency readily
comprehends what I allude to; &
that where there are only two &
Battalions of Artillery, and
four Battalions and six &
Brigades, when Lieut. Colonels
of Infantry may be appointed,
a Supernumerary Lieut Colonel
of Artillery will be five times
as long of succeeding to a Command
as a Supernumerary Lieut:
Colonel of Infantry, otherwise
circumstanced in every respect
the same.

There a parallel drawn
between this and the appointment
of Officers to the Command of
Sepoy Corps, however it might
suit a particular Argument; the
parallel in itself would be
perfectly unfair For if it is &
supposed a Sepoy Captain, who

has

has besides 32 Companies of
European Infantry to be appointed
to, to wait only seven Months for
a Vacancy, a Supernumerary
Lieut. Colonel of Infantry would
be two years and a Supernumerary
Lieut Colonel of Artillery no less
than ten Years before he can have
a Battalion, or succeed to a Vacancy.

If the first Period is
doubled which I apprehend to be
much nearer the truth, my
prospect of succeeding by Vacancy
to the Command of a Battalion
of Artillery is in twenty Years,
half my life time, and the prime
term I have already served
the Honourable Company.

I have only further
to observe that the Regulation
in Bengal respecting Super-
numerary Officers, in general,
and

Lieut Colonel Geils might
as well state as a Grievance, that there
are Nine Lieut Colonels of Infantry,
and only Two Lieut Colonels of
Artillery in the Establishment of
the Coast Army, the Chance of the
Artillery Officer for Succession to
Rank is less than that of the Infantry,
which is very true if the Matter is
considered on one Point of View only, but it
is

and beg leave to refer to the attested Copy I had the honour of delivering the 16th Instant to your Excellency, was only meant to ascertain the absolute Expence of that Establishment, and no wise deprives Officers of Commands or Corps who are willing to serve upon the pay of the next inferior Rank, or optionally to retire to where they please, within the provinces, on the half pay of their own.—

As supernumerary there can be very little doubt of the alternative, I should prefer, and more effective, your Excellency is the best judge of the situation I ought to be in.—

I have the honour to remain with much respect.—

Your Excellency's
most Obedient and
most Humble Servant
Thomas Gulo

To

is equally true, that the Rise of the Artillery Officers has of late Years been very rapid & because the Casualties among the few Field Officers on the Establishment of that Corps have been frequent, but as was observed before; If these Chances are to be argued upon as a Grievance, it does not apply particularly to the Case of Lieut. Colonel Gulo, but is involved in the General System of Service, and can only be remedied by the Honble Company having six or eight Battalions of Artillery more than are maintained at present, in Order that Lieut Colonel Gulo may have more numerous chances of Succession to Command

1487. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

To

Lieut. Colonel Giels.

I have been honoured

with your Letter of the 2d. Instant

together with the various Papers

therein alluded to which I have

perused with great Attention.

You desire to know

whether there is any Rule in the #

Bengal Army that can #

prevent your Succeeding to the

Command of a Corps, if it is not

confined to Officers on that Land Establish-

-ment alone, and if I apprehend such

rule can in any shape affect you as

Lieut. Colonel and Senior Officer of

the Madras Artillery" and in #

conclusion request my Opinion

on your case.

To all these Queries #

I answer generally, No; and should

conclude here but that you wish for

a more comprehensive reply particularly

in

1488. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

in regard to the Regulations of the
Bengal Army on these points.

I am therefore to inform
you, that some years ago, the Supreme
Council sent intimation to Major
General Stibbert, that they had
come to a Resolution not to confer
the Command of Sepoy Corps upon
Officers returning from Europe
whose Absence had exceeded the
Term of two years, until such
Officers had previously served for
a certain term in an European
Corps. This Regulation was
never published to the Army, but
the General was desired to be
guided by it, in his recommendations
for Sepoy Commands; it was
aimed particularly at Officers
who retired to England for pleasure
or other Motives of a private
Nature, but did not affect their
Pay and Allowances when they
returned

returned to their Duty. The Court
of Directors, in their Letter dated
the 25th of September 1785. detailed #
a new Military Establishment for
this Presidency, and injoined that
all Officers Supernumerary thereto
should be put upon half pay. #
The late Administration. Mr.
Mr. Thurston's accordingly put
the Supernumerary Officers of every
distinction on reduced allowances
but the Council at the same #
time Resolved that when any
of them recovered their full allowances
again, they should no be liable
to a deprivation of them #
a second time by Officers returning
from Europe, who are to be in #
the half pay Situation in every
respect 'until Vacancy's happen.
which they are to fill in tour
of Seniority.

It will no doubt be
readily

enjoined

readily admitted that the principle
of this Regulation is Military
and Equitable, but it is impossible
to suppose that the Regulation
itself can have any necessary
effect on your Establishment,
unless it were allowed that
the Supremacy of the Bengal
Government extends to the
Patronage, and to all the interior
arrangements of the Madras
Presidency an Idea which
I am persuaded is not entertained
by this Government, and which
I think would not be willingly
acquiesced in by Yours.

Since writing the above,
I learn that the Court of
Directors have provided a
Specific Regulation for the point
in question as follows.

Extract

1491 Fort S.t George 18 December 1787.

Extract, Court of Directors
general Letter 21.st September 1785.
Paragraph 87.

Directed a Provision for the
Supernumerary Military Officers
by allowing them half pay till
opportunities offer of restoring
them to full Pay on the Establish-
ment. It will depend on your
care and attention that this
Indulgence is not abused, to
this end we direct that when
any Vacancy shall happen
in any Station in which
there are Supernumeraries on
half pay, the same shall not
be supplied by Officers of inferior
Rank, till all Supernumeraries
shall be reinstated, but the
Office shall be either kept
vacant till we can send an
half pay Officer from England
of equal Rank, or in case
our

The Imposition in Regard to
the date of the Honble Company's Orders is so
notorious that it requires particular attention
to be stated to be the 21.st September 1785. although
the Orders of which an Extract is produced
are dated 16 Feby 1787. and refer in the
following Words to the Order of 21.st Sept 1785.

Extract of the Honble Company's
General Letter of Bengal, Para 69. dated 16.
February 1787.

"Our Letter of the 21 Sept 1785
"directed a provision for the Supernumerary
"Military Officers by allowing them half
"pay, till Opportunities offer of restoring
"them to full Pay on the Establishment,
"It will depend upon your Care and
"attention that this Indulgence is not
"abused. &c. &c. &c.

The evident Intention of the
Honble Company by this order of 16 Feby
1787. is to regulate the Promotion of
Officers in India while there are
Supernumeraries on half pay in the
several Ranks respectively, and in no
shape whatever apply to the Case of Lieut
Colonel Geils who is not of the Disruption,
there is no Precedent in the Service applicable
to the case of Lieut Colonel Geils, and the

Pains

our Service shall be subject to any inconvenience by Keeping the Office Vacant, the duty is to be performed by Officers upon the Spot, who are to understand that they are to Return to their former Stations, upon the Arrival of the Half-Pay Officer to take the Vacant Rank, & and this Regulation is to remain in force and to be observed, till all the Supernumerary Officers shall be provided for, or otherwise disposed of."

The above instructions of the Honble Court are expressed with such perspicuity as to be unsusceptible of a double Construction, so clearly are they in your favour in my humble Opinion that I am totally

Point taken by the Honble Court to ascertain the Corps to which he belongs is a clear Proof that ever had the date of the Company's Order been in point it was totally impossible for the distant Government to think of him in any other Light than as a Brevet Major of Engineers. At all Events the Orders of the 16th February could only be applied in India, from the Period of their being received, for they do not express a Retrospect, nor is it possible to be conceived that the Honble Court of Directors could mean to destroy by an ex post facto order the Rank and advantages to which their Officers had regularly succeeded in Compliance with the usage of the Service from time immorial.

