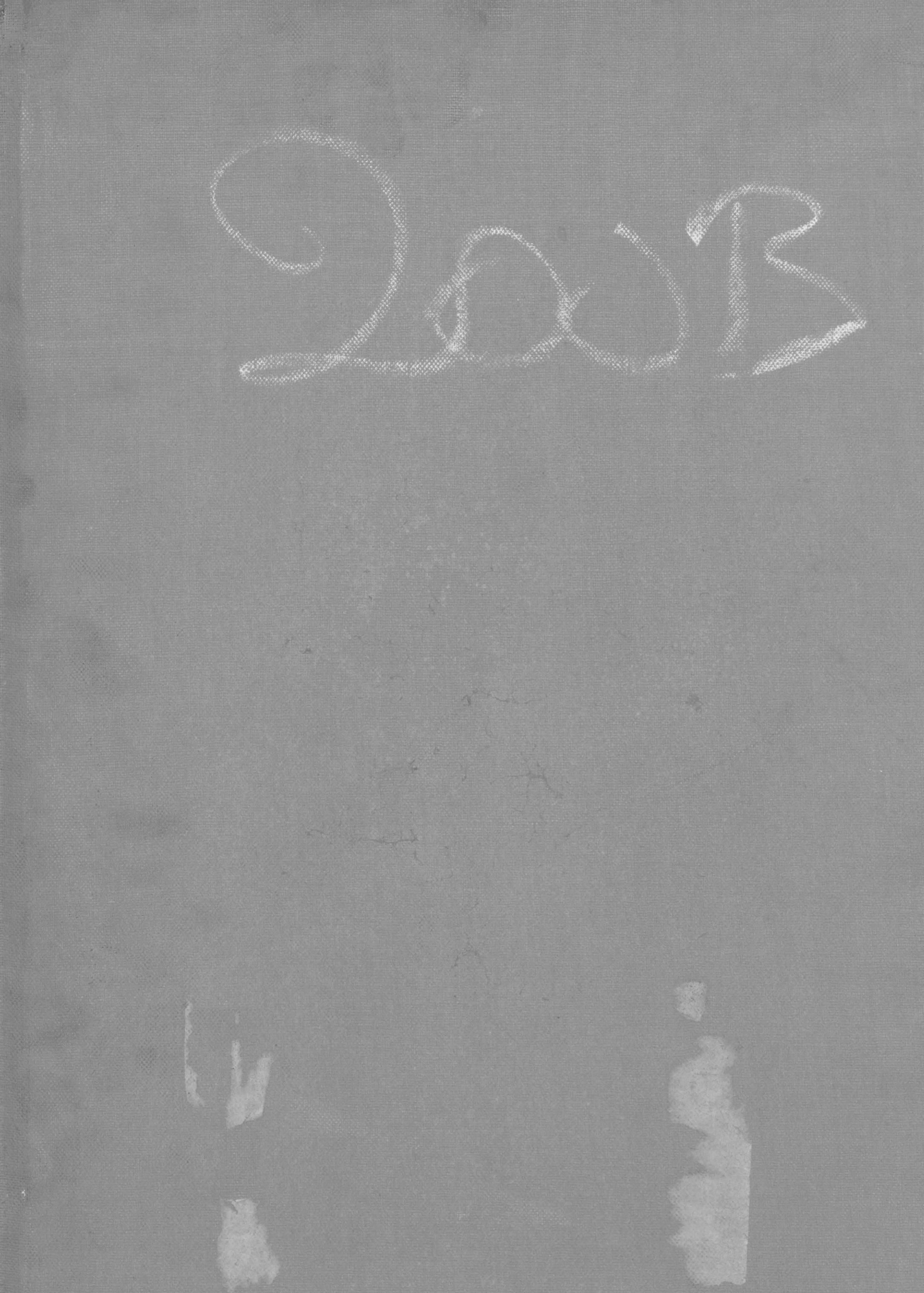


1. Number of pages: 411
2. Date of repair: 31-3-
3. Initials of Repairer: [illegible]

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

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4171 Fort St. George 1 November 1795

13th
"

Dispatches the undermentioned letters

Entered in Mss Nos. 66. 67. 68 69. 70. 71 72. 73 74. 75.

To Civil Paymaster General transmitting

To Wm. Macleod

a corrected Statement of Allowances to Dutch Prisoners

at Pulicat for his guidance. -

To Resident at Cuddalore with an ——"——

To Wm. Hunter Esq.

Invoice of Military Stores sent there -

To Ditto at Hydrabad - approving his

To Captain Kirkpatrick

Intention to require the delivery of the Deserters

who have Enlisted in Mons.r Raymond's Service

previous to the release of his party, now detained at

Orgole. -

To Colonel Malcolm

To Military Auditor General advising of the

Sum paid by the Nabob in part of the Extra ——"——

Disbursements for the Detachment in the Nellore

District - the same to be written back to the credit

of Military Charges Certain Appointments made by

Colonel Stuart Confirmed - The Meuron Regiment

to receive the same pay and Allowances as a Kings'

Regiment. -

To Ditto

To Ditto - referring Mr. Roebuck's additional

Estimate for November. -

To Ditto

To Ditto - referring the Accounts of the Deputy

Kings' Paymaster General - in Continuation. -

4172 Fort St. George 1 November 1795

13

To Military Board

To Military Board stating the Opinion of the Board on the deviation on the part of the Contractors from the Plan for the Granary at Arnee their other Bills passed an advance ordered for Lascar Clothing for 1795.-

To Colonel Brathwaite

To Commander of the Army - the several appointments Made by Colonel Stuart Confirmed - his testimony in favor of Mr. Briggs and Major Smart Satisfactory.-

To Mr Powney.

To Collector at Rammad directing him to ascertain what quantity of provisions can be supplied from the Southern Countries for the use of the Troops destined against Columbo - and to afford Colonel Martins Assistance in providing Faseines and Gabions - a regular Tappy between Manar and Tonimalé to be established.-

To Lieutenant Colonel Baird

To Commandant at Tanjore enclosing a letter for the Rajah -

To Lieut. Jones.

14th Dispatched letter to the Officer Commanding at Tutocoryn Entered in Mr. No 76 enclosing a letter for Captain Gardner of the Heroine

15th Instructions for forwarding it.-

Received the undermentioned letters -

4173 Fort St. George 4 November 1795

15

Entered in Mr. Bds. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87.

From Mr. Secretary Hay. — From Secretary at Bengal - forwarding Despatches for Madras received from England per Hawke and Earl of Oxford Indiamen.

From Monsieur Sonnerat. — From late Chief at Yanaon - requesting leave to reside at Pondicherry and that he may receive his subsistence at that place.

From Major Roberts — From Commandant of the Nizam's Detachment - enclosing his Correspondence with the Resident at Hydrabad.

From Sir Charles Malet — From the Resident at Poonah advising of his Return to that place from Bombay.

From Military Board — From Military Board - proposing that the Bengal Indent for 18 Pounder Round Shot be supplied from the quantity designed for Madras on board the Indiamen lately arrived at Calcutta.

From Ditto — From Ditto - of Opinion that the Officers of the 28th Battalion may be allowed respectively two Thirds of established price of Tents and that Captain Johnston's proposal for providing Country Boxes may be accepted.

From Ditto — From Ditto - transmitting Copy of a letter from the Commandant at Ganjam - of Opinion

15th

that he was not authorized to issue Camp — Equipage upon the requisition of the Commercial Assistant at that place - Observations on the — subject.

From Board of Revenue

From Board of Revenue enclosing a letter from the Collector in the Jaghire and requesting — order regarding the three Merchants in confine- -ment at Madras.

From Lieutenant Colonel Baird -

From Commandant at Tanjore respecting Major Dalrymples return to that place with the Flank Companies of the 71st Regiment.

From Mr Topping

From Mr. Topping - transmitting Copy of a letter he was requisitated to address to the — Commanding Officer at Masulipatam, in respect to Captain Johnstones Conduct towards him.

From Ditto -

From Ditto - with Copy of his Second letter to Colonel Beteleffe.

16th

Receive the undermentioned letters & Entered on Mss Nos 88. 89. 90. 91. 9293 94. 95. 96.

From Major Agnew

From Major Agnew - enclosing an Account of his Expenditure on the public Service, when last deputed to Columbo.

From Mr. Crosby

From Secretary to the Hospital Board Mr Surgeon Borrie Requests leave to visit

4175 Fort St. George November 1795

16

From Captain —"— This Despatch —

From Resident at Hydrabad - inclosing Copy of a letter from Major Roberts - his Detach = = ment has been ordered to return to Hydrabad

From Captain Cockburn

From Commandant of the Royal Artillery soliciting a Remission of the re[fu]nd — a demanded of the difference between Majors Full & Haly Batta drawn by him. -

From Mr. Vaughan

From Mr. H Vaughan - requesting leave to postpone taking Charge of the Baram = = hand Paymastership and to remain a few Months on the Sea Coast for his Health. -

From Colonel Malcolm

From Military Auditor General —"— reporting on Mr. Roebuck's Additional Estimate for November -

From Mr. Roebuck

From Military Paymaster General —"— inclosing Copy of two letters from Mr. Paymaster Corbett, explaining the cause of an Excess in his November Estimate. -

From Colonel — " — Brathwaite -

From Commander of the Army —"— forwarding an Application from Captain —"— Lieutenant Brudenell to receive the —"— Off Reckonings of an Infantry Captain of Invalids. -

From

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Fort St. George 16th November 1795

From Lieutenant Munro.—

From Adjutant to 6th Brigade—the Commanding Officer at Chintapilly requests an Allowance for Bullocks, Sweepers &c.—

M. R. 21.

At a Consultation

President

The Right Honorable Lord Hobart

Governor — President

Edward Saunders . . .

&

Ernst William Talboulad } Esqrs

Tuesday 17th November 1795

Minutes of last Consultation — Read and Approved.

Read the following letter from Major General Craig.—

The Right Honorable Lord Hobart

&c. &c. &c.

From Major General Craig advising of the operations against the Cape.—

My Lord,

I have no doubt but your Lordship will have heard from Europe of our detention to this place where we arrived with 6 Line of Battle

4177 Fort St George 17th November 1795

Ships and about 500 Troops on the 12th June - The Dutch Government having peremptorily refused to accede to the proposals which the Admiral and I were directed to make to them that they should put themselves under the protection of the British Government during the present situation of their own Country it became our duty to endeavour to compel them to it, but our total insufficiency of Land force, as well as our entire want of field Artillery and indeed of every Article necessary for acting on shore, has reduced us to a mortifying state of inactivity till within these very few days - One of our first steps was to send a Sloop of War to St. Helena for such supplies of Men and stores as could be spared from that Island The time being arrived at which we were to expect them, we made a movement with some Ships - the Troops, Marines and two Battalions of Seamen which the Admiral has landed on the 7th instant and dispossess'd the Dutch Troops and Militia of a very strong post which they occupied between us and the Cape Town - Two days after the Arniston arrived from St. Helena and brought a small +

4178 Fort St. George 17th November 1795

reinforcement of Men but a very valuable one of artillery men and Guns together with a supply of Money of which we were in great want.-

I am now encamped with about 2000 Men of all sorts at the post from which we drove the Dutch getting up provisions to enable us to push forward.-

Your Lordship will probably know that Major General Clarke is coming this way with three Regiments, and we expect him in about three weeks or a Month, but our anxiety is so great to finish this affair, in order to enable the Admiral to turn his attention to your parts, that we do not propose to wait his arrival, unless we find difficulties greater than those we at present foresee. There are pretty considerable if the Enemy exert their force with any sort of ability; however time is so precious that we must hazard something to fortune on an occasion in which so much is to be gained.-

Head Quarters Camp
Muizenberg False Bay
14th August 1795.-

I have the honor to be
Yr. - Yr.
[Signed] J. H. Craig
Majr Genl.

4179 Fort St. George 17th November 1795

Read the following letter from Bengal

To the Right Honorable Lord Hobart

Governor &c Council

at Fort St. George

My Lord,

From Bengal Testimony of Colonel Stuarts Zeal and Services Suggestion upon the relief of Major Roberts Detachment, adopted - No Accounts have yet reached them from Admiral Elphinstone -

We have the honor to acknowledge the Receipt of your Dispatches of the 29th of last Month announcing the important and satisfactory Intelligence that Jaffnapatam is in the possession of the British Troops, We are happy to add our Testimony to your Lordships of the Zeal which has actuated the public Conduct of Colonel Stuart upon every occasion in which his services have been employed; and we request that your Lordship will take an early Opportunity of assuring him of our sense of it.-

The Orders have been issued for four Battalions of Sepoys to march to the Coast as soon as the Weather permits, and we have resolved in conformity to your Lordships Suggestion, that two of these Battalions shall proceed, after their

arrival

4180

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

arrival at Masulipatam to relieve the Detachment Commanded by Major Roberts.-

We are concerned that the state of our Artillery will not admit of our detaching a Second Company from hence to the Coast but we entirely concur in the propriety of your Lordship's Proposition that Captain Barton's Company may be sent from Madras to Masulipatam to join the two Bengal Battalions - to enable you to withdraw the whole of the Coast Troops from that service.-

We have taken into consideration the best means of supplying Sir George Keith Elphinstone with a Quantity of Rice and Rum and shall communicate to you as early as possible the measures which we propose to adopt for this purpose as well as the extent of them.-

It is proper that we should acquaint your Lordship that, altho' Sir George Keith Elphinstone mentions in his Letter, that he has written to the Governor General and we had the same Information from the Company's Agent at the Cape of Good Hope, no Letter or

4181 Fort St. George 17th November 1795

Detail of any kind from the Admiral to the
Governor General has yet been received.-

We have the honor to be
Sir &c &c

Fort William
the 26th October 1795

(Signed) J. Shore
Robt Abercromby
P. Speake
Wm Cowper

Minute thereon — Ordered that Colonel Stuart be made acquainted with the sentiments of the Supreme Government respecting his Conduct and Services-

Read the following letter from Mssrs
Tolloh Jervis & Brodie.-

To the Right Honorable Lord Hobart

Governor in Council

From Mssrs Tolloh Jervis and Brodie with a Bill for the Rice landed from the Bombay at Tranquebar. Certificate thereof with an Indemnification thereof.

My Lord,

We have herewith the honor to present to your Lordship for payment a Bill for Rice delivered by Captain Robertson of the Ship Bombay to the Commissary of Grain and provisions at Tranquebar, including the Amount

4182 | Fort St. George 17th November 1795

I freight for the period of three Months the Bombay was employed by Government, making together Eighteen thousand five hundred and forty One — Pagodas Three Fanams and One Cash (18541.33.1.) which sum We as Agents for Captain Robertson have to request may be discharged by granting Us the one half payable by bills on Bengal at the exchange of 360 Rupees ₹ 100 Star Pagodas and the other half in Star Pagodas.

We beg leave to acquaint your — Lordship that having on the 6th Instant Applied to Mr Secretary Jackson to lay the bill in — question before your Lordship he was pleased to require a Certificate as Specified on the back of it from the Accountant General- With whom We find some difficulties have arisen as to the mode as well as the propriety of his granting such — Certificate - We therefore feel it incumbent on Us on behalf of our Constituent who must suffer considerably by delay in the payment of so large a — Sum to State that he informed us every bag of Rice was delivered to the Commissary of Grain and Provisions at Tripenmalie perfectly full and in good

Fort St George 4th November 1795

condition And as We are given to understand that the Bombay is soon again to be employed by Government your Lordship will have an Opportunity in the event of any diffiency Appearing to hold us responsible for the quantity which we shall make good.-

Your Lordship must be well Acquainted that a Bag of Rice containing two Bengal — Maunds Weight invariably 168 ℔ gross and that 92 5/8 ℔ makes One Madras Garce. from which circumstance together with the Accompanying Receipt for the Rice from the Commissary of Grain and Provisions at Trincomale Certified by the Garrison Store Keeper at this Presidency We presume to hope will satisfy your Lordship as to the — Correctness of Captain Robertsons Claim and — induce you to grant our request. -

We have the honor to be
&c. &c.
(Signd) Tulloh Jervis & Brodie

Fort St George
10th November 1795

The

4184 Fort St. George 17th November 1795

The Honorable Company . . . Dr.

Josh. Robt. Robertson

1795
Octr 17th To 3000 Bags of fine Dble Rice
delivered to the Commissary
of Grain &c. from the Ship
Bombay weighg lbs 504000
Star Pags. 95 ₰ Garce of
9256½ lbs . . . . . } 5172: 9. 25.

" " To 2000 Ds. first quality Moogy Rice
weighg lbs 336000 Star Pagodas
75 ₰ Garce of 9256½ lbs. . } 2722: 14: 64

" " To 2030 Ds. first quality Ramy Rice
weighg lbs 341040 Star Pags. 75
₰ Garce of 9256½ lbs. . . . } 2763. 8:72.

7030 Bags at prices settled by
Garrison Storekr. Amounting to } 10,657: 33:1.

To Freight of the Ship Bombay
Burthen 675 Tons employed in
Honorable Company's Service from
30th of July to 30th Ultimo being
3 Months @ P4 ₰ Ton Ps Memdm 7884 " "

Star Pagodas 13541: 33: 1:

Fort St. George
4th November 1795

E. E. ₰ Contents Rec.d for Captain Robertson
(Signed) Jollon Jervis & Brodie
Agents Captain R. Robertson

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J. Webbe Esqr.

Clerk of the Treasury.

Ordered that this Bill amounting to Eighteen Thousand five hundred and forty One Pags. Thirty three fanams and One Cash (18541: 33: 1:) be paid One half in Cash from the Treasury, and the Remainder by a Bill on Bengal at the Exchange of 360 S.R. Fo. Pagodas and that the Amount be Carried to the Head of Dutch Settlements.-

Received from Captain Robertson of the Ship Bombay at this place Six Thousand four hundred and twenty five Pagodas of Bengal Rice and at Point Pedro Six hundred bags of Bengal Rice - also five bags of Bengal Rice served out to the Sepoys and fifty Second Regiment on board the Bombay making in the whole Seven thousand and thirty bags of the description following

Trincomale
17th October 1795

			Pags.
A	3000	Bags fine Table Rice @ Pace	95
M	2000	Do. first quality Muggy Rice	75
R	2030	Do. first quality Rary Rice	75
	7030	Bags	

(Signed) W.S. Limrick
Commissary of Grain & Provisions

(Signed) J. Greenhill
Garrison Storekeeper

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Fort St. George 17th November 1795

We do hereby engage as attornies to Captain Robertson Commanding the Ship Bombay to become responsible to Government for any difference that may be hereafter Reported by the Commissary of Provisions in the quantity of Rice landed from the Ship Bombay in Comparison with the quantity actually Charged for by us as attornies aforesaid in a bill presented to Government on the 4th Day of November Instant amounting to Pagodas Eighteen thousand five hundred and forty One Thirty three Fanams and One Cash - In Witness whereof We have hereunto set our hands in Port St. George this Eighteen day of November in the year One thousandseven hundred and Ninety five.

Order thereon

(Signed) Tulloh Jervis & Brodie

Resolved that the Bill be paid One half in Money - and the Remainder by a Bill on Bengal and that the whole be Carried to the Head of Expedition against the Dutch Settlements in India -

Ordered that a letter be Written to Colonel Stuart desiring he will call upon the late Commissary of Grain and Provisions, to report

4187 Fort St George 27 November 1795

the actual quantity of Rice received from the Ship Bombay and whether it was delivered by Weight or Measurement.-

Read the following letter from Colonel Floyd.-

Right Honorable the Governor in Council

My Lord,

From Colonel Floyd forwarding Colonel De Meuron's letter to him and a Return of that part of his Regiment already arrived at Tutecoryn.

I have the honor to enclose, for your information, a letter from Colonel de Meuron Commanding the Swiss Regiment of that Name and a Return of that part of it already arrived at Tutacoryn, making a total of 262 Persons, which, with the two Companys expected from Point de Galle Amounting to 142 makes the whole to be 404.-

Your Lordship will observe by the Return as well as by a paragraph in the letter that the Formation of the Regiment differs from any that compose this Army and that Colonel de Meuron is desirous of making an alteration - and indeed I should suppose it very convenient if this Regiment was to be formed

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Fort St. George 17th November 1795

formed exactly after the manner of your own
European Regiments either of the Kings or
Companys according to the Service to which
they particularly belong and of which I am
ignorant.-

I shall endeavour to save the Major
the trouble of coming here, as this Arrangement
must proceed from your Lordship - The other
Matters being within the Authority you have
given me are already provided for.-

I have the honor to be
&c. &c.

(Signed) J. Floyd Colonel

Trichinopoly
November 11th 1795

To Colonel Floyd
Commanding the Southern Division
at Trichinopoly

Sir,

On my landing I was met by Colonel
Campbell who delivered to me your Letter I feel
pleasure in finding myself placed under your
orders and I am anxious to receive Instructions

4189 Fort St. George 17th November 1795

which will enable me to meet your Wishes by
which I shall studiously regulate my Conduct
Most with Impatience to the Honor of your —
Acquaintance which I shall be happy on every
Occasion to cultivate.-

I have the Honor to enclose a Return of
the Detachment which accompanied me hither —
I expect shortly the two Companies (142 Strong)
who were in garrison at Gale the Sloops that were
to convey them arrived in Gale Roads on the 26th
Ultimo I fear they may have a long Passage.-

I am quartered in the Castle with
some of the Staff Officers of the Regiment - the
Men arrived on the two Vessels are well accommodated
and I hope also to be able to provide equally —
eligible Accommodation for the two Companies
expected from Gale - The Officers are lodged in —
Private Houses - and I shall make the most —
convenient Arrangements in my power for the
Troops during their Stay at this place.-

Colonel Campbell has promised me
every assistance in procuring Provisions - and I have
no doubt his Zealous Exertions will enable us to

Supply

4190 Fort S. George 17th November 1795

supply all our Wants. I do not expect to receive any
Instructions from Government or the Commander
in Chief except thro' your Medium - should it be
otherwise I shall immediately communicate the
Particulars of them toyou. -

I am well aware of the advantage
I derive from the presence of Lieutenant Jones, who
is Stationed here with a Company of Sepoys. - for
without his Mediation my ignorance of the Customs
of the Place might involve me in disagreeable
Embarrassments. -

I am employed in drawing out a
detailed Report of the State of the Regiment as to
Arms Accoutrements and Cloathing, which I purpose
sending you by the Major of the Regiment, my
Relation and intimate Friend, who will give you
every Information you may require regarding the
Corps. - Our Muskets Swords and Accoutrements
are all in good Condition: indeed we have above our
Complement but a want of Blue Cloth has obliged
me to provide the Men with Linen Jackets

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

in which they have done Duty since the first of August.

I request you will have the Goodness to afford the Major every Information regarding the interior Detail of the Regiment, for our present System certainly is not free from Defect Being — placed on a footing with the English Army in India with the Regiment to be organised on the same Manner as the British Corps so that we may not infring on the Uniformity of your System — It is principally with this View that the Major is detached — I should indeed have proceeded myself had I not expected Despatches from my Brother who is still at Madras —

I beg leave Sir to offer my best — Acknowledgements for the Orders you have been pleased to send relative to our Reception and — Subsistence and to subscribe myself with Sentiments of distinguished Consideration —

Sr. Sr.

/Signd/ P. F. De Meuron

Tutacoryn
2nd November 1795

A true Translation

/Signd/ George Parry
Act. French Translator

Swiss Regiment De Meuron

Return of the two Companies of the said Regiment form'd a Muster taken on board Mr. Monnerón's Ship the 1st November 1795

Staff

Majr. P.F. de Meuron Colonel Commandant

de Meuron Major

Pivaz, Capt. Lieut. Judge Advocate

Boyer Capitaine Lieutenant à la Suite

De Roy Lieutenant and Paymaster

Borguet Chaplain

Boyer 2d Surgeon

Baum Drum Major

Total 8

Officers

	Companies	Captains	Capt. Lieut.	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Sub Lieutenants	Sergeant Majors	Corporal Majors	Quarter Masters Sergeants	Sergeants	Corporals	Musicians	Mineurs	Drum Majors	Privates	Servants	Total
1st	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	5	5	13	1	1	78	1	...	...	107
4th	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	10	2	5	11	1	1	...	...	139
	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	3	15	15	6	3	6	2	189	2	246

Strength of the Comps: 246
Staff 8
Officers 8
General Total 262

A true Translation
(Signed) George Parry Act. French Translator

(Signed) P. F. De Meuron

1795 1st Company 1st Regiment 1st November 1795

4193 Fort St. George 17th November 1795

Memoirs thereon

Ordered to lie on the Table

Resolved that the Regiment of Meuron be paid by the Deputy Paymaster General to his Majesty's Troops and that the Sums to be issued on this Account be, for the present, carried to the Head of "Dutch Settlement"

Read the following letter from the Military Board.-

To the Right Honorable Lord Hobart

Governor in Council

My Lord,

From Military Board request authority to complete the stated proportion of Camp Equipage.-

Our President having stated that there is a probability of large demands for Camp Equipage - We request to be authorized immediately to complete the stated proportion in the several divisions of the Army, and to be allowed to detach the particulars on a future day. -

We have the honor to be

&c. &c.

Fort St. George
12th November 1795

(Signed) John Braithwaite
Henry Malcolm
Jno. Richardson
By Close
George Hall

4194

Fort St George 17th. November 1795

Minute thereon

Resolved to inform the Military Board that before Government can come to any resolution upon the Recommendation for completing the States proportion of Camp Equipage in the several Divisions of the Army it is indispensably necessary that they should be informed of the quantity wanting to Complete and the Expence to be incurred thereby that they may be enabled to judge how far the State of their Funds would warrant the whole Disbursement:-

Read the following letter from the Military Auditor General.-

The Right Honorable Lord Hobart
Governor and Governor in Council
of Fort St. George

My Lord,

Form Colonel Malcolm reporting the Amount of Cash to be advanced to the Clothing Contractor

I have the honor to report to your Lordship that the advance of Cash to be made to Mr. William Doring Contractor for Army Clothing, conformably to the terms of his Contract Copy of which was transmitted to my Office with Mr. Secretary Jackson's letter of the 11th. Instant —

4195 Fort St. George 17th November 1795

Amounts to Twenty one thousand four hundred and twenty two Pagodas twenty Nine fanams and sixty four Cash / Pags. 21422. 29. 64. / of which I have advised Mr. Doring.-

Military Auditor Generals Office Fort St. George 14 November 1795

I have the honor to be
&c. &c. &c.
/ Signed / Henry Malcolm
Mel. Au. Genl.

The advance ordered

Ordered that the Sum of twenty one thousand four hundred and twenty two Pags. twenty Nine fanams and sixty four Cash ——— /21422: 29: 64:) be advanced from the Treasury to the Contractor for Clothing the Army.-

Read the following letter from Mr. Robert Andrews.-

To the Right Honorable Lord Hobart
President and Governor &c.
of Fort St. George

From Mr. Andrews arrival at Jaffna with the Embassadors — whom he shall proceed by Sea, after the Monsoon - Observations relative to the Revenues

My Lord, Having been much disappointed in the arrival of the King of Candias Embassador who did not reach Trincomale until the 27th. Ultimo and Captain Thistleton of the Swift informing me that he had every reason to apprehend from the strength

Fort S.t George 17.th November 1795

strength of the Currents and Change of Wind that We might be eight or ten days at Sea before we could fetch any port on the Coast, induced me to alter the plan of proceeding with the Embassadors immediately from Trincomala by Sea, which would have probably caused much disgust and inconvenience, and as they are people of the first distinction and family at Candia, any accident happening to them which the Season of the year might occasion, would put an entire Stop to all further negociations:- These circumstances — considered, and having likewise been furnished by Colonel Stuart with Extract of a letter from Government respecting an investigation of the Revenues at — Jaffnapatam, determined me on exerting the — Embassadors, by land to that place, from whence — when the Monsoon broke up We might with great ease and safety cross over to the Coast. for the reasons above stated and under a conviction that the important business of the Embassy would not be materially impeded I left Trincomale with the Embassadors on the 2.d Instant and it was not until I reached — Mulladitte which is about half way between — Trincomala and Jaffnapatam that I had the honor

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honor of receiving Mr. Secretary Webbs letter —
appointing me to take charge of the Revenues
of this place at which I arrived on the 8th Instant
leaving the Embassador under the Escort of —
Lieutenant Kingston with a Company of Sepoys
who I expect will arrive herein the course of
this day On my arrival I immediately entered
on my new charge but find the Dutch system
of Revenue so very complicated and Mysterious that
some time must elapse before it can be brought
into such a regular channel as would meet the
approbation of Government yet I trust before my
departure for the Presidency I shall have so far
entered on the investigation of the Revenues and put
them into such train of collution as will enable
Mr. Jervis to carry on the management during
my absence with less difficulty and embarrassment
than he would at present experience — Colonel Stuart
on the Capture of this place having struck off all
duties whatever I find great advantage has been
taken of such indulgence the Merchants having
made vast exports and imports of Articles the
Duties on which formerly yielded considerable —

Revenue;

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

revenue, the Articles allowd to an Palmiras, Iron Steel, Silks, Cloths, Tobacco &c.a now as I conceive an exemption of custom was only meant to operate as far as the articles of provision for the Troops and Garrison. I have directed the Sea and Land Custom Conoopolies to recommence levying the established Duties on all articles except such as can be considered sustenance for the Troops, such as, Rice, Curry stuffs, fruit, vegetables, poultry, Bullocks Sheep, &c.a —

The principal receipts of Revenue seem to arise from the Sea and Land Customs, the Chank fishery, a Poll tax and body tax; with respect to the produce of the Lands it appears that the Dutch Company sold their right or title thereto many years ago on the purchasers stipulating to pay one tenth part of the produce as a by the, one tenth to the cultivator, and the remainder goes to the Land-holders - who in general Paid taxes Duteemen who have been born in the Island half Cast, and Country Portugueze the Malabars or original Natives of the Country appear to hold a very small portion of the Land, a few individuals

exempted

excepted, who have been the Debasher to the
Governor, and other people in power - the body-
tax which yields about 30,000 Rupees annually -
appears to me a great oppression - the tax is
established on this plea, "certain Casts and description
of people are obliged to labor so many days in
a year for the Company, or Pay so much for being -
excused doing so" - The Export Duties And Anchorage
Send to have been rented for five years at Six
Dollars or Rupees 32,200 yearly to a man who
carries on the most extensive trade on this part
of the Island not only on his own account but
for the principals, Dutch Company's Servants,
who are restricted from commerce but one year
of his lease has expired and it is natural to -
conclude was the Collection of these Duties under the
immediate charge of Government much more would
be brought to public account than leaving them
in the hands of the present Renter - indeed I propose
if in my power before leaving this place to employ
proper people at all the ready money collections
to be paid in daily to the Company's treasury

and

4200 Fort St. George 17th November 1795

and should Government determine on continuing the present Renters such Monies as may have been collected can hereafter be readily accounted for to them.

Jaffnapatnam
10th November 1795

I have the honor to be
&c. &c.
(Signed) Robt. Andrews

To Lie on the Table

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Read the following letter from Colonel Brathwaite.

To the Right Honorable Lord Hobart
Governor in Council

My Lord, &c. &c. &c.

From Colonel Brathwaite stating the additional force to be detached for the siege of Columbo and detailing the Military Strength on the Coast in Infantry with the Application of it — recommends various Arrangements. —

As I think it now time to determine the additional Force which must be sent to Colonel Stuart to render him competent to undertake the siege of Columbo, the conquest of which will no doubt make us entire Masters of all the Dutch possessed on the Island of Ceylon, and as I have no intimation yet of what assistance can be derived from the Malabar Coast, I propose that the follow-

Fort S.t George 17.th November 1795

Force from this Coast shall be held ready to send to Ceylon on a short notice.—

One Captain and 4 Subalterns of Engineers.

Artillery— The Company from Bengal

One complete Company of the Coast Artillery with their Lascars.

Infantry

His Majesty's 73.d Regiment

The Honorable Company's 2.d Battalion of E. I. completed to 600 rank and file

The 3.d Native Battalion from Madras

The 9.th —— D.o —— from Madura

The 11.th —— D.o —— from Guntoor

The 35.th —— D.o —— from Trichinopoly

Having proposed so large a Detachment to be sent from this Coast in addition to what has already been sent from it, I think it proper in this Letter to lay before your Lordship in Council such a Statement of the Army under this Presidency, specially as to the European and Native Infantry allotted to each division, as will I hope satisfy your Lordship, that I have not come forward without having maturely considered the subject

The Baramahal and Salem —

Countries

4202

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

Countries are included in the Center Division of the Army but as none of the Force in that Frontier Station are meant to be disturbed — I shall say nothing of the five Battalions — stationed there.—

I think it necessary particularly to note what was our strength in Infantry at the time we received the Dispatch from Mr. Dundas and what has been detached since and shall I hope satisfy your Lordship that what I recommend for this to be detached to give us a fair prospect of reducing for his Majesty Columbo, and the whole of the Dutch Settlements on the Island of Ceylon, may be parted with without very great risk. In making this Statement I do not think it necessary to enter particularly into the Minutia of the little — additions we have made to our European Force by entertaining near three hundred Captured Germans and by the arrival of Recruits from Europe which have been distributed in the Several Regiments in which I have included

them; nor have I thought it necessary to consider the Native Battalions, but as complete to the fixed establishment, neither have I noticed every — " change of situation among the Native Battalions as such Minutiæ would only tend to perplex the detail when my object is to state our strength in Infantry, and the application of it. I shall however ultimately speak of the additional twenty Men per Company, which in consequence of the late detachments have been added to the Native Corps North of the Kistna and South of the Coleroon and propose how to apply them, and in so doing I shall also propose the measures which I think should be adopted under present circumstances to give us security and reputability at home, and check the neighbouring Powers from attempting invasion from the idea that we are not prepared to resist it. That we must run some risk of their harbouring such an idea is certain, particularly if they hear of our detachments only, but the risk of their making any attempt

will be much lessened, if not entirely done away, if they at the same time hear of our state of preparation to repel them.-

The object before us is of magnitude sufficient to justify us in encountering some risk, and I should feel myself unworthy of the Command with which I am temporily vested if I did not at such a juncture turn any thoughts to enterprize attending at the same time to render the risk which I think it our duty to incur as little as possible; and in so doing I hope I shall be considered as fully cooperating with that ardent Zeal, which actuates your Lordship upon all occasions, when the Advancement of the British interest in India is in view.-

Our European Infantry in the Carnatic Division previous to the arrival of the Despatch from Europe stood at	}	Rank & File 3276
There has been detached from it since to Ceylon and the Eastward	}	1303
I propose farther to detach for the Attack of Columbo His Majesty's 73d Regiment		346.

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	Rank & File
The Honble Company's 2d. Battalion European Infantry consisted to	600
consequently the whole detached and to be detached from the Center Division . . . Amount to	2249
Which substracted from the 1st. Number Vizt. 3276 leaves a remainder of . . .	1027
To which is to be added the Regiment of Meuron	700
The total remaining Force in European Infantry in the Center Division will then be	1727
The European Force in Infantry in the Southern Division previous to the arrival of the despatch stood at	1624
His Majesty's 52d. Regiment detached since to Ceylon	545
Remain in the Southern Division . .	1079
In the Northern Division the European Infantry then stood at	518

Our remaining Force in European Infantry, after providing for the attack of Columbo will be as follows agreeable to the Returns for September

Barry

4206

Fort St. George 17 November 1795

But the foregoing Statement having been taken from the Returns for June, some difference in the Totals must necessarily arise

	Rank & File
In the Center Division	1714
In the Southern D.	1128
In the Northern D.	463
Total	3305

It may now be proper to detail the Corps of which this total is composed, where they are now stationed and then to propose its future application

Detail

His Majesty's 36th Regiment at Warriore	525
" " 71st Do. at Tanjore	603
" " 74. D at Pondicherry	608
The Honorable Company's 1st Battalion of European Infantry at Velore when drafted of 129 to complete the 2d for Service	210
The Honorable Company's 3d Battalion European Infantry at Pondamalé when drafted of 129 to Complete the 2d for Service	196
The Honorable Company's 4th Ditto at Masulipatam	463
The Regiment of Meuron just Arrived at Tutucoryn and intended for the Center Division	700
Total	3305

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which Force I would dispose of as follows.

			Rank & File
His Majesty's 36th	525	Held Ready	
His Majesty's 71st	603		
The Regt. of Meuron	700		
Flank Companies of			
his Majesty 74th &	150.		
Flank Companies of the			
Honble Company's 4 &	150	for the Field	
			2128. —
His Majesty's 74th Regiment deducting			
the Flank Companies, to Garrison			
Madras			458
The Honorable Company's 1st Battalion			
European Infantry deducting the odd			
Men, to garrison Tuticorin . . .			150
The Honorable Company's 3 Battalion			
European Infantry deducting the odd			
Men, to garrison Tanjore . . .			150
The Honorable Company's 4th Battalion			
European Infantry, deducting the Flank			
Companies and the odd Men to Garrison			200
Masulipatam			
Detail of odd men taken from the			
Honble Company's Three Battalions			
From the 1st . . .	60	To Garrison	
From the 3d . . .	46		
From the 4th . . .	113	Vellore	
		. . . . .	219 —
Total Eur: Infantry for Field & Garrison -			3305 —

4208

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I think the Force allotted for the Field will allow us to count upon nearly 2000 effective Europeans allowing for sick and this is a respectable Force in this Country if united in the Field and I should hope the Garrisons will be sufficiently provided with Europeans to secure them except in the event of a regular Siege which is not probable if we can be in the Field I have no difficulty on my mind, but think that our European Infantry Force thus applied, with the Cavalry Field artillery and native Infantry which we can employ in the Field, will enable us to make such a respectable Army as to check or repel any hasty attempts of the Enemy, and consequently answer our purpose, this we can certainly do if our Force is so prepared and disposed as to be quickly brought together, to which end Camp equipage for the whole should be provided and lodged where the Corps to be put in motion are stationed; and every means should be ensured

to,

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to obtain the earliest intelligence of the designs —
and movements of Tippoo Sultaun or the Marattas,
and on the first cause of suspicion our Movements
should be prompt. I do not think much is to be
apprehended if we are prepared, but if a large body
can enter the Country before our Army is assembled
and our Garrisons provided, our Garrisons will be —
exposed to much risk, and our Army to be cut up
in detail if partial movements are made for their
relief. The War of 1780 was a severe lesson to us, and
has strongly marked the necessity of an early assemblage
of the Forces which are to act in the Field, and the
timely provisioning of Garrisons. —

The being early prepared may probably
keep the Enemy in Check effectually; at all events
the advantages arising from our being so are such
as fully to compensate for any expense incurred.