The Arrival of Lieut Col. Gillespie with Rank in the Artillery reduced Lieut Colonel Lyttelton in his Pay, but by no means took from him the Rank or Station to which he had regularly succeeded before that Period. This Interpretation of the Company's Instructions under date the 16th February 1787. and they have been completely attended to as no Officer has been promoted since their Arrival otherways than conditionally and subject to returning to his former Station on the Arrival of a half Pay Officer of equal Rank to that in which the Officer in India has been ordered to perform the Duty.

It may be necessary only to remark further on this Letter, that although it

totally at a loss to discover any
colourable Objection to your
immediately succeeding to
the Command and prevedges
appertaining to your Rank
in the Madras Artillery.

From the Papers before
me, it appears that you were
driven to Europe for the sole
purpose of having your Corps
and Rank in the Army
determined by the Court of
Directors; the Honble Court
has done this in the most
regular and Specific manner,
and the Governor in Council
and the Commander in Chief
at Fort St. George have directed
you to take Rank and Post
accordingly, Armed with
such regular powers, I do
conceive you would have
been fully warranted by the
Letter
it comes from a very respectable Officer,
whose Brother is married to the Sister in Law
of Lieut Colonel Gells, it would be paying
a bad Compliment to the Judgement and
Discernment of Lord Cornwallis to give
it that Weight which Lieut Colonel Gells
is willing to ascribe to it, in opposition to
the decided Opinion of His Lordship.

1494 Fort St. George 18th Decr 1787

letter and by the Spirit of the
Court of Directors orders in
having inserted upon the
Command of that Battalion
of Artillery to which the Youngest
Lieut Colonel of your Corps stood
attached at the time, and that
unless Government acquiesced
in your claim they rendered
Nugatory their own Orders of
taking Post to which words
I can only annex the meaning
of acting in your Station.

I have the honour to be &c.
(signed) Peter Murray
Adjt Genl Bengal Army

Fort William
Adjutant Generals Office
21st July 1787.

This

1495. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

His Excellency

Sir. Arch.d Campbell K.B.

&c: &c: &c:

Commander in Chief

Sir,

Since writing the
accompanying Letter I have #
been favoured with the Copies #
of proceeding of the Hon.ble Board
and extract from their General
Letter relative to my Business
by the Ravensworth which #
I shall have occasion to Reply
to by next Dispatch to the
Honourable Court of Directors

I have the Honour to remain
with Respect.—

Your Excellency's
Most Obedient and Most
Humble Servant
(signed) Thomas Geils

Fort St. George 5 Nov.r 1787—

1196 Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

His Excellency

Sir Archibald Campbell K.B.

&c. &c. &c. Commander in Chief

Fort St. George

15 November 1787

Sir,

In copying the Adjutant General of the Bengal Army's Letter, I observe I have omitted after the words "I am at a loss to discover "any colourable objection to your immediately succeeding to the " Command appertaining to Your " Rank in the Madras Artillery unless your Presidency has notwithstanding the Court of Directors said order, adopted a similar regulation " which prevails here respecting Supernumerary Officers: if so, and the date of it precedes your arrival at Fort St. George, you must of course submit to its " Operation however severe

2

1497. Fort St. George 18 December 1787.

2d. The omission as your Excellency will perceive was not material as no regulation of the Kind has been adopted here, and I believe allow Supernumerary Officers Lieut Colonel Sydenham excepted - are upon the full pay of their respective Ranks, and he on that of Major, although the Court of Directors order "a provision for Supernumerary Military Officers by Allowing them half pay &c.

3d. I pledge myself in a former Letter not designedly to with-hold a circumstance that would throw light upon the Subject of my present situation, and have no doubt of being treated with equal candour. In conformity to which, I beg your Excellency's indulgence to

On those Points Lieut Colonel Gels has no Cause to complain, as he receives full Pay, and as the Rank ordered for him by the Honble Court has been published in all the Orderly Books of the Army.

The Officers of the Junior Ranks who had neither the Means or Inclination to go home, and who could not exist in India on half Pay were permitted to draw their full Pay and to remain in India to succeed to Vacancies as they fell, but no Supernumerary Field Officers have been authorized to draw full Pay, with the Exception of Major Johnston of the Engineer Corps, who was sent out with the Commission of full Major, at a time it was known that there was a Supernumerary Major of Engineers on the Coast.

to mention one I can to the
knowledge of ever Bengal but
as I do not profess to be very
correct in either Names or date,
Your Excellency from memory
may be able to supply that defect if any

About the Year 1769
or 70. Major Kenderly Command-
ing Officer of Artillery died, and
Colonel Wendow was appointed
by the Honble Court of Directors
Lieutenant Colonel Commandant
of the Bengal Artillery, and
had actually arrived on the
River Notwithstanding Colonel
Wendow's appointment was known
at Calcutta as well as his actual
arrival at Culpee. The Honble
Board at the recommendation of
the Commanding Officer, appointed
Major now Colonel Pearse Lieut
Colonel Commandant of Artillery
and

Since Instance of Major Kenderly
and Colonel Wendow I cannot at all recollect
to be considered on the present Case, after the
Reference already made to Lord Cornwallis
and his Opinion which applies exactly
thereto, and which being adopted by this
Government, on the Grounds of such a
respectable Military Authority can only
be decided upon ultimately by the Honble
Court of Directors, to whom it has been
particularly referred

Every Opportunity has been given
to Lieut Colonel Pitts to state his Claims
and Pretensions to Lord Cornwallis having
obtained Permission to go to Bengal for
that purpose the Moment it was solicited
and it appears by a Copy of his Letter to that
Nobleman sent on in his Letter to the President
the 28th of October, that the grandest Pains
or Arguments to induce his Lordship to
a Decision in his Favour

and when Colonel Winwood came
to Calcutta he was told there was
no Vacancy for him. —

5th I must here beg your
Excellency will give me leave to
remark, that although Lieutenant
Colonel Winwoods treatment
must be allowed to be particularly
hard, and a good deal resembling
my own case, in every thing but
that Lieutenant Colonel Sydenham
was not absolutely appointed
Commandant of Artillery. Yet
under all hostile usage he
was much better off than I am
at present, as they gave him his
Rank as Lieutenant Colonel
in the Infantry with every
advantage attending it. Whereas
your Excellency knows I am
without even a nominal &
Appointment, if your Excellency
excepts

1500 Fort S.t George 18.th December 1781

exceptg what I was barely
admitted to, a Seat at the
Military Board; or a Return
being made me of either Man
or Officer, Gun or Store, of the
Corps I have a Commission for, &
and am said in the General Letter
to be at the Head of
Colonel Pearce is at
this time Colonel Commanding
the Artillery Brigade at Bengal
and though full Colonel, has been
declared competent to and actually
command the first Battalion &
as Lieut Colonel of Artillery. &

6.th I can see no difference
between Lieutenant Colonel Pearce
Pearce and myself in our
relative Situations, and as your
Excellency before has been pleased
to apply to Bengal for me,
I would humbly submit to
the

The difference between Col Pearce
& Lieut Colonel Gaile is great. Pearce has
been promoted from a Major of Artillery to
the Rank of Lieutenant Colonel, & from
Lieut Colonel to be full Colonel in the Line,
and has been doing duty as Lieutenant Col
& Col of Artillery for 18 Years uninterruptedly,
without being one day absent from his
post. Gaile by his address at the India
house

the Commander in Chief in India and your Excellency, that so much of Lord Cornwallis arrangement of the Bengal Artillery might be adopted at Madras, as meets your Approbation, would prevent suspicion either here or from England, and might render my Situation less, that of an absolute Cypher than it is at Present

7. That this Assertion of mine respecting my being an absolute Cypher, may be perfectly understood by His Lordship and the Honble Board, it will be necessary to recur to the General Orders issued in Fort St. George the 10th of last Month Where the Senior Officer of the Battalion of Artillery posted in the Eastern Division- Lieutenant Colonel Sydenham- is to be considered the Commanding Officer of all the Artillery

house has stepped from the rank of Captain in the course of Six years, without doing an hours duty for that time in the Artillery, This difference is surely obvious, although not discernable by Lieut Colonel Gaile's.