I therefore urgently recommend the immediate
preparation of Camp equipage and that orders
may be issued for securing large quantities of
Grain in the several Garrisons, beyond the stated
proportions for their defence, as resources for the
Army in the Field, but particularly in Trichinopoly
Vellore

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Velore, and Arnee for which latter I have not — provided any specifick Garrison, because as I think that will probably be the place of assembly it will be sufficiently secure till it becomes — necessary to put the Army in Motion when it can be provided for, or earlier if circumstances should render it necessary, by borrowing something from the Force intended for Field Service, but your Lordship will see by what follows that I cannot take any thing from that Force (even without weakening it too much) for Pondicherry, or to add to the Strength of Cuddalore.

I shall now proceed to lay before your Lordship a Detail of the Native Infantry, similar to the above detail of the European — Infantry, only taking it up from the present period, and not including the four Battalions which have already been detached, Viz.t Three to Ceylon and one to the Eastward, nor in the first instance the additional 20 Men per — Company ordered to the Corps south of the — Coleroon and North of the Kistna.

Statement

4211

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Statement of the Native Infantry at present in the Center Division including the 11th Native Battalion tho' not yet arrived.-

		Rank & File
3d Native Battalion	Madras	576
6th " "	Amboor	576
10th " "	Ongole	576
11th " "	not yet Arrived	576
14th " "	Arnee	576
16th " "	Madras	576
31st " "	Arnee	576
32d " "	Madras	576
33d " "	Wallajanabad	576
34th " "	Vellore	576
		5760
Proposed to detach the 3d & 11th for Columbo		1152
Consequently there remains		4608

Southern Division

2d Native Battalion	Tanjore	576
5th " "	Tritchinopoly	576
9th " "	Madura	576
13th " "	Dindigul	576
21st " "	Palamcotah	576
35th " "	Tritchinopoly	576
36th " "	Tanjore	576
		4032
proposed to detach the 9th & 31st for Columbo		1152
Consequently there remains		2880

Northern

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Northern Division

		Rank & File
8th	Native Battalion	Samulcotah 576
12th	" "	District of Vizagapatam 576
18th	" "	of Ganjam 576
19th	" "	of Vizagapatam 576
20th	" "	" 576
26th	" "	of Masulipatam 576
27th	" "	" 576
30th	" "	Guntoor Circar 576.
		4608

Thus then the Native Infantry Force Computed by Battalions of the established strength remaining on the Coast after sending four Battalions for the attack of Columbo, will be as follows.-

Center Division	4608
Southern D.	2880
Northern D.	4608
Total	12096.

I shall now proceed to the distribution of this Force applying the additional 20 Men per Company in the Corps South and North in such Manner as will in my opinion under present circumstances render them most serviceable, and propose some addition

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addition to a Corps in the Center and including the Battalion ordered to be raised at Madras and the Revenue Corps, lay before your Lordship at one view the respectable state of defence which we shall be in.

	Rank & File
From the Native Infantry in the Center Division as above detailed and consisting of	4608
I propose to send two Battalions to the Southern Division	1152
Consequently the Center Divn. will be reduced to	3456
To strengthen this Division therefore I have proposed the raising a Madras Battalion	576
And recommend the bringing two Batts. from the Northern Division	1152
And I would recommend the adding of two Companys to the 34th. Battalion at Velore and then to recruit the 10 Companies of which that Battalion will then be compond with 20 additionals to each Company which guid	344
	2072
The Total Native Infantry then in the Center Division will Amount to	5528

which is only 232 Rank & File less than the 10 Battalions stated to be at present in the Center Division.

4214

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which give as above stated 5760.
and I propose that this Native force consisting of five thousand five hundred and twenty eight Rank and File shall be applied as follows. — Rank & File

To Garrison Madras three Battalions including the Madras Battalion . . . } 1728

To Garrison Velore and Amboor the 3d Battalion augmented as I have proposed } 920

The two Battalions coming from the North to be sent to the South, and with the two Battalions now at Amboor and Walajawbad to be held ready for Field Service . . . . . } 2304

To Garrison Angolo the 10th Battalion . . . 576

Total . 5528

as it has been proposed to send two Battalions from the Center Division to replace the two that are to be sent on foreign Service from the Southern Division, the Southern Division will consist of Numbers stand as it does now at . . . 4032

To which is to be added the additional 20 Men per Company with each of the Battalions now there Amounting to } 1280

making the Total 5312

which I propose to apply as follows

To Garrison Poicherapoly the 5th Native Battalion with its own additionals and the additionals of the 35th transferred to it. . . . . } 896

To

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To Garrison Tanjore the 36th Native Battn. with its own additionals and the additionals of the 2d transferred to it	896
To Garrison Palamcottah and Madura the 21st Native Battalion with its own additionals and the additionals of the 7th and 9th transferred to it . . .	1056
To Garrison Dindigul the 13th Native Battalion with its own additionals as it now stands	736
The two Battalions sent from the Coast and the 2d now in Tanjore to be held ready for Field Service	1728
making the Total of	5312

The present Native Strength in the Northern Division as stated in the foregoing detail of Corps without their additionals amounts to 4608 rank and File, but as I have proposed to take from that force two Battalions or 1152 rank and file the force that remains will be . . . 3456.

to which is to be added the additionals in the Corps now there	1280
Making the Total of	4736

which

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	Rank & File
which I propose to apply as follows..	
In the Ganjam District the 18th. Native Battalion with the simple addition of 20 Men per Company only	736
For the District of Vizagapatam the 12th. and 19th. Native Battalions with their own additionals and the additionals of 270 divided between them, Amounting in regular Sepoys to	1632
Besides which there are in this District two Revenue Battalions	
In the Masulipatam District the 8th. and 27th. Native Battalions with their own additionals and the additionals of the 26th. divided between them, amounting in regular Sepoys to	1632
Besides which there is in this District one Revenue Battalion. -	
In the Guntoor Circar the 30th. Native Battalion with its own additionals	736
Making the Total of	4736

By the foregoing Statement it will appear that I convene the 11th. Battalion already on its way to the Center Division. That I propose to send the 14th and 31st. from the Center to the South, and to bring from the North to the Center the 20th. and 26th. Battalions, and that I propose

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propose to detach on foreign Service the 9th and 35th from the South and the 3d and 11th from the Center.-

I shall now lay before your Lordship an Abstract of the Force in Infantry which will remain in each division after providing for foreign Service, including both Europeans and Natives, with their proposed destinations.-

Abstract of the foregoing Statement

		Rank & File
Center Division		
His Majesty's 74th Regiment, without the Flank Companies and three Battalions of Sepoys including the Madras Battalion	To Garrison Madras	2186.
Detail of Europeans and the 34th Battalion augmented	To Garrison Velore & Amboor	1139
10th Native Battalion	to Garrison Angola	576
The Flank Companies of His Majesty's 74th Regt and of the Honble Company's 4 Batts of E. I. The Regt of Bengal and four Native Battalions	Held ready for Field Service	3304
		7205

Southern

4218

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Southern Division

		Rank & File
Detail of European Infantry and the 5th Native Battalion Augmented	To Garrison Trichinopoly	1046.
Detail of European Infantry and the 2d Native Battalion Augmented	To Garrison Tanjore	1046.
The 21st Native Battalion as proposed to be Augmented	To Garrison Madura and Palamcottah	1056
The 13th Native Battalion with its additions	To Garrison Dindigul	736.
His Majesty's 36th and 71st Regiments and three Native Battalions	Held Ready For Field Service	2856
		6740

Northern Division

The 18th Battalion with its simple proportion of additionals	For the Ganjam District	736.
The 12th and 19th Battalions Augmented as proposed	For the Vizagapatam District	1632
Detail of Europeans with the 3d and 27th Battalions Augmented as proposed	For the District of Masulipatam	1832
The 30th Battalion with its additionals	For the Guntoor Circar	736.
		4936.

Thus after providing what I hope will prove a sufficient force in Infantry for the reduction of

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

Ceylon, we shall have of Infantry remaining on the Coast, exclusive of the five Native Battalions in the Baramahal and Salem Countries and the two serving with his Highness the Nizam, 18,881 rank and file; of which we can, after providing for the Garrisons as I have proposed as appears by this Statement, have ready for the Field 6,160 - to which I shall be able to attach if necessary (after detaching the Bengal Company of Artillery and one other Coast Company to Ceylon) sufficient to man from 20 to 30 field pieces, and at least 1400 Cavalry including his Majesty's 19th Regiment, for I would propose that all the Cavalry should be held ready for Field Service, and indeed I cannot but think that it would be advisable that the Cavalry Corps should as soon as mounted be all upon Tent Allowance, and provided with their own Camp equipage and Carriage, and ever ready to move at the shortest notice. Should your Lordship prefer the Regiment of Meuron, which I have reason to think is stronger than I have computed it at, for the Garrison of Madras it will make no material difference in this Statement as that

Regiment

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Regiment is sufficiently strong as I am informed to admit in that case, a detachment from it to serve in the Field with the Flank Companies of the Honorable Company's 4th European Battalion, in lieu of those of his Majesty's 74th Regiment, which I would by no means take from the 74th Regiment if it is to serve in the Field.-

I hope your Lordship will excuse this tedious detail, which I have entered into merely with the hope that your Lordship will be satisfied, as I am that provided every thing is in time duly arranged and prepared we shall, after sufficiently providing for the great object before us, be in such a state as well warrants the undertaking and as I am given to understand that four Native Battalions are coming to us from Bengal, if two of them are sent to relieve the two Coast Battalions now serving with his Highness the Nizam it will enable us to employ these two strong Battalions in the Northern Circars and if the other two are sent to Arnee to be ready for Field Service our

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situation will in my opinion be very respectable.-

The acquisition of the Regiment of Meuron has been of the most essential service and has rendered the reduction of the Island of Ceylon comparatively easy to what it would have been without that acquisition. The acquisition of that Regiment and the Germans we have enlisted, though I have not particularly detailed them, has replaced about a Third of the European Force that we have detached or that I propose to detach, and has enabled me to do something more than complete the two artillery Battalions to their established strength; and the Statement subjoined will shew your Lordship that our Native Strength will in point of numbers be augmented without counting the Revenue Corps.-

Natives Detached or to be detached eight Battalions	4008
Native force acquired	
From Bengal four Battalions Computed at	2000
New Madras Battalions	576
additionals to the 3 Native Battalions at 120	344
Additionals 20 Men per Company in the Corps in the Southern and Northern Divisions	2560
	5480

a whit

4222

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which gives us a Force in Natives, of 872 rank — and File more than we had before these Expeditions were undertaken —

Head Quarters
Choultry Plain
November 16th 1795

I have the honor to be with great respect.

Sir Sir

[Signed] John Brathwaite

The President delivers in the following Minute. —

The Measures suggested by Colonel Brathwaite in the foregoing letter induce the President to enter the following Minute upon the Records, for the purpose of conveying his sentiments upon the actual posture of affairs as far as it relates to the apprehension of a sudden attack from any of the Native Powers

The Death of the Peishwa is an event of which the consequences cannot at present be foreseen — except that the Dissensions which are now on foot with regard to the Succession amongst a people uncommonly slow in their deliberations will necessarily engage so much of

President's Minute in Consequence on the Political Situation of Affairs —

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

their attention as to render the prosecution of external operations extremely improbable - The Policy of Nana Farnawees independant of any other considerations will naturally point out the expediency of selecting some person whose time of life removes him to a distance from the exercise of his Hereditary Authority - whilst on the other hand, those who are jealous of his power, or desirous of a participation of it may expect that by the nomination of a Paishwa of an age to perform the functions of his office they may hope to share in that influence which of late years has been exclusively in the hands of the Minister -

Upon these Principles a competition seems already to have taken place the claims of the next Heir, Bajee Row, who is twenty years Old, being resisted by Nana Furnawees and a manifest disposition to support them having shewn itself in some of the Principal Mahratta Chiefs -

There

Fort St. George 7th November 1795

These circumstances justify an opinion that the Domestic affairs of the Mahrattas will not leave them at liberty for the immediate pursuit of other objects and consequently that from them we have for the present little to apprehend.—

The Rebellion in the Nizam's Country has been extinguished. Aliyah the eldest son of the Soubah who was at the head of it having been made Prisoner at Aurungabad, and Saddashoo Reddy a powerfull Zemindar who was his Chief supporter, having delivered himself up.—

Whether the Mahrattas originally encouraged Aliyah, or whether he entertained hopes of Assistance from them has not yet been discovered, but there is no appearance of their having afforded him any Material aid.—

It is nevertheless observable that the Death of the Paishwa, and the Suppression of the revolt were events closely

connected

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committed in pursuit of time —

The effect of this commotion so immediately subsequent to the Mahratta War and the existing petty disturbances amongst the Zemindars in the Nizams' Dominions — warrant a confidence in his not wantonly engaging in Hostilities with us, and no Symptom of danger would suggest itself from that quarter except from the intrigues of Mons.r Raymond who commanding a large, and indeed the — most efficient part of his Highness's Army might endeavour to render it subservient to any views of the French in India —

This is mentioned more for the purpose of attracting Notice to Monsieur Raymond's situation, than from the likelyhood of the French having any interests to pursue on this side of India —

Tippoo Sultaun is the Power — upon whom our eyes naturally turn and whose

Conduct

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

conduct it is incumbent on us to watch with the most vigilant attention.—

Resentment against us is a passion which possibly may be anxious to gratify but the security of those possessions which were left to him at the conclusion of the late war, is an object he will not be disposed to risk without the most flattering prospects of success.—

An attack upon us strengthened as we are by our Western Frontier, unless in concert with the Nizam, or the Mahrattas would certainly be a hazardous experiment and it does not seem to be the interest of either of them to restore him to that degree of power which he formerly possessed.—

It may be proper to add that all our Accounts from Seringapatam encourage an idea that Tippoo is in no state of preparation for Hostilities— his Cavalry is reported to be in a Wretched condition, and the refractory Poligars are disturbing the interior of his Country.

The

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The great source of Danger to the Interlopers of India whether European or Mussalmen will be found in a Combination of the Mahratta states an event which but for the Death of the Peishwa was on the eve of having accomplished, and which had already grown sufficiently strong nearly to annihilate the Power of the Soubah - Having established a complete Predominancy in the Hydrabad Councils, and having obtained Cessions of Territory intersecting every part of the Nizam's dominions We have fortunately however been relieved from the Danger with which we were threatened by this combination and which might eventually have forced upon our consideration the expediency of adopting a common interest with Tippoo as the most effectual resource for our mutual Security - The conclusion I draw from all these circumstances is favorable to the continuance of tranquillity and tho' our situation in India can never be deemed secure, unless we are prepared for War, I do not think that the present Crisis demands any extraordinary Military

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Military Arrangements calculated to meur extraordinary expences save only those which necessarily arise from our detachments on foreign Service - This is the last Consideration I have been able to give the Subject, uninformed as I must be of measures in the contemplation of the Supreme Government -

Opinion of the Board upon the measures of preparation proposed by Colonel Braithwaite

The Board are decidedly of opinion under the circumstances stated in the Presidents Minute, that there is not a necessity for adopting the whole of the arrangements recommended in Colonel Braithwaites letter - The Force to be sent from hence for the reduction of Columbo will greatly depend upon the aid we are to expect from the Malabar Coast - At all events, the occasion is not so pressing as to require that the Cavalry should be put upon Field allowance or that any extraordinary expence should be incurred beyond what may be absolutely necessary on prudential grounds -

Read the following letter from Sir Charles Malet -

4229 Fort St. George 17th November 1795

To the Right Honorable Lord Hobart

Governor of Fort St. George

My Lord,

I had the honor to advise your Lordship of my Return to my station under Date the 2d instant, and now trouble you with Copy of a Memorial, subsequently delivered to this Minister, as explained in the enclosed Extract of my letter of the 5th Instant to the Governor General.-

From Resident at Poona - the succession to the vacant Musnud still in suspense. Senior Colonel of his address to the Governor General - Observations

The very delicate and important Point of filling the vacant Musnud is still in suspense -

The nomination of Badie Row the indisputable Heir is so pregnant with danger to Nana Furnavese and the ruling party as to render it a Measure of the utmost repugnance to them while on the other Hand the Introduction of a less rightful Sovereign must inevitably involve Consequences of extreme peril to the peace of the State and

eventually

c 4230

Fort St. George 17th November 1796

eventually to the permanence and integrity of the Empire.-

The Death of the Arabob Walla Jah was formally announced to the Durbar by my Assistant Mr Ushoff; but I have not yet been honored with your Lordships Communication of his Succession.-

Permit me to suggest the Propriety of delaying any letter from His Highness to this state, announcing the same until I may be able to regulate their address by information of the new Peshwa. I have also to submit to your Lordship the Expediency of such letter being delivered through the Channel of this Residency In the Event of any arriving during the present Interregnum, I shall suspend their delivery till I have the honor of hearing further from You-

Having this moment received Nanna Furnavees's Answer to my Memorial, I have the Honor to enclose a Translation.-

I have the Honor to be

Poona 6th November 1795

Respectfully

[Signed] C. W. Malet

Extract

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Extract of a letter from the Resident at Poona
to the Governor General Dated 5th November 1795

Having waited all that Day the
2d instant in expectation of hearing from —
Nana Furnaveez without receiving from
him even an answer to the Communication
of my arrival, I thought it proper to transmit
him a Written Document of the Cause of
my Journey calculated as you will perceive
by the enclosed Translation to act as a circular
Notification of our friendly Sentiments to all
those who in the present delicate state of Affairs
might be inclined to feel Umbrage at an
Appearance of Neglect. —

True Extract

(Signed) J. Uhthoff
Assistant

Translation of a Memorial from the Resident
at Poona Dated 3d November 1795 —

On the 30th Ultimo I learnt with
inexpressible

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inexpressible Concern from Mr. Uhthoff the disastrous
and untimely Death of the Peshwa Sooal Madoorow
Narrain but reflexion teaching me that Grief
for the past was fruitless and that the Friendship
of states is best proved in delicate and critical Times
I judged it proper overlooking all Inconveniences
to return here as soon as possible accordingly reached
my station the evening of the 1st Instant and
have now the honor to convey in the most public
and conspicuous Manner to the Ministers and Great
Chiefs of this Empire the strongest Assurances
that though the lives of Princes are precarious the
Friendship of the British Nation founded on the
Covenants entered into with the Honorable
Company is permanent and immutable. In
like manner as I have thought proper to make
this frank and friendly avowal, in behalf of the
Governor General, I have to request that in
consideration of the Cordiality of the two States
such Communications relative to the intended
Arrangements of this Government may be made

to

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

to me, as may enable me, without loss of time to remove the uneasiness and anxiety of the Governor General's regarding the future Welfare and good order of a State with which the Honble Company is so closely connected by a Reciprocity of Interest and the most Solemn Covenants. —

I will be obvious to the ministers and Chiefs of this State, that I must not only be anxious to see a happy settlement of the Government but that, during the absence of a Head. I must be apprehensive as to the exact mode of conducting Business. I trust, therefore, they will be equally ready to excuse any Informality as to furnish me with the requisite Information for avoiding it. —

True Translation

(Signed) J. Uhthoff

Assistant

Translation of a Communication Made by Behroo Pundit from a Written Paper to Sir Charles Warre Malets Ministry, and taken by Him in writing Friday 6th November 1795 —

Conformable to Friendship, you Came

4234 Fort St. George 17th November 1795

Came here on learning the Melancholy Event of the Peshwa's Death: and agreeable to Cordiality — you have declared the Permanency of Friendship and subsisting Treaties: this was proper and Right

you observed that you are desirous of the happy Settlement of this State, this is — proper and becoming Friends and you observed that you are apprehensive lest in this Interval of the absence of a Head any Error of Conduct should escape you; in Prevention of which you request a line of Conduct may be furnished you, thereby to regulate your Intercourse, the Widow late Peshwa's is Head (Rasuna) and absolute Minister also the Mighty Chiefs of this State through whom, and by whose Signature, the Treaties were executed the strength of Friendship and of Treaties is current —

There is obscurity in this designed or accidental.

Therefore there appears no occasion to Admit any apprehension in your Breast the Friendship and Covenants that subsist between the two States are firm and permanent. you —

should

should on no account admit any Doubts in your Breast.

Whatever shall be Resolved on by My Councils, and the mighty Chieftains, shall with Friendly Cordeility be Communicated by this State.-

The Governor Genral will acording to Friendship be anxious, therefore writing him this Communication set him at Ease.-

That you may be Relieved from Anxiety you shall be informed of what is resolved on, and you will write it to the Governor Genral.-

That at such a time, disregarding all attention to Indisposition and other Inconveniences you should have returned here The time allows not to particularize My Satisfaction with which my Heart is filled. But The Friendship of Friends, which is from the Heart, is from thence evident to my Eyes and my Heart How can it be written or Spoken.a This is becoming Friends.-

True Translation
(Signed) J. Upthoff Jr.s

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enute thereon

Ordered that a Copy of the above be
sent to the Secret Committee by the next dispatch

The Board now proceed to pass
the necessary orders and Resolutions
upon the Military and Political
dispatches from the Honorable Court
of Directors, dated the 10th of June
1795.-

neral Letter from
ngland in the
ilitary and Political
epartment dated
th June 1795 Read
d order passed

Military Letter
10th June 1795.

Para 1 Date of the last Dispatch.
2. No reply.
3 on Mr. Bowrie's Charges-Reasons of the Court for ordering the payment.
4. The Board's Observations on the letter from Mr. Boaries attornies highly Approved by the Court.-
5. Appeal of the Barrack Master to the Governor General in Council dis approved.
6 no reply
7 Allowances granted to Assistant Surgeons Colhoun and Maclean approved.

These Paragraphs require no particular observation.-

8 Balance in the hands of the Deputy Paymaster General to the Kings Troops to be Accounted for and in what way.-

Ordered that a letter be written to Captain Richard Boroughs and Lieutenant Alexander Grant - The Gentlemen

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Fort St. George 17th November 1795

Gentlemen appointed by Government as Trustees to the property of Major Hart directing them to pay into the Company's Treasury on the 1st Day of December Next the Balance of Public Money in the hands of Major Hart on the 24th of December 1792.

9 No reply.

10 on the Memorial of Lieutenant Colonel Giles any further explanations from Lord Cornwallis unnecessary.

Requires no Remark.

11 & 12 No reply.

13 Payment of the Company's Monthly Proportion of the Booty and Plunder taken by Major Cuppage's Detachment approved.

No Remark

14th Address of the Officers of the Madras Army under Consideration.

15th Appointment of Forty four Cadets to the Military Establishment will be kept Compleat in future.

These paragraphs require no Observation in this place.

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

16 Major Smarts arrears of full Batta to be paid.-

Ordered that the Arrears of full Batta due to Major Smart be discharged by a Company's Bond amounting to Pagodas 5532.-

17 Lieutenant Baillies Claim to a Share in the two donations inadmissible.-

Ordered that a Copy of this paragraph be sent to Lieutenant Baillie for his information.-

18 & 20 Noreply.-

21 Observations on the Conduct of Mr. Snodgrass - To be called upon to make an Apology for his disrespect to Government.-

Ordered that a Copy of this paragraph be sent to Mr. Snodgrass and that he be called upon to make an apology in the terms required by the Honorable Court.-

22 No Reply.-

23 Enumeration of the Military Establishment approved.-

No Remark

24 & 25 Noreply

26 Army Clothing Contract the proposals &c. in future to be entered upon the Records - Mr. Jervis's Contract approved.-

The Orders Contained in this paragraph will be particularly attended to.-

The

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Fort St. George 17th November 1795.

27 Mr Archibald Little appointed an Assistant Surgeon on the Establishment and to Rank from the 8th of July 1794.-

The appointment of Mr. Little has been Notified in General Orders.-

28 No reply

29 Lieutenant Colonel Sydenham to be Military Auditor General on the death, coming away, or resignation of Lieutenant Colonel Malcolm.-

Requires no Remark

30 @ 33 Officers permitted to return to India without prejudice to their Rank.-

34 Mr Miller Surgeon permitted to return with his Rank.-

35 Names of Seven Assistant Surgeons appointed on the Establishment.-

Ditto.- Ditto.-

36 Mr James McCoy Assistant Surgeon to be struck off the List.-

Ordered that a Copy of this paragraph be sent to the Hospital Board.-

Political Letter

10th June 1795

Para 1 Date of last Despatch
2 Letter now replied to.-

No Remark

Ordered

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Fort St. George 17th November 1795

3 & 4 Pondicherry proceedings approved - Thanks of the Court to the Army employed in the reduction of that Fortress -

Ordered that a Copy of the Court's resolutions be published in General Orders for the information of the Army -

5 Allowance to French Prisoners of War and others drawing subsistence from the Company a Statement to be forwarded to the Court -

Ordered that the Statements called for, be furnished by the Military Auditor General - and the Civil Paymaster General -

6 No reply -

7 The Nabob's 1/5th of the Arrears of Pagoda Pardaun collected by Colonel Macaulay to be paid to Venkata Soobah -

Ordered that a Copy of this paragraph be sent to the Board of Revenue with directions to prepare a Statement ing the exact sum due to Ven Soobah

8 Nizam's Peishcush The Board enjoined to be punctual in the payment of it -

Due attention to be paid to the orders Contained this paragraph -

9 & 10 Tanjore - High Satisfaction at its prosperous State - a Resident to be Appointed -

The Board Remark, with the deepest concern that the sanguine expectations formed by the

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

the Honorable Court of the prosperous
State of the Tanjore Country; and of
the ability of the Rajah to fulfil his
Public Engagements without Embarrass-
ment to himself, or injury to His
Subjects, can never be realized Under
the present System of Government
in that Province. It is but lately
that the Board have been in
possession of information with
respect to the affairs of Tanjore,
that convinces them of the deplorable
situation of the Country, in consequence
of the dissipation and extravagance
which have marked the Conduct
of his Excellency, and of the Persons
in authority under him. To go into
a detail of circumstances that have
led the Rajah to his ruin is the
less necessary in this place, as the
subject is fully stated in a letter
from the President to his Excellency
in answer to one from the latter
Dated the 11th instant, and as both
will

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Mr. Alexander Macleod Appointed Resident at Tanjore

will follow these Remarks.—

The President Recommends that Mr. Alexander Macleod be Appointed to the Office of Resident at Tanjore, and that a Copy of the 10th Paragraph of the Courts Letter, Specifying the important duties to which his attention will require be called be sent to Mr. Macleod. That it be strongly enjoined him to keep a watchful Eye on the conduct of the Rajah to his Mind in order to avert, if possible those Serious evils, which there is too much reason to apprehend will fall upon the Tanjore Country and that, with a view to put end to the pernicious System of raising Money upon Mortgage the Revenue be Sequestered for the following Affidavit.—

I

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ffidavit to be
by Mr. Macleod

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

I Alexander Macleod do promise and
Swear that I will, to the utmost of my endeavors,
well and faithfully execute and discharge the Duties
of the Office of Resident at Tanjore reposed in and
committed to me by the united Company of —
Merchants of England trading to the East —
Indies; and that I will not demand, take or
accept, directly, or indirectly by myself or by any other
person for my use, or on my behalf of, or from any Rajah
Zemindar Talookdar, Polygar, Farmer, Renter, or Ryot
or from any person paying or liable to pay any
Tribute, Rent, or Tax, to or for the Use of the said
United Company, any sum of Money or other —
Valuable thing by way of Gift, Present, or otherwise
over and above or besides and except any actual —
Tribute, Rent, or Tax, which I may be Authorized
to take by and for the use of the said United
Company, and that I will Justly and truly
Account for, Answer and pay all the Rents, Duties
and other Revenues and Sums of Money which
shall come to my hands, or to the hands of any
person or persons in Trust for or employed by me

Whereas

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wherever and as often as I may be employed as an Officer of the Revenues of the said Company unto the said United Company.—

And I do further promise and swear that in the Capacity of Resident at Tanjore I will upon all occasions make full discovery to the Governor in Council of Fort St. George of all transactions that may come to my Knowledge having any Regard to Loans of Money raised or to be raised by the Rajah of Tanjore, or any person or persons acting in Authority under him, upon Mortgage of the Revenues of the Tanjore Country or upon promissory Notes Bonds or any other way whatsoever and that I will not withhold from the Knowledge of the Governor in Council of Fort St. George the Name or Names of such person or persons whether European or Native, having Concern directly or indirectly in such transactions But that I will honestly, faithfully and impartially disclose to the said Governor in Council of Fort St. George every Circumstance that may come to my Knowledge nearly or distantly —

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Fort St. George 17th November 1795

connected with the subject of Loans raised or to be raised by the Rajah of Tanjore or by any person or Persons acting in Authority under him.—

Lastly, I do promise and swear that I will use every means in my power to procure information on the subject of the said Loans; and will not under any pretence whatever refuse to listen to or decline to receive any information that may be afforded connected with the said subject.—

So help me God.

Resolved, in conformity with the President's Recommendation that Mr. Macleod be appointed Resident; and that he be called upon the Board on Friday next, when the Oath will be administered to him.—

The President lays before the Board the Letter from the Rajah of Tanjore, with his Lordships' reply (entered also in C. C. Nos 108 & 109)

Translation of a letter from the Rajah of Tanjore to the Right Honorable Lord Hobart Governor in Council &c. &c. &c.
Dated 11th November 1795.—

From Rajah of Tanjore expressing his surprise & Concern at the late Encroachment ordered to be made in his Limits—submits a proposal on the Occasion.—

The letter which your Excellency sent to

1246 Fort St. George 17th November 1795

to me under date the 12th September was delivered to me by Colonel Baird on the 13th of October, and I understand the Contents. Your Excellency is pleased to write - that it is stipulated in the treaty of 1792 that my payments on Account of the purchase shall be suspended for three years that according to the fifth article of that treaty the Amounts of my annual payments is to be encreased after the completion of the 3d year by the sum of 11,4285 Pags and that for this year and hence forward the Amounts of those payments is to be 5,71,428 Pags your Excellency has also communicated to me the periods of payment, and has added that I should pay private debts and the arrears of pesheush according to the former treaty shall be discharged my payments are to be made according to the foregoing arrangement; that after the discharge of those debts a deduction will be made in my yearly Kists, - that the Provisions made in the tenth article of the treaty for the expences of Sherfoge and the Shaid duties are to continue, and your Excellency further desires that according to the sixth Article of the Treaty I will appoint

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two persons on my behalf to meet two other —
persons on behalf of the Company for the purpose
of adjusting the balance account between us.—
— The perusal of this letter has given me extreme
surprize and concern — In order that your Excellency
may be informed of all the transactions which have
passed from the beginning I shall relate them
at length; and if your Excellency will do me the
favor of attending to them every thing will be
made plain to you.—

Upon the conclusion of the War
with Tippoo Sultaun in the year 1792 Lord
Cornwallis concluded a Treaty between the —
Company and the Nabob; but owing to the
necessity of his departure for Bengal, he left —
Madras without making any arrangement —
between me and the Company but gave instructions
for that purpose to Sir Charles Oakeley.—
About a Month or Six Weeks afterwards Sir —
Charles Oakeley in arranging the point between
me and the Company took no example from the
attention which Lord Cornwallis had paid to
the situation of the Nabob by reducing the —
payments.

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shall be suspended for three years that according
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my annual payments is to be encreased after the
completion of the 3d year by the sum of 114285 Pags
and that for this year and henceforward the
Amount of those payments is to be 5/4,285 Pags
your Excellency Marquis communicated to me the
periods of payment, and has added that
my private debts and the arrears of pesheush
according to the former treaty shall be discharged
my payments are to be made according to the
foregoing arrangement; that after the discharge
of those debts a deduction will be made in my
yearly Kists; that the Provisions made in the
tenth article of the treaty for the expences of
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4247 Fort St. George 17th November 1795

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favor of attending to them every thing will be
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me and the Company took no example from the
attention which Lord Cornwallis had paid to
the situation of the Nabob by reducing the —
payments

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

payments stipulated for from his Highness by the former treaty; but listening to the advice of my enemies and without making the same reduction in my payments he formed a treaty according to his own pleasure which he sent in a letter dated 7th September for the purpose of having my seal and signature affixed to it. Having taken the Treaty into consideration, I wrote an answer to Sir Charles Oakeley in the 17th September in which I represented my whole situation: I stated that I had no resource which could enable me to support so heavy a burthen; and requested in the most earnest manner that an arrangement might be made with me similar to that which had been concluded with the Nabob by Lord Cornwallis. Sir Charles Oakeley replied in a letter Dated 29th September that it was impossible for him to set aside the orders of the Company Upon this I addressed a letter explanatory of my situation and the Justice which was due to me and forwarded it together with copy of the correspondence between

Sir

O In the Original this sentence stands literally thus "explanatory of my justice and situation"

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

Sir Charles Oakeley and myself to Lord Cornwallis the Governor General of Bengal on the 11th of October 1792 on the 29th of the same month Sir Charles Oakeley informed, that he had received my letter and had forwarded it to the Governor General; but added that the Opinion of Lord Cornwallis coincided in the sentiments which himself had expressed in regard to the formation of a New treaty he however had already laid my whole case before Lord Cornwallis, I waited in expectation of an answer from his Lordship, in the hope that a treaty might then be concluded- Some time afterwards Lord Cornwallis sent an answer to my letter which together with a letter from himself Sir Charles Oakeley forwarded to me on the 29th December following- Having perused his Lordships letter, which left me without hope — I considered it expedient to represent my situation to the Company in the idea that I might be relieved at least through them from the heavy burthens which had been imposed upon me- — In consequence I addressed a letter to Sir Charles Oakeley on the 5th January 1793 informing him of

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my acquiescence in the treaty and of my readiness to seal and sign it: I requested him to send orders to the Collectors for restoring my Country and added that for the future dispersion of my difficulties I relied on — him — Sir Charles having taken this letter into — consideration, but listening to the evil suggestions of my enemies, wrote to me that, as a considerable portion of the year had elapsed, there were strong objections to the restoration of my Country at that time. To this I returned an answer on the 3rd February earnestly requesting that the Country might be — restored at that time, and stating the conditions — Still Sir Charles Oakeley did not put me in possession of my country during that year after this Sir Charles addressed a letter to me on the 31st May 1793 upon the subject of affixing my seal and signature to the treaty which he transmitted to me through my Vakeel Having taken this letter into consideration — I signed the Treaty on the 8th June following in presence of the Gentlemen here and on the same day wrote an answer to Sir Charles Oakeley, who having also affixed his seal and signature to the Treaty —

returned

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returned it to me with a letter of the 13th of the same month through the means of Colonel Maxwell. This arrived on the 20th June afterwards the Country was given up to me on the 13th July 1799 The correspondence which passed between me and the Governor at that time I have enclosed† in this letter for your Excellencys information — It's just to receive from me for three years at the rate of four Lacks and sixty Thousand Pagodas per annum according to the treaty. two years have elapsed since the Country was put under my Charge; and the 3d year is begun as your Excellency is well informed equitable, and disposed to protect the humble it is proper that your Conduct should be guided by attention to justice — If any evil man should prevail and if your Excellency calculating from the date of the Treaty that three years are now elapsed should demand the payment of five Lacks seventy four thousand two hundred and eighty five Pagodas from the commencement of this year, I am without resource

† See the List at the end of this Letters

Fort St. George 7th November 1795

resource. If before the expiration of the Third year since the restoration of my Country the Court of Directors being informed of my situation should Grant me relief it will be well; if not, being without resource I am ready to pay five lacks Twenty four thousand two hundred and eighty four Pagodas from the beginning of the fourth year. I am without support. As your Excellency is disposed to benevolence to the support of the humble and to justice, I have no hope of assistance but from you. I therefore entreat that you will be pleased to receive from me on Account of this year four Lacks and Sixty thousand Pagodas — at the time of my signing the treaty it was antidated one year previous to the restoration of the Country — into my hands. at the time of my desiring that the Country should be restored to my possession, the — Governor without complying immediately delayed the restoration for one year: on this account I was confident that my payments also be received according to the reduced scale for three years from the restoration,

and

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and therefore signed the treaty. If it had appeared that such a doubt could thereafter have arisen, — I should have corrected the date before I had signed the treaty. I never supposed even in my dreams that such a doubt would arise this I will explain to your Excellency with the utmost sincerity and as a proof of it will state that I have already forwarded to your excellency a letter which I addressed to the Honorable Court of Directors on the 7th October 1795 and that the object of that letter is to obtain an answer from the Court before the expiration of the three years, because I have informed them that after that time — I should be loaded with a weight which I should be unable to support. This letter your Excellency will have perused in the situation of things as your Excellency has unexpectedly at the expiration of two years added unto this heavy weight, there — sorrow, which I feel is known to heaven alone. I repeat that during this third year your — Excellency will receive from me four lacks and sixty thousand Pagodas if your Excellency should argue that acting for the Company and knowing the date

of

of the treaty you must calculate my Payments at the Value of four Lacks and Sixty Thousand Pagodas for three years from that period.— That, as three years are elapsed from the date of the treaty: you must Consider this the fourth year that it is proper and just for you to demand the payment of said Lacks Seventy four — Thousand two hundred and eighty five Pagodas and that you are not authorized to receive four Lacks and Sixty thousand Pagodas for this year I request the favor of your Excellency to acquiesce in a proposal which is just It is this. let there be an Account made out of the Company's receipts from the collections of my Country from the date of the treaty to the Month of July 1794.— let a — Balance of this whole Sum be struck: then — let a calculation of my payments be made from the date of the treaty at the rate of four Lacks and Sixty thousand Amounting for the three years to 1,80,000 Pagodas together with my payments on account of Sherfogee &c. Amounting in the — three years to 60,000 Pagodas and making altogether

they

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the sum of 14,40,000 Pagodas and let whatever
balance may remain after this be deducted from
the five lacks seventy four thousand two hundred
and eighty five Pagodas which I am to pay for
this year. Tho' even your Excellency should not be
inclined to favor me, it is yet right that you
should pursue the line of justice without partiality
either to me or to the Company - It is not necessary
for me to dissuse upon this subject. As myself
and my ancestors have been taken under the
Company's protection it is necessary to their —
honor that we should be preserved without any
impairment of the respect and attention that is
due to us and without being exposed to difficulties
If not attending to this, your Excellency should
proceed in opposition to it what will be my —
exertions avail. I am without resource. I request
your Excellency will favour me with an immediate
answer.