Upon Lieut Colonel Gaile's Return from Bengal the 6th of October, the Commander in Chief had an Idea of employing him in a Way which he thought would be equally agreeable to himself, as useful to the Public Service, by sending him on a Tour to inspect the Ordnance and Artillery in all the East Garisons and Stations. An Employment which no Artillery Officer, however High his Rank, had a Right to consider either degrading or unimportant. It was an Employment which Brigadier General Horne proposed for himself, and executed in a Manner that did him Honour as Commanding Officer of all the Southern Troops, and his Report evinced that he did not consider the most trifling Minutiæ of that important Branch as his Notice or Attention.-

But when the Commander in Chief understood that Lieut Colonel Gaile's proposed [illegible] remaining

1582 Fort St George 18th December 1787.

Artillery between the Coleroon
and the Kistna &c

8th Your Excellency may
not mean that this Arrangement
is to continue, but that it Actually
exists at Present is not to be
doubted, as I have been refused
Returns by Lieutenant Colonel
Sydenham, though he receives
them regularly from Colonel
Moorhouse in Fort St George
where I actually am, and is
supposed to be by the Court
of Directors Orders, Appointing
the Senior Officer of Artillery
a Member of the Military Board

9th The Artillery at either
Station being looked upon as one
and the same, and the Senior Officer
of the Artillery at the Mount being
allowed by your Excellency to Command
the Artillery and direct the Laboratory
in

remaining at Fort St George, he has Circulated
in Order, Commanding Officer of all the Artillery
stationed between the Coleroon & Kistna, under
which term Lt Colonel Sydenham, who was
appointed by Government to that Charge some
Months before Lieut Colonel Gibbs has arrived in
India, would not have been warranted in
making any Returns but to the Commander
in Chief as that Order denoted &c

The Purposes of the Laboratory
in Fort St George having been effectually answered
by the Selection made of Lieut Colonel Sydenham
as the Director, it would be an Act of
great Injustice and Impropriety to
deprive him of the Charge of a Department
which has been brought into order by his
Diligence and Attention, and the Board
from this Consideration, have already decided
accordingly &c

Fort S. George 18. December 1787.

in Fort S. George, by parity of
reasoning ought not the Senior Offr
at the Head of the Artillery, in
Fort S. George to Command the
Artillery at the Mount, and if not
throughout the establishment, at
least the Division of Artillery
in which he is Stationed, between
the Coleroon and Kistnah.

10. It looks like going over
a former Ground, but I must beg
leave to observe to your Excellency,
that a deviation from the Letter
& Spirit of the Honble Companies
Orders, in the Instance of Lieut.
Colonel Tanner has been very
unfortunate to me, as I must
think whatever public grounds can
it may now be defended upon,
had he been at the Mount, I should
have found in him a less powerful
Opponent than Lieutenant
Colonel Sydenham, though in
every

This part of Lieut Colonel Gaile's
Letter is a further Proof of his disrespectful
Conduct towards Government which has
been already noticed in Page 9. of these
Remarks. It is therefore only necessary
to add, that Lieut Colonel Tanner has not
only expressed personally, but by Letter to
the Commander in Chief, that he is
perfectly satisfied with the Arrangement
the Board had made regarding him on
that occasion. With what confidence
Lieut Colonel Gaile presume to
express repeat the Contrary.

1504 Fort St. George 18th December 1787

8

every respect as a deserving an
Officer

As much will hinge
upon the following point being #
clearly ascertained - Whether I ever
was at any time removed from #
the Artillery? I contend I never
was and appeal to the records in
support of this Assertion -

I am confident at the
same time such an Idea has
been indistriously circulated, #
and was used as a pretext for #
promoting Lieutenant Sydenham
to the Rank of Captain, and #
oftener than once mistaken in
the general Letters to the Court
of Directors. I request Your
Excellency and the Gentlemen
of Council will call upon Mr
Secretary Chamier to Clear up
this Point, and Know his #
Authority, or how he could Make
so

misstated

This unfortunate for Lieut Colonel Gisle
that the Records he has referred to unfortunately
against him, as appears by the following #
General Promotions and appointments Viz.

Fort St George 31st July 1781 -

Artillery

"Captain Lieutenant Sydenham
"to be Captain in the Room of Capt Gisle #
"Promoted in the Engineer Corps, date
of Rank 30th November 1780

By Order of the Right Honble
President and Select Committee

(Signed)
Tho.s Oakes Secretary #

It is unnecessary to remark upon
the abrupt Attack of Lieut Colonel Gisle
on Mr Secretary Chamier as that Gentlemans
Answers accompany this Letter

1505 Fort St. George 18th December 1787.—

so unwarranted an use of public

Record.—

I shall at present only

beg leave to observe that I have

been near six Months on the

Country and from the efficiency

of my Commission being as it

much Suspended, respecting it

Corps and Command, as if it had

been done for something criminal

by the Sentence of a Court Martial;

I have sustained a Monthly

loss of 275. Amounting in that

time to 1650 Pagodas: which

I must hold the Government

answerable to me for, till this

matter is finally settled.—

I mention this from

no other Motives at present,

than that His Lordship and

the Honble Court may not

affix a different idea to my

Situation as effective Lieutenant

Colonel

Lieut. Colonel Geels name to

forgot that he was appointed Lieut Colonel

of Artillery according to the Company's

Orders, the very first Council that met

after his Arrival on the Coast which was

either the 3rd or 4th day after his Landing. That

the Day thereafter, at his own particular

Request, he solicited and obtained Permission

from the Commander in Chief to go to Bengal.

from whence he did not return until the

6th of October thereafter.—

1506. Fort St. George 18 December 1787.

Colonel Sydenham as a Supernumerary Officer.

Your Excellency must be sensible on this occasion to the Hardships I already sustained, and Knowing # how unequal the contest # must be with an Officer, where the Commander in Chief only # appears to lean to the opposite party, will I hope be indeced to palliate and excuse any incorrect expression, through inadvertance or whatever other cause may have escaped me # and rather give that force in stating it, to My Zeal which I am unequal to, and which as an individual and more particularly as a Soldier I dare not risque, even in defence of

Lieutenant Colonel Gyles not satisfied in having obtained an advanced Rank in the Madras Army, begins what in Justice he has a Right to expect, to the Prejudice of many Field Officers who are Senior to him in the Service, made an attempt to remove Lieut Colonel Sydenham from the Command of a Battalion of Sepoys at the Mount, to which that Officer had succeeded previous to the Arrival of Lieut Colonel Gyles. The # Commander in Chief thought it his Duty to Notice the Impropriety that the Field Officers of the Coast Army had so unjustly experienced, and to oppose the displacing of Lieut Colonel Sydenham on Principles which he coming to be of important Advantage to the # Service, and on which Lord Cornwallis the Commander in Chief in India gave his decided Sentiments and Approbation. In Consequence of this Opposition to the intended

1507. Fort S.t George 18.th December 1787.—

of my just rights, with the Commander in Chief and further that your Excellency will be pleased to leave the matter to be contended upon a more equal footing, between Lieutenant Colonel Sydenham and myself.—

In all events I must request, as a particular favour at this busines may now affect my Reputation as well as it has already done my fortune, that whatever representation there is made of it by your Excellency or the Hon.ble Board, to the Commander in Chief in India, the Right Hon.ble the Board of Controul or the Hon.ble Court of Directors, may be public and entered immediately on record, that I may be enabled to come at every part of the Arguements made interested Wishes of Lieut Colonel Gells that Officer forgetting his own Incompetency has charged the Commander in Chief with partiality.—