Though it is not just that I should
contribute to the expences of Sherfoge and the
Bhaie Sahebs, I have at the desire of the Governor

and

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

and Council contented to pay according to the sixty Seventy thousand Pagodas on that account into the Company's Treasury Upon this subject there is no doubt and that this Sum will unquestionably be paid, your Excellency may rely.

Your Excellency is pleased to write that according to the Sixth article of the Treaty two persons should be named on my behalf and two on behalf of the Company to adjust the balance account; you therefore request that I will communicate to your Excellency the Names of the two persons whom I shall appoint to meet those whom it is your Excellency's intention to nominate I shall take this subject into consideration, and shall acquaint your Excellency with the Names of the persons whom I shall appoint to settle the balance account on my part - Believe me always your Sincere friend and Shew me favor to a friend why should I write more.

A true Translation,

(Signed) J Webbe,
Mar. Franc.

List

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List of the letters enclosed in the foregoing letter which have been already translated.-

Copy of a letter from the Governor to the Rajah —
dated 7th September - 1792

Ditto Ditto the Rajah to the Governor.
Dated 17th September 1792

Ditto Ditto the Governor to the Rajah
Dated 29th September 1792

Ditto Ditto The Rajah to the Governor
Dated 11th October 1792

Ditto Ditto The Governor to the Rajah
Dated 27th October 1792

Ditto Ditto The Governor to the Rajah with a
Persian Copy of Lord Cornwallis's
Letter to his Excellency Dated 29th December 1792

Ditto. Ditto From the Rajah to the Governor
Dated 5th January 1793

Ditto Ditto from the Rajah to the Governor
Dated 3d February 1793

Ditto Ditto From the Governor to the Rajah
Dated 31st May 1793

Ditto Ditto From the Rajah to the Governor
Dated 8th June — 1793

Ditto Ditto From the Governor to the Rajah
Dated 13th June — 1793

/ Signed / J. Webb
M. S.

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Fort St. George 17th November 1795

To His Excellency the Rajah of Tanjore

To the Rajah of Tanjore expatiating on the distressful situation of his affairs and stating the Honorable Courts Opinions respecting them advising also of Mr. Macleods appointment as Resident and demanding the Balance due on his November Kist on which the Karical Magazeens will be made over to him.—

I have been favored with your Excellency's letter of the 11th instant to which I have given the most deliberate consideration. Your Excellency seems to think, that, because circumstances rendered it indispensably necessary on the part of the Company to retain the Management of the Tanjore Country one year after the date of the Treaty, you had a right to the remission of a portion of the Annual payments for three years from the expiration of the Assumption instead of, as explicitly declared by the Treaty, three years from the 12th of July 1792 — If you will take the trouble of referring to the 5th Article, your Excellency will find that the remission was admitted for a given period, for the particular purpose of enabling your Excellency by a wise and frugal management to restore to your Country those Blessings of which it had been in a great Measure deprived by causes previous to the Assumption which it were now unnecessary to detail. The Bounty of Nature towards the Tanjore Province equals and perhaps exceeds any other Country in the

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the Work and if the Persons to whom your —
Excellency delegated your authority has not —
industriously employed themselves in other
pursuits than those which led to your Interest
Welfare and Happiness, it would not be at this
Moment that your Excellency would have to lament
one that, by fulfilling the stipulations of the
Treaty, "you would be loaded with a weight you
would be unable to support" - Your Excellency —
will consider, that the object for which the —
permission was granted was neither lost sight of
nor suspended during the period that the Company
held the Management of your Country after the
date of the Treaty - that - it was not granted —
with any view to your Excellency, except as it —
related to the prosperity of the Country and the
happiness of the people, and that, it is a fact not
to be controverted, that the Country was never —
more prosperous or the People more happy since
your Excellency succeeded to the Musnud than
during the period in question - in proof of what
I say your Excellency will allow me to refer you
to

4260 Fort St. George 7th November 1795

to the following passage of a letter from the Honble Court of Directors received here a few days ago, and which is dated the 10th of June 1795. "We observe "with great pleasure that the net Collections of the "Tanjore Revenues for Fusly 1202, the last Year "of the Company's Management, amounted to + "Pagodas Ten Lacks forty Thousand three + "hundred and twenty eight (10,40328) and that "there was every reason to believe that, under an "efficient and permanent Management the "Net Collections for the next year, might have "at least Amounted to twelve Lacks of Pagodas "without injustice or rigor towards the Inhabi- "tants - From this highly favorable representation "of the prosperous state of the Tanjore Country, "at the time of Restoration, the Rajah will be + "considered as utterly inexcusable, if, through his "one mismanagement he suffers his Tribute to the "Company to be in arrear, or his subjects to be "oppressed or harrassed by Rapacious or incapable "ministers - His Engagements under the late Treaty "may readily be performed, without injury to + himself

4261 Fort St. George 17th November 1796

"himself or to his subjects, if there be no Mismanage-
"ment in his Excellency's Government." The strong
and pointed Manner in which the Court have
expressed themselves with respect to your Excellency's
affairs and the flattering expectations they had
formed of the prosperous State of the Zemorin's
Country, doubly embitter their disappointment
where they come to receive accounts from this
Government that your Excellency is at the present
Moment loaded with a private debt to an
enormous amount - that nearly the whole of your
Revenues are mortgaged for the payment - that
you have committed yourself into the hands of
Usurers and Extortioners who have brought you
to the brink of Ruin - that the lower Classes of
your Subjects are labouring under the most severe
oppressions and, in fine, that you have already
ceased to fulfil your public engagements under the
late Treaty, by withholding a portion of the
Pecuniary Assistance - A Representation of this Kind
which it will be my duty to make - since it is

neither

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Neither exaggerated nor can it be disproved, will not fail to impress upon the Minds of the Company the deepest conviction of your Excellency's Mismanagement and the absolute necessity of stepping between your Excellency — and inevitable ruin if yet there be time for it of which Every Man doubt —

Had your Excellency been disposed to listen to the advice of your true Friends — Had you made no concealment of the embarrass- -ments in which you were involved by the insidious and wicked designs of those persons who were enriching themselves by means the most dishonorable, and at the expence of your peace of mind — it would not only have been probable but certain, that your Excellency — would have been relieved from all your — difficulties by the active interference of this — Government — a Want of Confidence has been the principal Cause of all the mischiefs that have arisen — your Excellency assuredly had the power of Communicating to me that Usurers and Extortioners

were

Fort St George 17th November 1795

were stripping you of your property - that, you were compelled to mortgage your Revenues to satisfy their rapacious demands and that you were incapable of extricating yourself without the Assistance of Government - Such a declaration, at an early period, would have guarded your Excellency from that perilous situation in which you now stand, and you would have had the Comfort and happiness of reflecting that you had acted with strict Justice towards yourself, your subjects, and your Country.-

Unacquainted as I was with your Excellency's Real situation until it was too late to apply a remedy in it's self effectual, I have only now to lament that to this hour I have had no information from your Excellency on the subject - But as I am convinced, that no temporary remission could be of Service - that if I were to acquiesce in your request, the Money would be misapplied, I cannot, without a dereliction of my duty under the circumstances stated in this letter, waive the just and equitable demand of the Company upon

your

4264

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

your Excellency for the full payments of your
Visits as stipulated by the Treaty of 1792.—

I am therefore under the painful —
necessity of acquainting you, that unless with the
Visit which falls due on the 1st day of December
next, your Excellency makes provision for the —
deficiency in your last Visit (Viz.t 10,000 Pagodas)
which will make your next payment Amount to
Sixty Thousand (60,000) Pagodas I shall —
positively have recourse on the 15th of that Month
to the penalty prescribed by the Treaty in Case of
failure — your Excellency will be pleased to receive
this intimation as my fixed determination and
act Accordingly.—

I am further to inform your Excellency
that I have come to the resolution of removing
the appointment of one of the Company's Covenanted
Servants to be resident at your Durbar — In —
selecting Mr. Alexander Macleod (one of the former
residents) for this Office I have been led to consider
that from his Knowledge of the affairs of Tanjore
and from the upright and Zealous conduct which
has marked his Character your Excellency may

repose

4265 Fort St George 17th November 1795

upon with Confidence on his Opinions and —
advice, which will always be offered with a
view to your benefit and to the happiness and
prosperity of your People. —

The Honorable Court of Directors
having taken into Consideration the application
preferred by your Excellency in the year 1793 for
the surrender of the four Magans near Tranical
I am instructed to inform you, that they have
been pleased, from motives of Regard and Friend-
ship for your Excellency, to comply with your
request, on the express condition that you will
relinquish these Magans at the end of the —
War with France, should it be necessary in
Compliance with any engagements which
may then take place between the two
Nations - I shall in consequence provided
you acquiesce in the condition give directions
to Mr. Torriano, under whose charge the Magans
now are to deliver them over to your authority
upon receiving from your Excellency payment
of the expences that have been actually —
incurred

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

incurred since the Commencement of the present Revenue year and which would have been paid from the Crop on the ground, if the Company had retained the possession until the harvest was gathered in — you will be so good therefore as to direct that the Amount be paid to Mr. Torriano, so soon as he lays before you the necessary Statements, and he will immediately thereupon deliver over the Lands in question —

May your Excellency's days be long and happy!

What can I say more?

(Signed) Kenneth Mackenzie

The Board entirely approve the draft of the letter to the Rajah of Tanjore — Ordered that it be translated and immediately dispatched

Ordered that Mr. Macleod be furnished with a Copy of the letter to the Rajah —

The

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

Para 11 The Court have agreed to allow the late Lieutenant Colonel Maxwell the Tabb Money of five Pagodas ₹ day during the time he was made the Channel of Communication between the Government and the Rajah of Tanjore

The Board are not certain from the tenor of this paragraph whether the Court of Directors have paid the amount due to the estate of Lieutenant Colonel Maxwell, or whether it is meant that it should be paid in India.

In the Cases of Captains Dowlon and Macleod in the same letter the Board are ordered to discharge the arrears of the latter, and to present the former with a gratuity - but in the case in question there is no order for the payment.

Para 12 Allowance to be annually by the Company to the Tanjore Family and Sum of Pagodas to be discontinued unless it be really a necessary support.

As the Reverend Mr Gericke is well acquainted with the situation of the Tanjore Family Resolved that he be desired to state his Opinion whether the deprivation of the allowance would occasion any particular distress to them -

The

4268

Fort St. George 17th November 1795

13 Translations of the answers to the questions put to the Bengal and Benares Pundits relative to the Laws of Inheritance Succession and Adoption Amongst the Hindoos as far as they appeared applicable to the Case of Sherfogee to be sent to England by the earliest opportunity

The Board can find nothing upon the records of this Government subsequent to the 13th of April 1793 when a Letter was written to Bengal forwarding the information required regarding the Tribe or Cast to which the Mother of the present Rajah of Tanjore belonged. Resolved that a Copy of the paragraph of the Court's letter be sent to the Supreme Government and that they be requested to transmit the Answers of the Pundits with their Sentiments upon the subject, in case they mean that any further proceedings should be had upon it.-

14 Another Copy of the report of the Committee on the Nabob's Accounts to be forwarded to England.

Ordered that another copy of the report be made, and sent to England by the first Opportunity.-

15 a further Gratuity of 200 Pags to be presented to Captain William Macleod.-

Ordered Accordingly.-

4269

Fort St George 17th November 1795

16 & 17 on Captain Macleod's negotiation with Tippoo's People &c. reputing the Boundaries thereinclusion of it to be reported to the Court.

Resolved that Copies of these paragraphs be sent to Captain Macleod, and that he be desired to give the information required by the Court, there being nothing upon records on the subject subsequent to his letter of the 3d February 1794.

18 Interpretation of the 7th Article of the Treaty of Seringapatam agreed by the Supreme Govern= =ment approved &c.

The Construction put upon this article by the Supreme Government in their letter of the 13th December 1793 has been attended to. No Claims however have been made by Tippoo since that period to make it necessary to renew the discussion with him.

19 On Tippoo's pecuniary engagements &c.

Requires no reply.

20 Captain Dowdeswell's Claim to a further Allowance whilst in Charge of the Hostages Prince to be adjusted Agreeably to the Recommendations of the Bengal Government.

Ordered accordingly.

21 & 24 no reply.

Requires

272 Fort St. George 7th November 1795

Court of Directors — Resolved that
a Copy of these Paragraphs be sent
to the Board of Revenue and that
they be directed to take the subject
into mature consideration and Report
their opinion as to the best mode of
carrying into effect the orders —
received, for disarming the Polygars;
"for punishing the refractory, for —
"adjusting their disputed Claims,
"and for the introduction of such a
"System of judicial arrangement,
"as shall shew a tendency to restore
"these distressed Provinces from their
"present state of Anarchy and —
"misery, to a state of Subordination
"and prosperity". —

68 Appointment of Mr. Falconar to the Office of Persian Trans = lator approved.

Ordered that a Copy of this paragraph be sent to Mr. Falconar. —

69 No Reply
70 Bengal Occurrences
71 & 72 No Reply —

No Remark

Ordered

4273 Fort St. George 1st. November 1795

73@74 The Court express their satisfaction at the punctuality observed by the Nabob in the payment of Lady Campbell's Pension & other pressing Application to be made to his Highness on the Subject of the Arrears due to the late Genl. Joseph Smith.

Ordered that a letter be written to the Nabob in the Terms directed by the Honorable Court.

75@78 No reply

79 Nabob's Treaty with the Dutch.

The proceedings of the Board on this Subject have been stated at large to the Court in the address from hence of the 2d. October 1795.

80@83 No reply

84@85 Claim of Colonel Brathwaite on the Rajah of Tanjore an Application to be made to his Excellency in the Company's Name for the discharge of the Colonel's Debt.

Ordered that a Copy of this paragraph be sent to Colonel Brathwaite, and that he be informed that in the present situation of the Rajah's affairs the Board must forbear the application to his Excellency until a more favorable opportunity shall offer.

86 No Reply

87 Private Debts of the Nabob of the Carnatic and Rajah of Tanjore will be treated of in a separate letter

Requires no Observation

4270 Fort St. George 17th November 1795

25 Satisfaction expressed at the information — received of the Completion of the — Fortifications &c. of Pondicherry. — Requires no Remark

26 Confirmation of the appointment of Captain Conway to the — charge of the Public roads at Pondicherry — Do — Do

27 No reply

28 Major Bennell's Opinion on the Plans and maps forwarded will be noticed hereafter.

29 & 30 Approbation of the measures of relinquishing to the Nabob the districts of Tillanore and Balam the four Magans near Karical to be surrendered to the Rajah of Tanjore on the same Condition. — The Board have already resolved that the four Magans shall be — surrendered Conditionally to the Rajah of Tanjore - (See the Presidents Letter to the Rajah 17th November 1795.)

31 Board of Revenues report on the affairs of Tanjore - No particular Observations necessary — thereon. — Requires no Remark

32 Tanjore — Already replied to. —

33 & 39 No reply

40 New Cavalry Debt Dram for adding to it the Sums paid to Mssrs. Burrows, Macalister Stephenson, Read and Saunderson and Mr. — Ordered that the Accountant General be directed to add to the New — Cavalry Debt the Sums paid by the — Company to the Persons referred to in this

[illegible]

4271

Fort St George 17th November 1795

Board's Opinion — relative to the New Cavalry Loan —

The Board do not believe that any doubt can be entertained of the claim for the payment of the New Cavalry Debt. It is on Account of Money actually paid from the Company's Treasury, for which they are in possession of his Highness's Bonds - and it is because it does not appear to have been in any shape affected by the Treaty of 1792 that this Government have always Considered the Company entitled to demand its immediate discharge -

41 @ 43. No Reply.

44 Allowance to Mssrs. Ram and Strange — Collectors in the Tanjore Country approved. -

Requires no Remark

45 @ 54 No Reply -

55 @ 67. Polygars - present System of Government with respect to them Reple disapproved a New Arrangement to be made with the Consent of the Rajah if it can be obtained and without it if he refuse his acquiescence

The Board are extremely happy to find that the important subject of the Polygars has so fully undergone the consideration of the Court

272 Fort St. George 17th November 1795

Court of Directors — Resolved that
a Copy of these Paragraphs be sent
to the Board of Revenue and that
they be directed to take the subject
into mature consideration and Report
their opinion as to the best mode of
carrying into effect the orders —
"received for disarming the Polygars,
"for punishing the refractory, for —
"adjusting their disputed Claims,
"and for the introduction of such a
"System of internal arrangement
"as shall have a tendency to restore
"these distressed Provinces from their
"present state of Anarchy and —
"misery, to a state of Subordination
"and prosperity" —

68 Appointment of Mr Falconar to the Office of Persian Translator approved.

Ordered that a Copy of this
paragraph be sent to Mr Falconar —

69 No Reply
70 Bengal Squadron
71 & 72 No Reply —

No Remark

Ordered

4273 Fort St. George 17th November 1795

73@74 The Court express their satisfaction at the punctuality observed by the Nabob in the payment of Lady Campbell's Pension Another pressing application to be made to his Highness on the subject of the Arrears due to the late General Joseph Smith.

75@78 Noreply

79 Nabob's Treaty with the Dutch.

Ordered that a letter be written to the Nabob in the Terms directed by the Honorable Court.

The proceedings of the Board on this subject have been stated at large to the Court in the address from thence of the 7th October 1795.

80@83 Noreply

84@85 Claim of Colonel Brathwaite on the Rajah of Tanjore an Application to be made to his Excellency in the Company's Name for the discharge of the Colonel's Debt.

Ordered that a Copy of this paragraph be sent to Colonel Brathwaite, and that he be informed that in the present situation of the Rajah's affairs the Board must forbear the application to his Excellency until a more favorable opportunity shall offer.

86 No Reply

87 Private Debts of the Nabob of the Carnatic and Rajah of Tanjore will be the Treaties of a separate letter

Requires no Observation

4274 Fort St George 17th November 1795

88 No directions to
give regarding the
Seizure of the Danish
Ship Dorothea Elizabeth

Requires no Remark

89 Affairs in the
Pagoda pattam Districts
the Subject will be
entered upon in the
Letter from the Revenue
Department.

No Remark

90 Mr James Hays
Claim on the Nabob
and his application to be
made to His Highness.

Ordered that another Letter be written
to the Nabob on the Subject of Mr Hays
Claim upon his Highness.

Hobart

Low Saunders

Chs Stuart

P. Speke
Examined

4275

Fort St. George — November 1795

Diary

18th Received the undermentioned Letters

Enclosures Nos. 97-98-99-100-101-102-103

-104-105-106-107-108—

From Persian Translator at Bengal

— inclosing a letter for the Rajah of Travancore —

From Lieut. Maclean — From Barrack Master at the —

Presidency requesting authority to hire quarters

for the Sergeants of the 3d. Native Battalion —

From Sub Secretary at Bengal

From Lt. Harington — advising of receipt of the Despatches from Admiral

Elphinstone, noticed in his letter of the 18th. August

to Lord Hobart, — and of the Superbe, and Ann and

Eliza being taken up to carry Rice and Spirits to

— and eventually to St. Helena —

From Lt. Doing — From Contractor for Army Clothing

requesting an Advance of Cash —

From Mons. Pronnuron — From Mons. Pronnuron — complaining

of Captain Bond having deprived him of all

his Lascars — and Endorses the Cartel received from

the Governor of Columbo — and his agreement with

Colonel De Meuron —

From Capt. Kirkpatrick — From Resident at Hyderabad enclosing

Intelligence

4276

Fort St. George 2 November 1795

18th Intelligence received by Hurs from Seringapatam-
observation in regard to Succaram Pundit Tippoo's
& Deputy —

From Lieut. Muthale

From Lieutenant Muthall — re-
questing payment of his allowances, as Com-
=manding the Party at Hydrabad, which appear to
have been stopped latterly —

From Lieut. Col. Beresford

From Deputy Kings Paymaster
General — requesting permission to change in his
accounts with this Presidency — the advances pay=
=able to the Sailormen and Soldiers Families of the
52d and 72d Regiments left behind on the Coast —

From Madras Merchants

From Merchants of Madras — requesting
that the Surprize Packet may be detained 48 —
hours after her Arrival — and that a letter Packet —
may be opened at the Post Office in the mean time —

From Lieut. Forbes

From Commandant at Nellore —
representing the defenceless state of that Fort —

From Ditto

From Ditto — requesting an Esta=
=blishment of Artificers — Pentallies &c. for the —
Garrison —

From Major Brunt

From Major Brunt — complaining
of the practice amongst the Inhabitants of securely
supplying the insurgents with provisions —

Despatched

4277

Fort St. George 19th November 1795

Dispatched the undermentioned letters

Entered on Mn. B. Pgs. 109-110-111-112-113-114 —

To Mr. Goriche — To Revd. Mr. Goriche - directing him, in consequence of the Courts Orders, to state whether the discontinuance of the allowance given to the family of the late Tanjore Rajah in lieu of 15,000 Culliums of Paddy would occasion any particular distress to them —

To Madras Merchants — To Merchants of Madras - a Letter Packet will be opened agreeably to their request, but which is to be closed immediately on the appearance of the Surprize packet —

To Military Board — To Military Board - directing them to state the expence of Supplying the Camp Equipage recommended by them, and the quantity wanting to complete the Statement —

To Capt. Macleod — To Captain Wm. Macleod - with Extract of a political General Letter from England 10th June 1795 and directing him to transmit a Bill for the extra Gratuity granted by the Court —

To Lieut. Col. Campbell — To Commandant at Palamcotah - inclosing a letter for the Rajah of Travancore —

To Messrs. Pullock Jervis & Brodie — To Messrs. Pullock Jervis and Brodie - their Bill for the Rice landed from the Ship Bombay

Fort St. George 7th November 1795

19th Bombay at Trincomale will be paid upon their
indemnifying the Company for any quantity short
delivered of that charged for —

20th Received the undermentioned Letters Entered
in Mn. B. Nos. 115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123 —

From Lt. Colo. Campbell — From Commandant at Palamcotah —
submitting a difference of opinion between the —
Paymaster and Lieut. St. Leger relative to the General
Order of the 2d. October regulating the Southern
Exchange — requests that three Carpenters and a Pilot
now at Tutocoryn may be allowed to remain there —

From Capt. Kirkpatrick — From Resident at Hydrabad — trans-
-mitting Copy of a Letter from Major Roberts, Adj.
Gen. preparing to evacuate Aurungabad —

From Ditto — From Ditto — advising of the —
Princes person being secured at that place —

From Engineer at Pondicherry — From Captain Johnston — assuring
the Board that Mr. Topping's Complaints against
him are ill founded and soliciting a public —
Investigation of his own Conduct —

From Messrs. Roebuck, Abbot & Co. — From Messrs. Roebuck. Abbot & Co. —
presenting a Bill for freights of the Ships Lucy —
amounting to Pagodas 2330 „ 23 „ 50 for thirty days —

From

4279

Fort St. George 2 November 1795

From Mr. Roebuck 20th

From Military Paymaster General —

enclosing his Estimate for December —

Petition

Petition of the Brahmins of Cotta
= pauchavoo Village — praying to be restored to the
possession of about 30 Cawnies of Ground adjacent
to the Cantonments of Walajabad, of which they
have been deprived by the orders of the Commandant
there —

From Col. Floyd

From Commandant at Trichinopoly
forwarding a Return of the Regiment de Meuron,
arrived at Tutocoryn — one Boat with 40 Men
on board, missing — has written to the Malabar
Coast respecting them — Lieutenant Montgomery
expected at Alepi with upwards of 600 horses for
the Cavalry —

From Major Munat

From Major Munat — advising of
an attack made on a body of Raja Mooky Bapaul
Rauzes Troops — and Enclosing Copy of Instructions
given to Captain Lalande for the determination
or capture of Polanda Vizier an Rauze —

Sent the following letter —

"

Fo

4280 Fort St. George 20th November 1795

To. Alexander. Macleod Esqr.

Sir

To Mr. Macleod appointing him Resident at Tanjore instructions and Copy of the Courts orders for the Guidance of his Conduct - Copy of the Oath to be subscribed by him also enclosed

I am directed by the Right Honble the President in Council to acquaint you that his Lordship has been pleased to appoint you to the Office of Resident at Tanjore - You will receive herewith an Extract of a letter from the Honorable Court of Directors in the Political Department, which particularly specifies the important duties to which your attention will necessarily be called - and his Lordship strongly recommends that you keep a watchful Eye over the Conduct of the Rajah and his Ministers, in order to avert if possible those serious evils, which there is too much reason to apprehend will fall upon the Tanjore Country in consequence of the dissipation and extravagance which have marked the conduct of his Country, and of the Persons in authority under him - The accompanying Copy of a letter lately written to the Rajah, will fully explain the deplorable

4281 Fort St. George 20th November 1795

20th deplorable state of the Country, occasioned chiefly by the pernicious practice of raising Money upon a Mortgage of the Revenues, and at an exorbitant Interest. It is to be hoped that you will have it in your power to put an effectual Stop to so injurious a custom, and it was with this view, that the President in Council deemed it indispensably necessary that you should be sworn to make discovery of every transaction relating to Loans - A copy of the Oath taken by you is enclosed -

I am

&c &c

Fort St. George
20th November 1795 -

(Signed) W. C. Jackson Secy

Despatched the undermentioned letters Entered

per Ship B. No. 124-125-126-127-129-130-131 -

To Mr. Snodgrass — To Mr. Thos. Snodgrass - transmitting Copy of the 21st Para: of a General letter from England 10th June 1795 - and calling upon him for the apology therein required -

To Trustees of Majr G. Hart — To Captain B. Kyrough and Lieutenant A. Grant - calling upon them for the immediate payment of the Balance that remained

4282 Fort St. George 20th November 1795

20th remained on their hands of the Deputy Paymr. General to the Kings Troops on the 24th December 1792 - Copy of the Courts Orders on the subject - enclosed -

To Col. Malcolm — To Military Auditor Genl. - and Civil Paymr. General calling for an account of Monies issued on account of French Officers - Prisoners of War - and sundry French subjects resident at Pondicherry, or else where on the Coast - Copy of the Courts orders on the subject, enclosed, a Similar account of Dutch Subjects also to be prepared -

To Ditto — To Ditto - referring the Estimate of the Military Paymr. Genl. for December -

To Lieut. Baillie — To Lieutenant John Baillie - transmitting Copy of the 87th Para of the Courts letter of 18th June 1795 relative to his application to share in the two Donations to the Army lately serving in Mysore -

To Majr. Smart. — To Deputy Quarter Master Genl. - with Copy of the 16th para. of Ditto - Ditto - and directing to state the amount of Arrears due to him -

To Board

4283. Fort St. George 20th November 1795

To Board of Trade

20th To Board of Revenue - with the 7th Para. of the Political Letter of the above date - an account of the Nabob's 15th of the Arrears of Polygar Peshcush for the Fusly Years 1200 and 1201. to be furnished -

To Lieut. Col. Baird

To Commandant at Tanjore - advising of Mr. Macleod's appointment of Resident - and directing him to deliver over to him the Records of that Office and the House formerly occupied by the Resident in the large Fort -

21st Received the undermentioned letters Entered in Mn. B. Nos. 132-133-134-136-136 -

From Mr. Powney

From Collector at Ramnad - the Dutch Civilians at Putocotyn request a Subsistence - their Application Enclosed -

From Military Board

From Military Board - transmitting a List of unserviceable Stores in the Arsenal - and recommending their being disposed of by Public Sale -

From Mr. Griffiths

From Master Attendant at Pondicherry - requesting that his accounts of Expences for the Support of the Families of the Boatmen

4284

Fort St. George ~ November 1795.

21st Boatmen sent to Pulicat may be ordered to be discharged by the Paymaster monthly ~

From Dr. Sudgrass

From Collector at Pettapow - forwarding Copy of a Circular letter from the Governor General relative to the Piratical Seizure of a Pilot Schooner by a Party of French Prisoners ~

From Major Brunt

From Major Brunt - forwarding Copy of the Instructions he has sent to Captain Dyer at Gopaulpullie ~

Substance of a letter to the Nabob

" Sent letter to the Nabob Entered in C.C. No. 110. again reminding him at the particular desire of the Honble Court, the unpaid letters written to his late Father, respecting the Arrears of pension due to the late General Joseph Smith, and urging his Highness to discharge the same as also, of Privt. James Hays Claim ~

" Sent the following letters ~

To the Honorable Sir John Shore Bart
Governor General in Council
at Fort William

To Bengal forwarding Copy of a letter from England relative to the Company's Investment and requesting to be furnished with the Answers to the questions put to the Bengal and Benares Pundits relative to the Hindoo Laws of Inheritance &c ~

Honble Sir

We have the honor to transmit an extract of a letter from the Honorable Court of Directors

4285

Fort St George 4 November 1795

21st Directors in the Political Department dated the 10th of June 1795, and to acquaint you that we can find nothing upon our records on the subject of the Tanjore Succession, subsequent to the 13th of April 1793, when a letter was addressed to the Supreme Government forwarding the information required regarding the Tribe or Cast to which the Mother of the present Rajah of Tanjore belonged —

To enable us to comply with the orders of the Honorable Court, we must request you will be pleased to forward to us "the answers "to the questions put to the Bengal and Benares "Pundits relative to the Laws of Inheritance, "Succession, and adoption amongst the Hindoos, "as far as they appear applicable to the case of "Tanjore; and if we be put to any further proceedings should be had on the subject, we take the liberty of soliciting the favor of your sentiments at large for our Guidance. a Copy of the 16th paragraph of the political despatch from the Court dated the 19th February 1794 is enclosed for your information —

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

(Signed) Hobart

&c Council &c

Fort St George
21st Novr 1795

4286. Fort St George 20th November 1795.

21st

To Edward Saunders Esqr.
President & Members of the Board
of Revenue

Gentlemen

To Board of Revenue with Instructions for the Surrender of the four Magans near Karical to the Rajah of Tanjore — Copy of the Courts Orders on the Subject enclosed —

We have with transmit extract of a letter from the Honorable Court of Directors in the political Department dated the 10th of June 1795, and desire in Consequence of the orders therein contained for the surrender of the four Magans near Karical to the Rajah of Tanjore, that you will send instructions to Mr. Torriano to prepare for his guidance an account shewing the exact expences incurred by the Company since the commencement of the present Fasly year, which we think should be paid by the Rajah previous to the surrender when his Excellency has indemnified the Company for their expences Mr. Torriano will deliver up the lands in question —

We are
&c &c
(Signed) Holland
&c Council

Fort St George
20th November 1795

Despatched

4287 Fort St. George 21st November 1795

21st Despatched the undermentioned Letters Entered in Gn.L. Ds. Nos 137-138-139-140-141-142 —

To Colonel Stuart — directing him to order Lieut. Pinnworker Haddon to proceed to Madras to give Evidence at Colonel Geils's Court Martial, provided his Services can be dispensed with —

To Col. Stuart

To Resident at Poona — conveying thanks for his communications regarding the succession to the Peshwaship — the Succession of the Conduct ul Omrah will be duly announced —

To Sir Chas. Malet

To Military Board — transmitting Invoices of Military Stores laden on the Woodcot, Lord Walsingham, Earl of Oxford for Fort St. George and accounts of Goods imported on those Ships for which Certificates are required —

To Military Board

To Colonel Brathwaite — transmitting Extracts from the Courts Orders of the 10th Instant last, respecting his Claim upon the Rajah of Tanjore — and informing him that the first favorable opportunity will be taken to address His Excellency on the Subject —

To Col. Brathwaite

To Captain W. Macleod — with Copies of the 16th and 17th Paras of Ditto — Ditto — and directing him to report the result of his — Enquiries

To Capt. Macleod

4288

Port St. George 2 November 1795

21st. Enquiries relative to the Claims made by Tippoo's Government, subsequent to his letter of the 3d. February 1794 —

To Capt. Doveton

To Captain Doveton - with Copy of the 20th Para of Ditto - Ditto - and directing him to forward an account of the Sum due to him —

23d. Received the undermentioned letters Entered on Mr. B. Nos. 143-144-146-147-148-149 —

From Mr. Harington

From Sub Secretary at Bengal - forwarding Copy of a Report Survey of Amunition received from the Suffolk Tender in lieu of the quantity issued to Major Browns Detachment on its arrival at Prince of Wales's Island —

From Ditto

From Ditto countermanding the Indent for 10,000 Iron Round Shot - that Number invoiced for Port St. George on the Ships lately arrived at Bengal, having been retained there —

From Ditto

From Ditto - advising that the Tonnage of the Two Ships taken up for the Cape of Good Hope will not be adequate to the supplies intended to be sent on them - and of the Anne and Eliza being chartered in consequence to carry the difference —

From

4289

Fort St. George 1st November 1795

From Mr. Sharden 23d

From Acting Commissary General of Grain and provisions - inclosing his Estimates for December —

From Ditto

From Acting Principal Agent for Cavalry Supplies - reporting additional Supplies of Grain provided for the 1st 3d and 4th Regiments - requests a new Parwanah for passing Grain for the 2d Regiment —

From Majr. Roberts

From Major Roberts - transmitting his Correspondence with the Resident at Hyderabad —

From Lt. Colo. Braithwaith

From Commander of the Army - the Officers of the 4th European Regiment at Masulipatam declining the allowance for quartering themselves - submits his Correspondence with Lieut. Colonel Geils and Colonel Stuart - thinks some Lascars should be sent to Ceylon —

" Despatched the undermentioned Letters Entered on Pr. B. Nos. 150 - 151 - 152 - 153 - 154 - 155 - 156 - 157 - 158 - 159 - 160 - 161 - 162 - 163 - 164 - 165 - 166 - 167 - 168 - 169 —

To Colo. Stuart

To Colonel Stuart communicating the testimony of the Supreme Government of

his

Fort St. George — November 1795

23d. his merits — Copy of a Bill for the Rice landed from the Ship Bombay enclosed, and desiring that the Commissary may report if the quantity Shipped therein were actually delivered —

To Mr. Ellbrecht — To Late Governor at Pulicat forwarding the Packet from the Government at Batavia — his request for an Encrease of Pay to the Dutch Servants cannot be complied with —

To Mr. Simons — To late Chief of Sadras — permitting him to visit Madras —

To Mons.r Monneron — To Mons.r Monneron — informing him that orders have already been given for the Release of his Vessel, provided her Commander would Engage not to proceed to any of the ports now in possession of the Dutch on the Island of Ceylon —

To Mr. Bowie — To Mr. B. Bowie — permitting him to visit the presidency —

To Capt. Cuthbert — To Commandant of the Royal Artillery informing him that the Board cannot dispense with the Mr.d required in the Bayn.r General's letter to him of the 9th. Instant —

To Col. Billeliffe — To Ditto at Masulipatam — enclosing Copy of a letter from Mons.r Barruchaud and directing that he and any other Frenchman — similarly

Fort St. George 4th November 1795

23d similarly situated be allowed the usual Subsistence —

To Lieut. Malcolm — To Military Auditor Genl. — the Subsistence
of the Madras Regiment to be drawn by the King's
Deputy Paymr. Genl. and Mr. Roebuck to regulate
the Company's Allowances — Lieut. Northall, attached
to the Agent for Horses at Hydrabad, to draw the allowances
of a Deputy Grain Agent from the date of his appointment,
and from the 1st. of January next the usual Tent
allowance —

To Ditto — To Ditto — advising of the Demand made
on the Trustees of Prize Vessels for the Balance remaining
in their hands on the 24th December 1792 — and
referring two letters from the acting
Paymaster at Masulipatam to Mr.
Roebuck — and an application from
Mr. Paymaster Adams for his Offices —

To Ditto — To Ditto — permitting
them to dispense with the Oaths
lately demanded of the Commandant
at Tanjore for certain unauthorized
Charges — Copy of a letter from them
enclosed —

To

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To Lt. Col. Baird — To Commandant at Tanjore — advising him thereof — and cautioning him against unauthorized charges in future —

To Military Board — To Military Board — referring applications for an Establishment of Artificers &c. Garrison Servants for Chutapilly and Nellore —

To Ditto — To Ditto — directing the Repair of the Powder Magazine at Nellore, and a Supply of New Horses for the Support of the Powder Barrels —

To Mr. Roebuck — To Military Paymaster General — transmitting Copies of the Auditor General's Reports upon his additional Estimate, and those of the Paymaster's at Palamcottah and Angole for November —

To Col. Braithwaite — To Commander of the Army — desiring his reply to certain Queries, previous to a Decision upon Captain Lieut. Brudenell's Claim to Off Reckonings —

To

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To Commandant at —
T. D. Col. Campbell — Tachiroor — directing him to detach
an Officer from the 3d Regiment of
Cavalry to Arjengo — to receive charge
of a lot of horses expected to arrive
there —

To Paymaster at —
T. Brt. Sheldon — Pondicherry — with Instructions for
paying Mrs. Sommerset Subsistence,
so long as she may reside there, and
that of Captain De Latang to his
Family during his absence at Bengal —

To Commandant at
T. D. Col. Stirling — Ditto — enclosing Copy of a letter —
from the Nabob and directing —
him to pay attention to the recommen
=dation Contained therein —

To Clerk of the Treasury —
T. Clerk of the Treasury — directing an additional advance —
to Brt. Roebuck for November —

To Commandant at
T. Capt. Inadmah — Walajabad — directing him to send
immediately

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immediately to Madras the Cutwal of that place — and to reply to the Complaints of the Brahmins of Cottapaukum — a Copy of their Petition Enclosed —

A.