Had the Command of a Battalion of Artillery been given to an Officer with the Rank of Major, after Lieut Colonel Gells of the Artillery had arrived at Madras, the Right of Command would have been in favour of the Lieut Colonel, but as the Command was given to Lieut Colonel Sydenham ten Months before the Arrival of Lieut Colonel Gells on the Coast, the latter Officer has only to lament that as the Governor and Council know from the Public Records, that he was six years a Brevet Major of Engineers, and for that time completely out of the Corps of Artillery, they cannot admit in Justice, that Lieut Colonel Sydenham, who had acquired that Rank and Command by a regular Succession in the Artillery Corps, should be displaced from his Situation at the Will and Pleasure of Lieut Colonel Gells.—

After a due Consideration of those Facts, and the Circumstance of there being Three Lieut Colonels of Artillery at Madras, and but Two Battalions to be disposed of, Government must be allowed to judge on whom the Command of the Battalion of Artillery at the Mount ought in Justice to fall, at least until the Pleasure of the Court of Directors is known. Whether upon Sydenham who had succeeded to that Command in regular Progression thro' all

1508. Fort St. George 18th December 1781.

made use of for or against my
claims. And lastly - I beg leave
to lead your Excellency's attention
to my Brevet Commission as
Major in the Army and request
that it's circumstances may
be laid also before my Lord
Cornwallis, and take permission
to point out to your Excellency
an informality that May
arise from the Act of Parliament
for the Lieutenant Colonels sitting
Courts Martial who supercede
this Commission -

I have the Honor to
remain with much respect
Your Excellency's
most Obedient and
most Humble Servant
[Signed] Thomas Gells

all the Ranks of the Artillery Corps, or upon
Gells, who was never a Major of Artillery who
was six Years absent without being single
Hours Duty in the Artillery; and whose last
Rank in that Corps was only that of Captain
before he was made in June last with a Commission
as Lieut Colonel -

Was Seniority even justly argued it
is invariably admitted as a just claim for
Commands: neither the Military Judgement
of the Commander in Chief, nor the guiding Power
of Government could possibly render Justice to
Merit, or check the Irregularity of Officers, who
may chuse to forget their Duty in Battle, or to
sacrifice the Interest of the Honble Company to
their own selfish Views and Purposes -

It is beyond a doubt that the Brevet
Commission of Engineer, granted to Captain Gells
in 1781, had particularly confined his Rank to the
Engineer Corps, and for this reason was it that
there was not a Captain at that time in the Engineer
Corps senior to Captain Gells, although there were
three in the Artillery and twenty three in the Army
senior to him as Captain, and because his duty as Major
of Engineer was abstracted, and could have been
interferred with the other Captains of the Army
The granting to Lieut Colonel Gells therefore in 1781
an extension to his Brevet Commission as Major
of Engineers, to the Army at large, dated back to
the 8th of July 1781 was granting him to all intents
and purposes a new Brevet Commission as Major to
operate to the prejudice of many respectable Field
Officers, even some Colonels, who have certainly as
point of Service and Seniority, superior pretensions
to Lieut Colonel Gells, as will appear by the following
instances -

Lieut Colonel Ross was a Lieut Colonel
at the head of the Engineer Corps when Gells was only
a Lieut and in the Artillery Major Hall was also Major
in the Engineer Corps when Gells was only a Captain in
the Artillery; it is but reasonable therefore to conclude, that
Lieut Colonel Ross, who has been eleven years a Lieut
Colonel at the head of the Engineer Corps and Major Hall
who has been three years as Major before Gells obtained
his Commission of Brevet Major of Engineers, as
might on the equal prosperity be entitled to every
the Rank they held at that period in the general
Line of the Army; but the Honble Court of Directors by
having uniformly refused a General Rank in the
Army

1509 Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

Army to Lieut Colonel Ross, and Major Maule of the Engineers. These Officers have been denied the advantages or Points of Rank which have since been granted to Major Gells their Juniors in the same Corps. Colonel Sir Henry Coby, and Kelly who rose to the Rank of Colonel, although Captains when Ross was a Lieutenant Colonel of Engineers in the Field Command Lieutenant Colonel Ross in the Field. and Lieutenant Colonel Gells who is acknowledged Sixteen years a Junior, Lieutenant Colonel Ross will Command Colonel Coby and Kelly, if his Brevet Commission of Engineer is extended to him in the Army; a circumstance too preposterous not to merit the attention of the Honble Court of Directors. Exclusive of this singular case, which is unprecedented in the Honble Company's Service, many Lieut Colonels on the Coast will likewise be superceded by Lieut Colonel Gells Lieut Colonel Brooke, Keating, Fraser Russell Bridges and Langton, who have at all times distinguished themselves as able and zealous Officers and who were Senior Captains to Gells on the Coast, will now be under his orders in the Field. How far it may be just and politick to sacrifice the Interest of so many Gallant Officers, for the sake of granting to Lieutenant Colonel Gells a Brevet Commission which has been denied to other Officers his Superiors is for the wisdom of the Court of Directors to determine. But the circumstance is in itself so new and unprecedented and so injurious to the Army at large, that it is scarcely possible to suppose it could have taken place; unless some unfair, or unjust Statements of the rights and pretentions of Lieutenant Colonel Gells had been industriously suggested to the Honble Court of Directors.

scarcely

His Excellency.
Sir. Archibald Campbell K.B
President Govr. in Council Comr in Chief
Sir. I do myself the Honor of
addressing your Excellency as Commander

1510 Fort St. George 18th December 1781.

in Chief the 28th October and 15th Novr
to be laid before Council, and requested
Copies thereof might be submitted
to the Commander in Chief in
India as well as to the Honble
Court of Directors.

The latter part of the Request
regarding the Submissions to the
Directors, being a Matter of Course,
I have only now to request your
Excellency will be pleased to
submit the former to the Right
Honble the Governor General in
Council, in the Room of the
Commander in Chief in India

Understanding from
your Excellency that you conceive
some parts of the above Letters as
disrespectful to Government, and
foreign to the communicate upon
upon this my address, and expressing
a Desire such parts might be
expunged, if I meant them to go
before Council.

Not

1511. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

Nothing being further from my Mind, and nothing indeed that could less answer the purpose of my Address, than a disrespectful one to Government, or one that could in any Shape be construed such, At the same time supposing it might not weaken my Claim, or not point out with sufficient Clearness the Usage of the Establishment in similar Cases, to leave out those Parts. I proposed to Your Excellency in my Letter of the 15. Ultimo, that you should make a Public or Private Use of both Letters at your re pleasure, serving only the Heads of them to make the Representation from yourself as Commander in Chief.

Your Excellency not endening, as I was given to understand

1512 Fort St. George 18th December 1781.

understand by Mr Secretary
Campbell, to make this Choice,
but requiering me in explicit terms
to say, Whether I myself wishes
my Letters to be private or Public

I have now to declare to
Your Excellency, from the
before mentioned Reasons, Viz:
that the leaving out certain
Parts of my Letters, might
not sufficiently elucidate the
Business to my Honble
Employers, and being no ways
inclined to give up my pretensions
to the Command of the 1st Battn
of Artillery, which I have a just
and legal Claim to, and which
I would by Implication, if
my Letter became private, that
ither my Wish my Letter of
the 28th October &c. may go
upon Record.