A. Sh. 4.

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At a Consultation

Present

The Right Honorable Lord Hobart

Governor & President.

Edward Saunders Esqr

and

Ernst William Fallofield Esqr

Minutes of last Consultation

Tuesday
the
24th November 1795. Read and approved –

Read the following letter from

Bengal –

To The Right Honble Lord Hobart

Governor in Council

at Fort St George

My Lord

In reply to your Lordships letter

of the 9th April 1794. respecting the Succession

to the Sayhair of Arms, we have the honor to forward

to you the Answers of the Pundits of the College

at Benares, and those of the Pundits of the

sudder Dewanny Adawlut to the questions –

stated by the Board of Revenue to the Sastrees –

From Bengal on the Subject of the Succession to the Sayhair of Arms & reports on the Hindoo Laws, respecting Adoption by a Widow, in virtue of authority from the Husband Enclosed –

2 Nos

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2 We likewise transmit to your Lordship copies of two Reports, and our decision respecting the Succession to the Zemindary of Rajeshahy, one of the principal Landed tenures in Bengal, as containing a full discussion of the Hindoo Law respecting the adoption of a Son by a Widow in virtue of Authority from her husband, and because the point at issue was exactly similar to that which you have referred to us, viz.t whether according to the Hindoo Law and the usages of the Country a Son so adopted is entitled to inherit the property of his adoptive father, in preference to any other collateral relations by blood—

3 From these documents your Lordship will observe that, in Bengal, a Son adopted by a Widow agreeably to the Laws of the Shaster, in virtue of Authority from her husband, both according to the Hindoo Law, and the usage of the Mahomedan Government is considered in every respect the same, with regard to the inheritance of property, as a Son the immediate issue of his adoptive Parent, and supposing the Lands held by the adoptive father to be hereditary, and never to have been divided, but always to have

devolved.

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devolved entire to the eldest Son or nearest heir, the adopted Son would be entitled to the exclusive possession of the Lands in the same manner as they were held by his adoptive father or his Ancestors —

In communicating these Documents, we confine ourselves merely to apply to the Reference from your Presidency, and it remains with your Lordship to decide on the application of the principles suggested by them to the case in Question —

We have the Honor to be

&c &c

(Signed) J. Shore

" P. Speke

" Wm. Cowper

Port William
the 16th. October 1795.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Governor General in Council in the Bengal Department.

To Earl Cornwallis. K. G.

Governor General in Council &c &c

My Lord.

Having obtained some further lights on the Subject of the Laws of adoption, since my address of the 5th. Ultimo, I have no time

Fort St. George 24th. November 1795.

time in submitting them to your Lordship's
Consideration —

The Age limited by the Shaster
for the adoption of a Son is, as I have already
observed, five years, and the reason of this —
appears to be, that the Ceremony of Inauguration.
Viz. shaving the head and boring the ears, ought
in strict propriety, to be performed within
the period in question, but as this last though
by many held to be a positive precept, is —
susceptible, according to the prevailing practice,
of considerable Latitude, it becomes a question
worthy of investigation, whether, if the Ceremony
of Inauguration may be postponed, the period
fixed for that of Adoption also may not be —
proportionably prolonged. In this Idea I stated
the following Query to the Pundits in the —
Employ of Government —

"If a Child, whose age exceeds
"five years, have not undergone the Ceremony of
"Inauguration / viz shaving the head and boring
"the Ears / is he eligible for adoption notwith-
"standing the Ears in the Age, till such
"Ceremony shall have been performed or not? —

To

4299 Fort St. George 24th. November 1795.

To this Question the Pundits returned the following Answer —

"If a Child of more than five years "of Age, have not undergone the Ceremony of shaving "the head and boring the Ears, such Child is not "disqualified for adoption, though his age does "exceed five years until that Ceremony shall be "performed. "This is the Law of the Shastr" —

Signed
Hore Narain Shormonah
Hake Shonkor Shormonah
Horee Deb Shormonah
Rami Das Shormonah
Gowry Kant Shormonah
Kashee Nauth Shormonah
Ram Keshob Shormonah
Krishno Proshaud Shormonah
Krija Ram Shormonah
Shyaum Soonder Shormonah

Thus it appears that if the Age of a Child even exceed five years, he is eligible for adoption, so long as the Ceremony of Inauguration be not performed. How far this Principle may be favorable to the Pretensions of Ramkishen, your Lordship will determine; it only remains for me to observe, that his Late —

Computators

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Kholsa
4th. July 1788

complainer, Gunga Pershaud, has produced no proof to invalidate the assertion of Ramkishen's witnesses that the Ceremony in question had not been performed when his adoption took place —

My Lord &c. &c.

(Signed) G. C. Meyer.
Ag. P. R. N. D.

Board's Minute.

In examining a Transaction which is stated to have taken place thirty years ago, great allowance is to be made with respect to the Evidence produced, as it cannot in the common course of things be as compleat, as a Transaction of more recent occurrence would admit —

But in the Cause now before the Board for decision, the proofs exhibited by Rajah Ramkishen, in favor of his adoption, are not only presumptive but positive; and they derive additional Weight from the Testimony of Mahomed Reza Cawn, declaratory of an acknowledgement by the former Government of the Country, of Rajah Ramkishen's adoption. The Transactions to which his Testimony refers.

happened

Fort St. George 24th November 1795

happened in the Bengal year 1167, or twenty eight years before the present Period —

The Facts set up by the contrary Party, are two only, of which the Second, Viz.t That the age of Rajah Ramkishen at the period of his adoption, exceeded the Term limited by the Shaster, is completely done away by the Testimony of the Pundits exhibited in the second Report of Mr. Meyer —

In support of the first assertion, that no written Authority was granted by Rajah Ramkaunt to the Ranny empowering her to adopt a Son; the greatest part of the evidence adduced by the opponent of Rajah Ramkishen, scarcely applies to the Question, That of the native Surgeon Dubois is the most pointed, as if admitted, it proves Rajah Rajah Ramkaunt to have been incapable of any deliberative act at the time he is stated to have Signed the authority, That of Gour Mohun, the first Witness, is next, although it is reconcilable to the Testimony in support of the Signature of Ram Kaunt, the whole of his evidence amounts to no more than being at Barrnagur where the Rajah died, and being acquainted with him, he heard nothing of any

authority

Fort St. George 24th November 1795.

authority given to the Ramny, the whole of his Testimony may be admitted without affecting Rajah Ramkishen's Claim —

The Governor General in Council thinks fow having weighed the whole with mature deliberation, is of opinion, that the claim of Rajah Ramkishen to the Zemindary of Rajahshaw, according to the Rules of the Hindu Law, and the usage of the Country, is clearly established by the enquiry into it, made by the acting Preparer of Reports —

That as the Hindoo Laws, are declared to be the guide of Government in all disputes regarding property, they must be allowed to operate to their fullest extent more especially in the present case, in which the rejection of them would not only be considered as a subversion of established Laws, but an offence against the most revered religious prejudices —

Revd Dept.

A true Extract

Signed/ G. H. Barlow/

Sub Secretary/

Extract.

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Extract from the Proceedings of the Governor General in Council in the Revenue Department

To Earl Cornwallis K. G.

Governor General in Council &c. &c.

My Lord.

I have now the honor of laying before you, the results of my enquiries into the Pretentions of Ramkishen, to the Succession to the Zemindary of Rajishahy, as directed by your Lordship's Resolution of the 30th of March 1787 Previous, however, to entering into the details of this Investigation, it is proper to observe, that, in consequence of the Publication made at the Khalsa, in pursuance of your Lordship's order to ascertain whether there were any other Claimants besides Ramkishen, one Candidate only appeared, which was Gungapersaud, the direct heir to this Zemindary, by blood, being the Great Grandson of Beithen Ram, the Brother of Ram Jeewun Roy, who appears to have been the Founder of this Zemindary in question. — This Person, however, dying a short time since, without Male issue, his Widow,

agreeably

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agreeably to the Hindoo Law, is now entitled to — prosecute the claim to the Succession in her Husband's right. This being premised the next point that claims your Lordship's attention, as essentially necessary to the forming of a right Judgement on the merits of this cause, are the Principles of the Hindoo Law with respect to adoption, which, as far as is requisite for the due understanding of what follows may be reduced to 5 heads —

1st That a Widow provided she professes a Licence, or written Authority from her Husband, is competent to adopt a Son —

2d That a Widow professing such Authority, is not restricted to any period of time to carry it into effect, but may proceed to the adoption whenever it suit her convenience and Inclination —

3d That the age of the child to be adopted, must not exceed five years —

4th That the Ceremony of shaving the head and boring the ears, must not have been performed by its natural Parents —

5th

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5th. That the Child be not an only, or Best Son —

6th. That the natural Parents must be of the same Cast with the adoptive Parents, and of equal Rank in their common Tribe —

7th. That the Surrender of the Child by the Natural, and the acceptance of it by the Adoptive Parents, be entirely voluntary —

8th. That the Rites of Affiliation as prescribed by the Shaster, be performed either in whole, or in part —

9th. That the Adoption be made with the Concurrence of Government —

The above Rules having been previously ascertained, beyond controversy by reference to the principal Parents both of Madras and Calcutta; Ramkishen was required to prove that they were duly observed at his Adoption; to which end he produced, in the first place, a Bengal Paper, purporting to be a Licence under the Signature of Rajah Ramkaunt, authorizing the Ranny to Adopt a Son after his decease, The following is a Translation of it —

"To

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"To Bhowany Debya, I grant
"this Licence in the year 1153, being afflicted by an
"inveterate disorder, which increases daily, and
"unable to foresee what the decree Pleasure may
"ordain to happen the next moment. It was
"my wish to adopt a Child myself but at present
"there is none at hand; to send for one would be
"attended with a delay, which I could have no
"hopes of sustaining. Therefore, of my own free
"will permit you to adopt a Son, after my
"death whenever you may meet with a Child
"you will adopt him in my Name; so that
"the daily offerings for the Salvation of our Souls
"may be duly performed, and our Possessions and
"Dignities perpetuated. These duties shall
"appertain to that Son and his Posterity, and
"to no one else, and Furthermore, you will be
"careful to educate him properly, and in due
"time commit my Possessions and Dignities to
"his care, If you fail herein, the Sin of neglecting
"my Salvation will be upon you, I have granted
"you this Licence and am thereby exonerated.

"This you will duly consider and act
"accordingly." Dated 9th. of Sawun at Bannagur

(Signed) Ramkant Sherwanee

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To prove the Authenticity of this Paper, and that the consequent Adoption of Ramkishen was made in conformity to the Laws of the Shaster, the following Witnesses were produced; consisting chiefly of the late Raja's Domestics who were present and assisted at the Adoption —

1st. Seulamber, the Khansamar or Steward of the late Raja, deposes on Oath, that four days previous to his Master's death, the latter, having no hopes of recovery, expressed his desire to Gopaul Chowdry (one of his confidential Servants) of providing for the celebration of his Obsequies, and of having a Child procured — for that purpose, That Gopaul Chowdry consulting thereupon, with the Raja's Relations and — principal Domesticks, they suggested, that the procuring of a Child, at that critical Juncture, would be attended with too great delay, and — recommended that the Raja should be requested to sign a Licence, by virtue of which an Infant might be duly selected afterwards, That in conformity to his advice, Gopaul Chowdry — drew up the Bengal Writing now produced

by

by Ramshishen, and carried it to the Raja; who signed it in his / the Deponents / presence; adding a verbal injunction also to the same effect. That some time after the Rajahs Demise, Tārā, his only Daughter, being of a marriageable Age the Rany purposing eventually to adopt one of her Children, disposed of her in marriage, but that 4 or 5 Years after her Husband dying without Issue, the Rany and her Family went on a Pilgrimage to Benares, That on her return from thence, the Subject of the adoption being renewed, Kunder Roy, one of the deceased Raja's Relations and of equal Rank and Cast, made in the Month of Asar 1165 a voluntary surrender of his Second Son, whose elder Brother was then living, to the Rany, who in the same Month, adopted him with the usual Ceremonies, The Witness adds that the age of Ramshishen was then three years, within 3 or 4 Months, more or less, that the Ceremony of investing him with the Pabeit, or Brameinical Thread, was performed four years afterwards —

2nd. Jagun Naut Bhaddre, formerly Dewan of the Rany's House-hold and still in her

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her family, being duly sworn, gives the same relation of the circumstances attending the execution of the Deed of Licence, as the preceding Witness. He adds that he gave the Pen to the Raja, who at the time of signing the Paper, was in complete Possession of his faculties, His account of the subsequent adoption of Ramkishen, corresponds with that of Neelamber Khansaman, with this variation, however, that he states the Childs age, at the time of his adoption, to have been four years five months, and twenty seven days. He adds, that when the Ceremony of investing him with the Braminical Thread was afterwards performed, the Child's name was, for the first time, changed to Ramkishen —

3d. Shaum Sahoor, a Bramin, now in the Service of Ramkishen, and formerly in the late Raja's family confirms on Oath the preceding circumstance respecting the Preparation of the Deed of Licence, and saw the Raja sign it from without the door of his Apartment. He has no knowledge of the subsequent adoption of Ramkishen, as he was then absent from Rajeshahy —

4th.

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4th Bhowanny Pershaud, Maitre an inhabitant of Rajeshahy, and a Domestic of the Rannis, corroborates on Oath the above facts relative to the preparation of the Deed, and knows the Paper now produced to be the one then executed by the Raja. It is proper to observe that this Witness first affirmed, that he heard the Raja order the Deed to be drawn up; but on being cross-examined, he retracted that assertion, and alleged that he heard the circumstance from Dyaram. His Account of the adoption of Ramkishen, is to the same Purport as that of the 1st Witness, with this difference, that he describes the Children in the manner with Jaguen Naut Bhadow, to have been about four years and Six months old at the time of his adoption; and declares that the Ceremony of investing him with the Brahminical thread was performed two years, or two years and half afterwards, and that his Name was first changed to that of Ramkishen, at the time of his adoption —

5th Ramkishen Chowdry, the son of Gopaul Chowdry, an inhabitant of Baligharreah, and a Mooreky of the —

Rannis

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Ramjy, deposes on Oath, that he has heard from his Father a confidential Servant of the late Raja's — that four days before his death, Raja Ramchunder — gave a Deed of Licence to the Rany, authorizing her to adopt a Son, He knows the Raja's hand writing, and declares that the Signature affixed to the Deed now produced by Ramkishen, is his. — The Account he gives of the adoption of Ramkishen, from his own knowledge, is the same as the preceding; and the latter's Age he states to have been four years, five months, and twenty seven days. He also adds that the Child's name, which was originally Kishenpershaud, was changed to that of Ramkishen, two years afterwards, when the Ceremony of shaving his head and boring his ears was performed —

6th. Bhoiawmy Churun Nayachaja a Pundit residing at Burrnagur (having subscribed the affirmation prescribed by the Judicial — Regulations) declares, that five days previous to Raja Ramkishen's death, being in the Temple of Raj Rajeshwre, offering up Prayers for his — recovery, he heard, but from whom he does not recollect, that Gopaul Chowdry had recommended

to

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to the Raja, the adoption of a Son, and that the latter had approved of the Proposition, and authorized Gopaul Chowdry to draw up a written authority for that purpose, That the Deed was accordingly prepared, and, as he understood from Gopaul Chowdry, signed by the Raja, That eight or nine years after the Raja's death, the Rany, who had hitherto delayed the Adoption in hopes of a Grandson, having prevailed on Hurdeo Roy one of the late Raja's Relations and of the same Cast to make over his Second Son Kishenpershaud (who was afterwards called Ramkishen) adopted him publickly in the Temple of Rāj. Rajiperew with the usual forms and Ceremonies, That he was himself present on the occasion, and discovered from Astrological Calculations that the Childs Age was about four years and a half. This Witness also declares that shortly after the Ceremony of the Adoption, he heard the Rany announce to the Brahmins and People assembled on the occasion, that She had given the Child the name of Ramkishen —

7th. Kurparam Terkbhoosen, a Pundit residing at Nadea, (having signed the usual affirmation)

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affirmation) declares that he has heard from various People, that when Ramkishen was adopted by the Rany, his age was four years and a half; but his knowledge does not extend beyond hearsay —

8th. Ramnarain Terkpunchanun, a Pundit of the same place, declares in like manner, his having heard, that when the Rany adopted Ramkishen, he was four & years and a half old, —

9th. Ram Chundu Bhuttacharje, a Pundit of Burdwan, declares that during the Period of his Residence at Burrnagur, with Ram Gobind Terkbagis, under whom he studied the Shaster, he accompanied the latter to an Entertainment given by the Rany; but in what Month, or year, he does not recollect, that he was Witness to Hurdes Roy's surrendering his Son to the Rany, in the Temple of Raj Rajisere, where the necessary Ceremonies were performed; and heard from Ram Gobind, that the Child was about 4 Years, or four years and a half old; which he also, he observes, concluded —

him

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him to be, He adds that he was also present at the Ceremony of investing him with the Braminical thread, and that this happened three years after the adoption.—. The above is the substance of the verbal Testimony adduced by Ramkishen, to establish the legality of his adoption; and to prove that it was further made with the knowledge of Government, he appealed to a Sunnud, granted to him in 1767. by the Nabob Mahomed Reza Khan, for the Zemindary of Nowrullapoor, in which he is recognized as the adopted Son of the late Raja Ramkant, To ascertain the validity of this Plea, I wrote to the Nabob, and the following is a translation of his answer viz

"You request me to inform
"you on what grounds, and by what authority
"Raja Ramkishen is stated to be the adopted
"Son of Raja Ramkant, in the Sunnud =
"professed by him under my Seal, for the =
"Perguunah of Nowrullahpoor. The case is
"this, In the time of the Nabob Mubarkum=
"=mud Jaafer Khan, previous to my admini=
"=stration, Raja Ramkishen was constituted
the

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"the adopted Son of Raja Ramchunt, He used to —
"attend me on the business of Rajeshahy; and
"upon the Zemindary of Moorshedabad's being
"granted to him, my Officers, at the time of
"inserting the words adopted Son of Raja Ramchunt
"investigated the matter, when Dyaram the —
"Dewan of Rajeshahy produced a written —
"authority from Ramchunt to the Rany Bhowanny,
"empowering her to adopt a Son, and a Declaration
"of the Pundits agreeably to the Hindoo Laws;
"and alleged that by virtue of these, the Rany
"had adopted Raja Ramkishen with the —
"knowledge of the Nabob Mir Mohammed —
"Jaafer Khan, as this was also confirmed by
"the Officers of the Khalsa, Raja Ramkishen was
"styled the adopted Son of Raja Ramchunt in
"the Summud for Moorshedabad" —

This Letter closes the Evidence
on the part of Ramkishen, It is now proper
to advert to the counter proofs, adduced by his —
Competitor, to establish the following facts —

1st That no written Authority was
granted by Raja Ramchunt to the Rany,
empowering her to adopt a Son —

2d —

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2d. That the age of Ramkishen at the period of his adoption, exceeded the Term limited by the Shaster Viz.t Five Years —

The substance of the Evidence delivered on these heads is as follows —

1st. Gour Mohun, a Gosaen and Inhabitant of Mirzapoor, swears, that he was at Burrnagur at the time of the Death of Raja Ramkant, and saw him at his own house fifteen days before his decease, but never heard any mention of an adopted Son, nor ever saw, or heard of a written authority granted by him to the Rany for that purpose.