Under

1513 Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

Under these Circumstances

I have now the Honor of #

addressing Government, and

hope from their Justice and

Indulgence in a Case as singular

as it is unmerited, detrimental

to my private Fortune, and #

Claims as an Officer, who has

uniformly had the Approbation

of his Superiors in the Service,

& the Service, that if any thing

unguarded should have escaped

riven me — drawn as I have been to

a necessary Assertion of my #

Rights, due Allowances will

be made; in all Events I am

bound to submit to the Orders

of my Superiors and particularly

to those of the Honble Boards

Respecting my Claim

to be appointed to the Command

of the 1st Battalion of Artillery #

I contend the Idea of my Lord #

Cornwallis

1514. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

Cornwallis having ever given it
that against me. My Lord has
been uniformly correct from
first to last in declaring, that
an Officer in the Regular Command
of a Corps, which I cannot allow
Lieut Colonel Sydenham to be,
in his Opinion ought not to
be dispossessed by a Senior
Officer, coming from Europe;
but at the same time his
Lordship says, that this
Rule is by no Means applica-
ble to my Case —

That Lt Colonel Sydenham
was in the Regular Command of the 1st Battalion
of Artillery, now but Lieut Colonel Gils could
attempt to deny. The Orders of Government
at different Periods are more to be depended
upon in ascertaining Facts of this Nature
than the opinions of partial Individuals.
Has Lieut Col. Gils at this place stated
the whole of Lord Cornwallis' Letter how
alluded to & not merely a partial Part
to serve a particular Purpose it would
have been more ingenuous and consistent,
or had he given Lord Cornwallis's ultimate
and full Decision relative to the Remarks
Page 4 He would have corrected the
Deviation that Lord Cornwallis was of
Opinion Lt Colonel Sydenham ought
not to be dispossessed for Lieut Col Gils

I humbly conceive the
Matter may be brought to a very
easy and regular Issue by a Reference
to the Orders of the Honble Company,
which I shall again take Leave to
transcribe — Denied a Provision

1515 Fort S.t George 18.th December 1787.

for Supernumerary Military Offic
by allowing them half pay, till
Opportunities offer of restoring them
to full pay on the Establishment.
It will depend on your Care and
Attention that this Indulgence is
not abused; to this End we direct,
that when any Vacancy shall
happen in any Station in which
there are Supernumerary Officers
on half Pay, the same shall not be supplied by
Officers
inferior Rank till all the
Supernumeraries shall be re-
instated; but the Office shall
be kept vacant, till we can send
a half pay Officer from England
of equal Rank, or in Case our
Service shall be subject to any
Inconvenience by keeping the
Office vacant, the Duty is to
be performed by the Officer &
upon the Spot who are to &
understand, that they are to
return

Fort St. George 13th December 1787.

return to their former Station upon the Arrival of the Half Pay Officer, to take the vacant Rank, and this Regulation is to remain in Force, and to be observed till all the Half pay Supernumerary Officers shall be provided for or otherwise disposed of.—

The above Orders are so decidedly in Point of my Claim to the Command of the 1st Battalion of Artillery, held at present by a Supernumerary Lieut Colonel and dowating entirely his Lordship's Objection to removing Officers on the regular Command of Corps; that I humbly conceive it will only be necessary for me to go a step further, quoting a higher Authority; and with all due Submission

1517. Fort S.t George 12.th December 1787.

Submission to your Excellency
and the Laws of my Country, state
an Act of Parliament, That the
wilful disobeying, or the wilfully
omitting to execute the Orders and
Instructions of the said United
Company &c." to render it necessary
in Order to avoid Informality, for
Government themselves to decide
upon my Pretensions without
Reference to the Court of Directors
which your Excellency is sensible
must be attended with great
Loss and Disadvantage to me.

In my Letter to your
Excellency of the 15.th Ultimo. I have
taken the Liberty of stating, to
have suffered a Monthly
Diminution of Pay, to the
Amount of 275. Pagodas. I beg to
alter this and to state the loss
at upwards of 300 Pagodas, which
in the Six Months I have been
already in the Country amounts
to

1518 Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

to the Sum of 1800 Pagodas.

I have the Honor to remain

with Respect

Your Excellency's

Most Obedient and

Most humble Servant

(signed) Thomas Gells

Fort St. George

3d December 1787.—

Fort St. George 5th Decr 1787.

Sir,

Your Letter of the

3d Instant addressed to me in

Council, I would have brought

forward at Yesterday's [illegible]

had it not suspended by a Letter of the 28th Ult.

Consultation, 15th November,

which you now desire may be

laid before the Board, although

you had in your Private &

Letter to me of the 15th November

requested that I might consider

these two Letters Public or &

Private as I should think

proper Being many Objections

to

2d Ltr.

to particular parts of these Letters,
I took the Liberty to desire my
Secretary Mr. Montgomery &
Campbell, to recommend to you to
Re-consider them before they
went on Record, but as you seem
to think that unnecessary, I
Return you these two Letters
as well as that of the 3rd Instant,
that you may be enable to form
them into one Address, when the
whole will be taken into Consider-
ation by the Board, and such
Resolutions formed thereon, as
the Subject may be found to
require

I am, Sir

Your most Obedient
Servant

(signed) Arch.d Campbell

Lieut Colo.e Wells

His

1520 Fort S. George 18 December 1787

His Excellency

Sir. Archibald Campbell, K.B.

&c &c &c

Sir,

I have been honored
with Your Excellency's Letter of
this Date, enclosing mine of
the 28th Octr &c in Order to my being
enabled to form them into One
Address.

I am highly sensible
of Your Excellency's Indulgence
in this, and equally concerned at
any objectionable Parts, that may
be in the above Letters, and wish
with all my heart they never
had been entered, or that I had
ever had Occasion to enter into
so unequal and so unfortunate
a Correspondence; But as I have
Committed myself, I do not
see I can with any Propriety,
or

or without enjureing myself
in Your Excellency's Opinion,
now recede from it; or do otherwise
than return the Letters on the
same State to your Excellency
with a Request they may be
allowed to go upon Record as
soon as convenient, under their
present form, and conformably
to the different dates.

I have the honor to
remain with all Respect
Your Excellency's
Most obedient and
Most humble Servant
[Signed] Thomas Teed.

Fort St. George
5th Decr 1787.

The President lays before the Board a Copy of a Letter, which he addressed a short Time ago to Lieut Colonel Tanner with that Officers Answer which he begs may be entered upon the Proceedings as they will afford Proof of Lieutenant Colonel Tanners not considering himself aggrieved by the

The President lays before the Board Letter to & from Lt Colo Tanner

1522.

Fort St. George 18th Decr 1787.

The Appointment of Lieutenant Colonel Sydenham to the Command of the 1st Battalion of Artillery.

Lieutenant Colonel Tanner
Commanding the second Battalion
of Artillery

Sir,

To Lt Col. Tanner. desires to know if he considers himself aggrieved by the appointment of Lt. Colonel Sydenham to the Command of the 1st Battalion of Artillery.

Having heard that you have considered yourself enjoined by the Appointment of Lieut Colonel Sydenham, to the Command of the 1st Battalion of Artillery at the Mount to which he had regularly succeeded from Major in the same Corps on the Resignation of Lieut Colonel Pagett, I request the favour of you to inform me, whether, as the two Battalions were independent of each other, and equal in point of Number, and you were not perfectly satisfied with the Arrangement which Government made at that time for your Situation in Command of the 2d Battalion, and of all the Artillery to the Southward of the Coleroon.

I have the honour to be &c.

Fort St. George
24 November 1787

(signed) J. Campbell

His

1523 Fort St. George 18 December 1787

To His Excellency

Major General Sir. Archibald Campbell K.B.

Commander in Chief &c. &c. &c.

Sir.

Shou in reply. I have the honor to acknowledge

the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 24th

Instant; and beg leave to acquaint you that as it

had been the custom of the Service for the Senior

Officer of Artillery to be stationed at the St.

Mount I consider my not succeeding to that

Command on Lieutenant Colonels Pagault's

resignation, a hardship, which occasioned my

address to your Excellency of the 13th of July 1786

which I do existed, until I was honored with

the Boards reply; signifying "That by the

late arrangement of the Military Establishment

the Corps of Artillery were formed into two

Battalions - who were entirely Independent

of each other.

I.

1524

Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

I must beg leave further to remark to your Excellency that I am perfectly satisfied with the Arrangement the Honble Board has been pleased to make in regard to my situation at this Station.

I am with the greatest Respect
&c. &c. &c.
/signed/ E. Sumner

Cantonments
Wandiwash the
30th Novr 1787.

The Secretary has the honor to inform the Board that the periods to which Lieutenant Colonel Gyles alludes, were anticedent to His having charge of the Office - he shall however endeavour to vindicate his Predecessors from the vague Charges exhibited against them

The Secretary's explanation of the charge preferred against the Office by Lieut. Colo. Gyles.

For this purpose he begs leave to refer the Board to a General Order of the 1st July 1781 (No 1.) also to one of the 31st July 1781 (No 2) in the former, Major Gyles by order of the Court of Directors is appointed a Major of Engineers by Brevet in the latter Captain Lieutenant Sydenham is appointed

1525. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

Appointed a Captain of Artillery in the Room of Captain Geils promoted in the Engineers Corps.

The Secretary also begs leave to refer to the Minutes of the Select Committee of the 31st August 1784 (No 3) in which it is Agreed that "Major Geils for the present is to be considered "& returned as Major of Engineers, until the "Court of Directors should determine ultimately "in what Corps he is to be fixed" & also, the Extract from the General Letter to England dated 20th Sept. 1784, wherein the whole Subject is minutely, & fairly stated.— It is mentioned in the abovementioned General Letter that from the time the Court of Directors gave Lieut Colonel Geils the Appointment of Major of Engineers by Brevet, he was considered as an Officer of Engineers and his place in the Corps of Artillery filled up— His Case is said to be similar to that of Major Burghall, and the Similitude pointed out, observing that it was necessary for the Court of Directors to order that Major Geils should be the

not

full

Fort S. George 18th December 1787.

full Major of Engineers on a Vacancy, because his Situation as a Brevet Major by placeing him at the head of the Captains had already established it. It is also remarked that his appointment of Field Engineer, was distinct from his Brevet, & because he could only be employed in that Station occasionally & then to be paid as a Major; but at all other times to receive the pay of Captain of Engineers. It is further observed, that the Court of Directors did not probably chuse to give Major Gets a Rank that was not to operate on the Corps of Engineers; as it would have placed him, when on Detachment above his Senior Officers in the Artillery, but by removing him to the Engineers they appeared desirous of avoiding a Supersession in his own Corps, the Artillery, in which there were several older Captains whereas he was a much older Captain than any in the Engineers.

The Secretary begs leave to acquaint the Board that to the best of his Knowledge

the

Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

the Case of Lieut Colonel Geils has not been mistaked in the General Letters to England as that Officer is pleased to assert

The Secretary is at a loss to reply to the following Part of Lieut.t Colonel Geils Letter to the President "I request your Excellency, & the Gentle- "men of Council will call upon Mr. the "Secretary Chamier to clear up this point: "and know his Authority, or how he could "make so unwarranted an use of public Record" for he is obliged to confess he does not understand the exact Drift of the Accusation. Does Colonel Geils mean to charge the Secretary with having stated one thing on the Consultations, and another in the General Letter? if he does, the Secretary begs leave to deny it. If the above Quotation is intended to convey any other Charge the Secretary hopes the Board will be so good to call upon Colonel

1528.

Fort St. George 18th Decr 1787.

Colonel Geils for an Explanation, & to desire he will state in plain terms and particularize the breach of Duty with which he may think proper to charge the Secretary, who has no doubt of being able to defend the Conduct of himself & his Predecessors as far as relates to Lieut.t Colonel Geils.

The President, in his Character of Commander in Chief recommends to the Board that Lieutenant Colonel Geils be sent on a Service of Inspection to the principal Garrisons & Posts in the Carnatick & for purposes the following Instructions for his Guidance.

The President recommends the following

To Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Geils of the Artillery &c.

Instruction to Lieut.t Colonel Geils for his Guidance in the Execution of the Service intended by him, consisting the Inspection of the Field & Garrison Artillery in the principal Garrisons of the Carnatic.

Sir,

For the Purpose of ascertaining with Accuracy, the Condition of the Field and Garrison Artillery in the principal Garrisons of the Carnatic, and the Nature of the System established for the Artillery Practice, you are hereby directed to proceed to Cuddalore, Tanjore, Vellum, Trichinopoly, Wandiwash, Tiagar

1529. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

Tiagar, Arnee, Vellore, Arcot, Walajabad, &
Chinglepet and the Mount, and report the
same according to the enclosed Form.

Upon receiving these Instructions
to the Commanding Officer at each Station,
he will furnish you with a Copy of his last
Monthly Return for your Information, and
give you such further Assistance as may be
necessary to enable you to complete this Inspection
Your Reports are to be regularly forwarded to
me by Post from each Station immediately
after your Inspection has been completed
and I shall be happy to receive any Remarks
or Information, respecting the Stores &
and Garrisons, which you may think of
Advantage to the Service.

I am
Sir

Your most obedient
humble Servant
/signed/ Arch.d Campbell.

Fort St. George
18th December 1787.

1530.

Fort St. George 18 Decer 1781.

Tanjore of 178.

Report of the Garrison. Artillery and Powder serviceable

32 24 18 12. 9. 6 4 Powder
Pdrs. Pdrs Pdrs Pdrs Pdrs. Pdrs Pdrs Cwt.

Form of a Report to be made by the Lieut Colonel Guild.

Brass Guns ——
Iron Ditto. ——
Total

Remarks. Complete with Carriages and with Rammers, Sponges &c. agreeable to the Monthly Return of the 1st of 178. —

Report of the Field. Artillery and Powder serviceable

Cannon. Mortars Powder
24 18 12. 6. 3 13 8 5½ 4½
Pdrs Pdrs Pdrs Pdrs Pdrs Inch Inch Inch Inch Cwt.

Brass Guns ——
Iron Ditto. ——
Total.

Remarks Complete with Carriages, Limbers, Tumbrils, Shot, Shells &c. agreeable to the Monthly Return of the 1st 178. —

Artillery Practice, if according to the established Exercise or in what deficient —

The

1531. Fort St George 12th December 1758.

The Board approve the Recommendation

The Above. Approved

of the Commander in Chief & Sitis in Consequence

Agreed that the Secretary do direct Lieut Colonel Fiels to proceed to the Stations abovementioned and to observe the proposed Instructions.

Read the following Letter from the Military Board.

To the Honorable
Major General Sir. Archibald Campbell K.B.
Governor &c &c &c in Council

Honorable Sir,

We have the honor to acknowledge

From the Military Board recommending that Lieut Kilpatrick's Claim to superior Rank, be deferred until the arrival of Captain Lieutenant Trapaud

the receipt of Mr Secry Chamier's Letter of the 6th 7th and 8th instant, the latter requiring our Opinion on an Application from Lieut. Kilpatrick of the Engineers.

Captain Lieutenant Trapaud being now absent on leave in Europe, We think We cannot in justice to that Officer, enter on any investigation

letters

# Fort St. George 14. December 1787.

investigation of the present Claim, entitled him &
return;— more particularly, as We conceive that
neither the Service in general, nor Lieutenant
Kiefelbach in particular, can suffer any material
inconvenience, by the discussion of the subject &
being postponed.—

Previous to the receipt of your Orders of
the 7th instant, a Copy of our Records had been begun,
for the express purpose of being lodged in the &
Military Secretary's Office, which when &
completed, shall be regularly transmitted annually,
agreeable to your Commands.—

We have the honor to be with &
perfect respect, &c &c

"J. Casper
"Thomas Geils
"Henry. Malcolm
"Jas. Campbell
"John Durand
"Jo. Moorhouse.—

Fort St George
Friday 14 December
1787.—

(Signed)

1533. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

The Board approve the recommenda-

Approved tion in the foregoing Letter of deferring the A

Consideration of Lieut. Kirkpatrick's Claim-

until the return of Captain Lieutenant Trapaud

Read the following Letter from the A

Board of Revenue

To The Honble Major General

Sir. Archibald Campbell K.B.

Governor in Council

Fort St. George

Honble Sir,

From the Board of Revenue recommending that the Contractors for Bricks &c Chunam be obliged to purchase the Articles they may want at the general Average Price of the Country.

We have received the Secretary

Chamier's Letter under Date the 11th Instant

with its Enclosure

Conceiving it to be the Intention

of your Honor that the Contractors for Bricks

and Chunam should pay the Market or

Price for Straw and other Articles for A

which

which they have applied for an Order, we made Enquiries to ascertain how far the Rates & mentioned in their Letter to the Committee of Works, agreed with the general average Price of the Country, and we found that Straw varied according to the Season of the Year from 8, to 15 Bundles per Pagoda, and that at this Season in Particular it was always dear.

The Price of this Article as mentioned in the Contractors Letter falls very short of the real Value to the Country People, and the other Materials tho' no Price is mentioned by the Contractors, we have reason to think are dearer than formerly. We should therefore have been deficient in our Duty had we not represented these Circumstances, which probably may have escaped the Notice of Government & previously to our taking any Measure

1535. Fort St. George 18th Decr 1787.

. Measure which might in its consequence ex-
tend to the Injury of the Inhabitants or the
Diminution of the Company's Revenue

We have the honor to be with Respect
&c. &c.

Fort St. George
17th Decr 1787. } (Signed) John Holland
Charles Oakeley
David Haliburton
Geo: . Moubray

Agreed that Copy of the above be
sent to the Committee of Works with directions
Approved to adopt the recommendations Contained
therein.—

Read the following Letter from the
Committee of Stores with three Enclosures
the last to be entered in the M: B: No. 56/

To the Honble. Major General Sir A Campbell K. B.
President & Governor &c. in Council
Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

Agreably to Your &
Orders on Our last Proceedings, we
have attended an Experiment of
a

Report of the Committee of Stores stating the Result of an Experiment of a Seven Pounder Field Piece drawn by Deers Reposed in the Manner recommended by Lieut Colonel Gretor's Minute thereon inclosing proposal of Mr. Barbier for the Purchase of the unserviceable Gun in Store No. 25. Battalion supplied with as good a Piece. &c

1536. Fort St. George 18th December 1787

a Six Pounder fixed Piece drawn
by four Draught Bullocks in the
manner proposed by Lieut
Colonel Gent's Vizt. Our Opinion
the best place for fixing the
Trail Bolt of the Gun Carriage
the front Bolt of the Trail
from Mason. If this Alteration
meets with your Approbation
it may easily be made. The
Gun Carriages now in Use
& may be continued in
those that are to be made
hereafter, but it will be
necessary to know from
the Contractor the Amount
of the additional Expence
which we have desired him
to lay before us at Our
next Meeting.

Lieut Colonel Gent
at Our last Meeting laid
before Us the Accompanying
Memorandum which he
desires

To be for Consideration
until the Additional
Expence be ascertained.

E. E. Gent.

1537.

Fort St. George 18th. December 1787.

Lt. Beatson may be furnished with what he requests upon applying for the same.

Approved.—

Approved.—

desires may be submitted to your Consideration.—

We have the honor to enclose you Copy of a Letter N.o 2 addressed to Maby. Mr. Beatson on the Subject of which we request to be favoured with your Commands.—

As by your late Instructions the Unserviceable Brass Ordnance is to be sold Lieut. Colonel Moorhouse recommends that previous to its being disposed of it be broken up, We have unanimously concurred in this Opinion as it will rather enhance than diminish the Price & prevent any Idea of the Sale of serviceable Ordnance.—

The Commanding Officer of the 25 Battalion has contracted for a Supply of Arms which we have complied with

1538

Fort St. George 12th December 1787

Approved

with by sending him as usual
in time of Peace prepared Arms
&c. No 3 in a List of Stores
received from the Military &
Storekeepers during last Month,
& Musters of such as have &
carefully examined & Approved
We have the honor to be
&c. &c.
S. Capper
Wm. Petrie
Thomas Fiels
S. Moorhouse
Com. Gl. Stores.

Fort St. George
12 December 1787

Lieut Colonel Fiels Represents to the &
Committee of Stores having had the honor of &
shewing to His Excellency the Use of the new &
Draag-Ropes which met his Approbation, and he
believes the Commander in Chief only waits to &
Ascertain the Alteration necessary to be made in
the Trail Hooks of the Gun Carriages to adopt &
them to this Mode of Draught, in order to their
being ordered into general Use.

Lieut.-

15.39

Fort St George 18th December 1781

Lieutenant Colonel Gaels has at the same time the honor of submitting to the General, the Leaver for a more expeditious manner of staking the Wheels from Carriages, which he wises meet his approbation.

Lieutenant Colonel Gaels informs the Committee that he has also shewn his Excellency that the length of twelve feet will be sufficient for the Drag-Ropes which he approved.

/signed/ Tho.s Gaels

A true Copy

Th Chase
Clerk to the Commt. of Stores

at the Presidency

To Colonel James Casper

President &c.a Committee of Stores

Gentlemen

I understand from Colonel Moorhouse there are a considerable number of the Unserviceable

1540 Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

Unserviceable Gunnies Store, that will Answer the
Purpose of Ballage or Ballast for Ships. Jwish.
to purchase from fifty to a hundred Sons on the
the same Terms as sold for to Captain Monro
of the Houghton, and to be permitted to chuse such
of the Unserviceable Guns or other Ballage as
will answer my Purpose.

I am.

Madras 3d Decr 1787.

Y. H.
/signed/ John Beatson

A true Copy
T. Chase
Clk. to the Secret. of Stores
at the Presidency.

The President lays before the Board
the following Letter from Mr Monneron &
Director General of the French East India
Company's Affairs in the East Indies.

To

1541. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

To his Excellency Sir. Archibald Campbell K.B.

Commander in Chief of his Britannick
Majestys Forces on the Coast of Coromandel,
Governor General of Madras &c. &c. &c. &c.
at

Fort St. George.

Sir,

I have long flattered myself with
the hope of personally delivering the Packet from
Mr. Dundas, which I have now the honor to
enclose to your Excellency, but each day brought
some contrediment to my intended Journey
to Madras, and I therefore avail myself of the
departure of Mr. Mallendie to convey to your
Excellency Mr. Dundas's letter. It is a very
obliging Recommendation in favor of the
Servants of the Company who have entrusted
me with direction of their Concerns in India.
Permit me, Sir, to unite my feeble endeavours
to that of the Directors at Paris to request
of

From Mr. Moracin enclosing a Letter to Sir Archibald Campbell from Mr. Dundas in behalf of the French East India Company requesting such support from the Government as will aid the Agents of the French Company in the Recovery of their outstanding Balances —

the

1542 Fort St. George 18th December 1787

of your Excellency your Support to its &
Protection for the Employers of our Company
Both are necessary every where, but more
particularly to the Northward, where the
death of Mr. Morton, the former Chief
at Yanaon, has left about twenty .&
Thousand Pagodas of Contracts unsettled.
I beg of your Excellency to be Kind enough
to recommend to the Chiefs and Council
at Masulipatam, Vezagapatam, and their
dependences, to support and favor the &
Claims that the French Company's Agents
in the North may make, for the purpose
of recovering what is due from the Debtors
of that Company, in the event of the &.
Debtors taking refuge in the British Possessions

I am
Sir with Respect
(Signed) Morrison
Sir

Pondicherry
14th December 1787.

1543. Fort S.t George 18.th December 1787.

Sir Archibald Campbell K.B.

Sir,

I have enclosed for your perusal a Copy of a Letter from the French East India Company to their Friend M.r Harriss in London by whom it has been communicated to me. I send it compleat as I received it, because I cannot better express the grounds upon which I am happy to recommend to your protection the Agents of the French East India Company, whose Names and situation will be known to you by the enclosed List. I trust that the enlightned age in which we live, has at last learnd that a generous emulation and not a narrow jealousy, is the solid base of Industry and Commerce. I sincerely wish that the French Nation may enjoy in the amplest manner

From the Right Hon.ble Henry Dundas enclosing Copy of a Letter from the Directors of the French East India Company to M.r Harriss in London. Recommending the Contents to the favourable Consideration of the Government

learnt

1544. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

manner, the benefits of Commerce to which they are entitled by the Treaties subsisting between them and us, and I have entertained no doubt in authorising Mr. Herries to assure the French East India Company, that their Servants will find you fully disposed to aid them with your protection, whenever they have occasion to resort to you in support of their just Claims.

I have the honour to be, with great regard, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) Henry Dundas.

India Board,
Whitehall,
20th Decr. 1786

To Messrs. Chas. Herries &c.
London

The approaching departure of your first Ships for India induces us Gentlemen to recommend

From the Directors of the French East India Company to Messrs. Herries & Co requesting they will obtain a Letter from a Member of the Board of Controul, on behalf of their Company.

1545. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

remind you of the obliging offer you have made us
which we have accepted with great Pleasure
of employing your good Offices with some
one of the Member of your Board of Control
for the purpose of procuring Letters of
recommendation as well to the Governor
General of Bengal as to each of the Governors
of the Different Settlements belonging to
your Company in India. Such strong
Recommendations in favor of the principal
Agents of our Company, as shall express the
good Intentions of the British Government
towards the French Company, ought
undoubtedly to produce the best effects towards
the free and peaceable circulation of our
Trade; they will besides become more
agreeable independently of our particular
Anxiety to form Connections with your
India Company by which the two Nations
will

1546 Fort St. George 12th December 1787.

will derive reciprocal advantage / from our
persuasion that under the present Circumstances
of our two Nations having united themselves by
a Treaty of Commerce, our Government will
be well pleased with the efforts we make for
the purpose of Conciliation with your
Company, and to establish between it and us
a Mutual Confidence and the most perfect
harmony: such are our Intentions, and
the Use we propose to ourselves of making
of the recommendations that we solicit of
from your Commissioners, we flatter our-
selves that they will receive them favorably,
and that they will be executed in a Manner
to produce the good effects expected
We have the honor to be &c.
the Directors of the India Company

Paris 22 December
1786.

Bezard
Sabatier & Despres
S. Berard.

We

1547 Fort S.t George 18.th December 1787

We certify this to be a true and faithfull Copy of
the Original Letter addressed to us by the French
East India Company.—

/signed/ Chas. Herries &c.

London
20.th December 1786.—

Agents of the french East India Company

M.r Moracin . Manager for the Company and the
director General on the Coast of Coromandel

Pondecherry

M.r de Court. Chief
Boyer Second
} at Mahé for the Coast of
Malabar

M.r Dangeuil
Samson
Deonà
Deslay
} President & Members of the
Committee for the Company
at Chandernagore.

for

Bengal.—

M.r Montegny de Moutplaisir
Fouqueux des Mouliers
Tenuer
} President, Second and
Third of the Com.e for
the Company at Canton

China

M.r De Monerif . . . Chief at Mokha

A true Translation

/signed/ I. Chase

French Transl.

Paris
22.d November 1786.—

The

1548. Fort St. George 18. December 1787.

Minute thereon

The Board having taken the foregoing into Consideration, request the President will reply to Mr Moracins Letter signifying them that this Government is perfectly disposed to afford the most liberal assistance to the Agents of the French Company in the administration of their Affairs, & in support of their just Claims.—

Minute thereon

Agreed that Copy of Mr Moracins Letter be sent to the Northern Subordinates & Residencies with directions to afford liberal assistance to the French Agents in the management of the Affairs entrusted to them & in the recovery of the property belonging to the French Company.—

Read the following Letter from Lieutenant Colonel Goods to the Secretary.—

Sir

1549 Fort St George 18th December 1787.

John Chamier Esqr.

Military Secretary.

Sir.

I do Myself the honor to suppose Hes Excellency means to bring my letters of the 28th Octr 15th November and 3d current, shortly before Council; I beg you will do me the favor to lead the Attention of the Honble Board, to the 69th Paragraph of the general Letter by the Houghton the Ships arrived in from England, dated the 16 February 1787 in Order to its being stated in the most particular Manner, to the Right Honble the Gover General in Council, as I apprehend it will entirely [illegible] satisfy His Lord Cornwallis of these existing "positive Order of the Directors" which His Lordship only required to induce a deviation, even in Bengal, from the Rule regarding Officers returning to the Service from Europe: and which seems especially to provide for the following 90th Paragraph in the same letter [illegible] wherein

From Lieut Colonel Gillespie to the Secretary, requesting he will state to the Board certain Circumstances in behalf of his Claim to the Command of the first Battalion of Artillery - Apologizing for any Error he may be committed in respecting him / the Secretary /.

there

1550. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

wherein The Honble Court have resolved to grant
"to Major Gells a Commission" of Lieut Col. of
"Artillery to rank next to and immediately after
"Lieut Colonel Pogueillt &c."

After expressing my ready and most
perfect acquiescence to all Orders of Government,
You will do me a favor, to state in the most &
forbearing and guarded terms, That I must
necessarily hold The Honble Members severally
responsible to me for the loss I may undividually
suffer, by continueing to be deprived of the &
Command of the first Battalion of Artillery,
held by a junior Supernumerary Lieut. Colonel
clearly ascertained to be my right, by the Letter &
spirit of the Honble Company's Orders, and that the
Honble only be Major of Artillery as the Honble &
Board must themselves of all the consequences enforced
by Act of Parliament on a disobedience of the Directors
Orders.

I beg also you will Make known
Terms to Government, That I only claim the rights
appertaining to my rank as Senior Officer of
Artillery

&

1551. Fort St. George 18th December 1787.

Artillery, acknowledged in the general Letter by the
Ravensworth, to have placed me at the head
of the Corps, and to command the 1st Battalion
& principal station of Artillery in the Eastern
and Western Divisions, which I am, by Government
Orders, specially appointed to the Command of

Whatever may be suggested, no injury
can derive from this to the Service, and Government
have it under my hand, pecuniary consideration being
in my Mind but a secondary object: If the Service
is likely to suffer, from any supposed want of
ability in me to Command a Corps and preserve the
confidence of the Men and Officers, or to be benefited
by those of Lieut Colonel Sydenham - awarding
me my right, is but an act of justice, and can
never preclude Government, from making
a due use of either; by continuing Lieutenant
Colonel Sydenham where he is, or where the
Service might be liable to suffer from his
Absence, & Ordering me where they please or where

my

pecuniary

1552.

Fort St. George 18th. December 1787.

my presence is likely to do least Harm

I observe on my Letter of the 15th Instant.

to have called upon the Secretary Chamier to

assign his reasons for certain parts of the Company's

words being erroneously stated. The particular

statement I allude to, is principally contained in

the 132 and 133 paragraphs of the General Letter

dated the 20th September 1784. which I apprehend

led His Excellency into a very serious error, regarding

my situation in his Letter the 8th June to

Lord Cornwallis, where it is said, "I was removed

"from the Artillery to the Engineers" which must

have happened at the Time Mr. Huddleston held

the Office. I have therefore to request you will

point out this to the Honble Board, and hope

for your Excuse in having mentioned, when

I ought to have called upon the Secretary, only

in general Terms.

I am with respect

Fort St. George
15th December 1787.

(signed) Thomas Teils.