That in Kantic 1166 he understood from Gopaul Moitre, Dyaram Roy's Dewan, that the latter, with Others of the Raja's Servants, had been consulting about the adoption of the 2d. Son of Khurdee Roy, but that no mention was made of any Licence, or Paper of authority.

That afterwards, about the end of 1167. or beginning of 1168. the Child was brought to the Temple of Raj Rajeshery, when Khurdee Roy, his father, formally surrendered him to the Rany in the presence

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presence of a large Assembly of Brahmins, and
the Rauj's Family. That on enquiring of Dyaram
Roy the Child's age, he replied that he was seven
or eight years old, which he the Deponent
also judged him to be. He adds, that the Child
had been carried to the Rauj's House, about one
month before the Adoption took place; and that
his having been adopted at a more advanced
age than was allowed by the Shaster, was, at
the time, the subject of private Conversation —

2d. Bejye Ram Pundit, an —
inhabitant of Baloochur, swears, that about
the end of 1167, or beginning of 1168, he went
to the House of a Relation of his, of the Name of
Ramanaut Seedhaut, at Burnagur, That
after his arrival there, he accompanied him
to an Entertainment at the Rauj's House
the day that she adopted Ramkishen; whom
he conceived to be about seven, or eight years
of Age; which was also the opinion of every
body else, but he did not observe, whether the
Ceremony of shaving the head and boring the
Ears, had been performed or not. He adds that

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in 1170, when the Child was about ten or eleven years old, he was invested with the Brammine Thread. It is proper to observe that this Witness contradicted himself repeatedly when questioned particularly respecting the time and manner of the abovementioned Entertainments

3d. Ram Jew Roy, an Inhabitant of Mehlund, deposes on Oath, that being sent to Durpnarain, one of the Ramji's principal Servants at Burrnagur, by Ram Saut Bhadrew to adjust the accounts of a Farm held by him, he arrived there on the 10th. or 12th. of March 1168. That having waited on Durpnarain, the latter declined entering into the business then, observing that the Rany had adopted a Son five days before, and that it was necessary he should go and present a Nuzr, or offering of congratulation. That on the 8th. or 9th. following he & the Deponent also went with Durpnarain to the Ramji's House, when having an opportunity of seeing Ramkishen, he guessed him to be 7 or 8 years old, but did not observe

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observe whether his ears had been bored, or his head shaved —

The inconsistency in the above dates, being objected to the Witness, he pleaded in his excuse, the length of time — which had elapsed since this transaction — happened —

4th. Hurry Pershaud Seindeyal, a Priest of Gobind, an Idol at Gamela, swears, That, in the Month of Cheit 1167, or 1168 Bamgheshen / then Kishen Pershaud / with his — Mother, Grandmother, and his two Brothers and Sisters, came to Gamela, to perform their ablutions in the Ganges. That, seeing Kishen-pershaud, he enquired his age of the Grandmother, and was informed that he was entering on his eighth year; and that the Rany wanted to adopt him. He adds that he afterwards — heard that she did adopt him accordingly —

5th. A Dalaal Boy, formerly a — Servant of Rammanee Bhadree, and now an inhabitant of Ghummeshaumpoor in — Moorshidabad, swears, that in the month

of

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of A.D. 1168. the Rany adopted Ramkishen;
and that in the following Month he waited
on him with a Congratulatory Present from
his Master. He declares that he judged him to
be then seven or eight years of Age and that
on questioning several of the Rany's Family
they confirmed his conjectures. He does not
recollect whether, or no, the Ceremony of shaving
his head and boring his ears, had been performed;
and Ramkishen having his upper Garments on,
he could not ascertain whether he had been
invested with the Bramminical thread, or not.
It is observable that this Witness, having
in the first stage of his Examination, been
desired to state his age, he declared that it was
70. or 75 years; having afterwards assured how
old he was at the time of the Adoption of
Ramkishen, but represented, after considerable
hesitation, that his age was then 60 years;
the absolute impossibility of this being next
objected to him, he alleged, in extenuation
of his Error, that he had spoken from conjecture.
6th. Dubaud a Native Surgeon,
and

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and Inhabitant of Bamungchata, declares on Oath, that he was called in, with a French Physician, to attend the late Raja Ramkant, in his last illness. That finding medicines had no effect, and that the Raja was insensible, they left him; five days after which, he died. He adds that while he was there he heard no talk of an Adoption —

7th Amedhurst Roy, an Inhabitant of Rajeshahy, swears, that in the beginning of 1166 or 1167, being at Burmagur, he went, by invitation to an Entertainment given by the Rany, to the Brament, on the occasion of Ramkishen's Adoption, which had taken place about one, or two Months before —

That Ramkishen, as far as he could judge, must have been Seven and a half, or eight years old; which was also the Opinion of his (the Deponents) Father in law, Moroher Bhutta Charge, who went with him to the Entertainment —

It is here proper to observe, that Dulaul Roy, the 5th Witness produced on the part of Gungagovind Sing, having in describing

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describing the place of his abode, at Burrnagur,
observed, that there were four out houses, +
contiguous to the Gateway of Rama Pant
Bhadrie's house, the Vakeel of Ramakishen,
with a view to invalidate his Testimony, by
disproving this fact, brought two Witnesses,
Viz.t. Ramkishen Mujmoodar, an inhabitant
of Satore, and Doola Khan, of Gheyasabad,
in Raujeshahy, both of whom agreed in
declaring on Oath, that there were no such
out houses, as mentioned by Dukaul Roy,
but on being cross-examined, the former pre-
sented that the Gateway of Rama Pant +
Bhadrie's House was built of brick, while
the latter maintained that it was built of
clay in

Ramkishen Mujmoodar
also added, that going to Burrnagur in the
Month of March 1165. he heard at the Rauj's
house, that she had adopted a Son, The other
Witness likewise observed that about the close
of the Month aforesaid, he went in the +
Retinue of Dyaram Roy, the Rauj's Dewan,

to

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to her House, the day she adopted Ramkishen,
and that he heard Dyaram declare that his age
was then four years and half —

Having now recited the Evidence
on both sides of the Question, it is necessary
to call your Lordship's attention to a circumstance,
in the present Cause, of the first importance —

At the commencement of
this inquiry, a Representation was delivered
in by Ramkishen, explaining the nature and
grounds of his Pretensions, as preparatory to
his producing the Evidence required by the
Board. In this Paper there is the following
remarkable Passage —

"Every year she, the Ranny used
"to nurture a Child of some of her Relations; but
"none proved fit for Adoption. At length the
"Ranny brought me, the Son of Hurdeo Roy, the
"Son of Sibby Ram Roy, my age being then
"four years; and having nurtured me for the
"space of two Years, I was approved of by every
"body. Accordingly by virtue of the Licence of
"Raja Ramchunt, her deceased husband, and

in

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"in conformity to the Law of the Hindoos and
"the opinion of the Pundits of every Province,
"the, in the month of Bysaac, in the beginning
"of the Bengal year 1167, adopted me for his
"Son." Your Lordship will doubtless observe,
that, by this Account, Ramkishen would
seem entirely to overset his own Claim; since
he acknowledges himself to have been sixty years
old when the Rany adopted him. he also
represents, that his adoption took place in
the beginning of 1167; which is not only a
direct contradiction of the Evidence of his
own Witnesses, but a clear confirmation of
that of his Opponent. Three inconsistencies
being objected to Ramkishen his Agent
endeavored to palliate them in the following
manner —

"In the Bengal year
"1165 the Maha Rany Bhowany took Raja
"Ramkishen to his own House, and Hindoo
"Rey, his Father, having formally renounced
"his paternal Rights, gave him to the Rany
"for adoption; At that time the Raja was a
new

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"more infant, being only four years of Age, and the
"Rany having performed the Bearheter Horn
"which is the initial ceremony of adoption, &
"directed her attention to his Education, although
"a Person in a state of minority sees all that
"passes, yet, for want of capacity, he cannot
"retain every circumstance in his memory
"with precision, At the time the Maha Rany
"adopted Raja Ramkishen my Uncle, Ram
"Gopaul, was the Manager of her affairs, but
"he is since dead, and when the Representation
"under my Constituents' Seal was delivered in,
"or requisition, at the beginning of this inquiry
"none of the old and experienced Servants had
"arrived, by reason of which, the circumstance
"of the Bearheter Horn which was performed
"at the time of the adoption, was not inserted
"in that Representation But afterwards, &
"when those Servants arrived, and the Rany
"transmitted an Answer on the 26th of Sevier,
"to the public Requisition which was made
"to her, and when the Evidence of my Constituents'
"Witnesses was taken, the circumstances of

his

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"his adoption, and the Ceremony abovementioned,
"were elucidated, Moreover, in the Bengal year
"1165, the Balances outstanding in the Perguunahs
"of Raujeshahy &c were assigned for the Pay of
"the Troops of Government, and the Zemeindary
"was, in consequence thrown into extreme Confusion
"and disorder; whereby the solemnization of the
"Poorteshtee Jugg or Ceremony of Affliction was
"necessarily postponed 'till means for defraying
"the Expence, could be provided; which, at that
"time was impracticable. But, afterwards, in
"the month of Bysaick, 1167; it was performed.
"Possibly, this last Ceremony having come to
"the Knowledge of the Witnesses of Gungapershaud,
"who are now Strangers and have no connection
"with the business, may have led them to
"represent the adoption, as having been made
"in the Bengal year 1167. The consistencies
"however in their Evidence, and my Questions,
"put the matter beyond doubt."

How far this Explanation can be admitted as probable and satisfactory, your Lordships will determine; it is only necessary for me

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me to observe, that the Pundits are all agreed, that the post ponement alone of the Poorheshtee Pugy or Ceremony of Affiliation, would not invalidate the Adoption —

There remains now but one Question unexplained, Viz.t "Whether by the Rajah Mouth, "or Custom of the Country, it has been usual for "the Mahommedan Government, to admit of "succession to Zemindaries by Adoption, or not" —

The Sudder Canongoes, and the Nabob Mahummud Reza Khan, whom I consulted on this Subject, agree in the affir-mative; as your Lordship will perceive from the following Translation of their Opinions —

1.st "When a Zemindar, in default "of male issue, adopts a Son, his Zemindary and "Property of every kind, agreeably to the Rajah "Mouth, or Custom of the Country, will devolve, "after his demise, to the said son; provided — "that his Adoption be legal; and this usage — "obtained in the time of the former Government" is

(Signed) Luchmynaraen Roy
Canongo.

2.d "If a Zemindar, in default of male "issue

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"if you should adopt a Son, his Zemindary, and
"all the inheritable Property, which he may
"have, will on his demise, descend according to
"the Customs of the Country, or Common Law, to
"his adopted Son; and this was the Practice
"under the former Governments" —

(Signed) Mehender Narain Singh

Canongo.

3d. "In the time of former Rulers, —
"Zemindaries used to devolve to adopted Sons, in
"the nature of an Inheritance, Thus, on the
"death of Praun Nauth, formerly Zemindar
"of Benagepoor, his Zemindary was settled on
"Ram Kant, his adopted Son, and also on the
"demise of Narayen Roy, the Canongo and
"Zemindar of Boudenpoor, both the Canongow
"and Zemindary, were vested on his adopted Son,
"Deptnarayen; after whose death, it descended
"to his Son, Sheonarain; and on the latters decease,
"to his adopted Son, Luchmynarayen" —

"In like manner, the Zemindary
"of Mehmoodshahy was conferred to Raghoo
"Deo Roy, the adopted Son of Ram Deo Roy; and

that

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"that of Bajishahy &c which was held by Ram Sawun,
"to Ramchaunt, the latters Son by adoption and of the
"smaller Zemindaries, there are many in this —
"predicament. The succession of an adopted Son
"to a Zemindary took place with the knowledge of
"the Government, and among the Hindoos a Son
"by adoption, inherits all the Property of the deceased,
"exclusive of the Zemindary" —

L. Mahammed
Reza Khan S.

Having now brought the detail of this inquiry to a conclusion, I shall only beg leave to trouble your Lordship with one general observation respecting the Evidence produced by Ramchurn, In transactions of a private and Domestic nature, Servants in general are allowed, by the Law of the Hindoos to be competent Witnesses, at the same time, the prejudices — attending the relation of Master and Servant, in this Country, are such as would render it highly improper to annex the same degree of credit to their Testimony, as is due to that of an indifferent, or altogether unprejudiced Person; a

Consideration

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consideration, which your Lordship must be aware,
should, on weighing the Evidence on both sides,
be duly attended to —

I have the honor to be
&c &c

Khalsa
June 5th 1788 —

(Signed) G. G. Meyer
A.g P.R.R.D.

Translation of the Answers of the Pundits of
Benares to four questions stated to them by the
Resident at Benares —

Answer to the first query.

Should a person without issue,
order his wife to adopt a Son without particularizing
the name of any person, and afterwards die, and
should his Wife adopt a Son for her husband;
it is certainly admissible, and that adopted
son will have a right to his inheritance and
the property left by him —

Answer to the Second query.

When a person who has an
inheritance, takes possession of it of his own
accord, the order of the Sovereign is not in that
case necessary —

Answer

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Answer to the third query.

Zemindars, Jaguerdars and other Proprietors of hereditary estates, may nominate one of their Heirs to succeed to their Zemindary &c. &c. and if any person has in this manner nominated one of his Heirs it is proper and valid — But should a Zemindar &c. passing over his Heirs name another person; in such case an application for the authority of the Sovereign would be necessary to prevent the molestation of the Heirs, should any person passing over his natural Heirs, bestow upon another a Zemindary &c. acquired by himself, the right of such Heirs would be rendered void — But the right of a person to whom a Zemeindary &c. has descended hereditarily, is not rendered void by the nomination of another person —

Answer to the fourth query.

If an hereditary property escape from the possession of a person, and he be at hand and do not intersue for twenty years, after twenty years it falls to the Sovereign, and — should the owner have gone to any other place,

and

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and should return in Sixty years and before three generations have gone by; he may repossess it, but should he not return, such property would subsequent to that period lapse to the Sovereign. This is according to the authorities prevalent in Bengal, According to the authorities received in Benares should any person be dispossessed by another from an hereditary property, and in case of being at hand should take no account of it, he may yet repossess himself within a hundred years, and before three generations have gone by, but will not receive the produce after a hundred years it lapses to the Sovereign — & Should the hereditary property fall into the possession of one of his Heirs, The owner or his Descendants may take it at pleasure, and it will never pass to the Sovereign

Dated 3d December 1794 C. S.

A true Translate

(Signed) Jas. Stuart.
D. Regr.

Revd Dept.

A true Copy,

(Signed) J. H. Barlow
Sub Secy
Translation

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Fort St. George 24th November 1795

Copy

Translation of the answers of the Pundits of the Sudder Dewanny Adawlut to four Questions put to them by the Court. —

Answer to Question 1st.

Should a Man without sons have previous to his death directed his wife to adopt a Son, and should that Woman after his death performing by means of Brahmins the things prescribed in the Vedes adopt a Son, that adopted Son would be approved. On this head the words of Vasesto Moonee are thus "a man without any Seed Son may with care take a Son from any of the Kheatreje Jea — eleven Species of sons." and thus are the words of the Supreme "The after residence of a man without Sons is not good." There is a further saying of Vasesto Moonee, that, "a Wife can adopt a Son by the order of her Husband," to this effect are the words of Parasur "Invocations, — Sacrifices" Pilgrimages, Fasts &c. performed by the means of Brahmins are approved, and should a Wife in this manner adopt such a Son as is approved by the Shastr the adopted —

Son

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Son may take the whole property of her husband."
The words of Yagna Balkea are thus, "of the twelve
Species of Sons the first Species failing the others
in turn Succeed," and thus are the words of Menu,
"If a man should have adopted a Son from a
foreign Tribe if he be capable of performing the
offices of a Son he will be the Proprietor of all
the property of him whom adopted Son he is".

Answer to Question 2d.

For the possession of the hereditary
property of a Seed child, the order of the Rajahs
not necessary. After the death of the Father the
Son is without doubt the proprietor of the
hereditary property. On this Subject Narud Moone
the Son is proprietor," and thus are the words
of Menu," While there is a Son the Son is
proprietor of the property of the Father, the
Father's brother or the Father's Father have no
right of property." If any one of poor a Son in
taking possession of his hereditary property then
it is proper that the Rajah establish him in
his rights. It is laid down in the Bannyan that

"The

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"The Rajah who does not protect his subjects will
"go to the regions of punishment;" and thus Boroptow
Moonee, "Good and evil and existence are in the
hands of the Rajah and in like manner in the
hands of the Supreme" —

Answer to Question 3d.

A Zemindar cannot without the
orders of the Rajah appoint a Successor except —
from his Lineal descendants, Coloum Moonee says
on this head. "The Rajah is the Lord of all." If he the
Zemindar appoint a Successor from among his Lineal
Descendants he can do it without the orders of the
Rajah. It is thus set forth in the Metakshara and
other books." The Son from the time of his being born
has a right in his Fathers property a Jaguedar cannot
appoint a Successor not of his lineal descendants, —
and should he without the command of the Rajah
appoint a Successor from among his lineal descendants
that Successorship would not be approved - because
the Jaguer is granted in consideration of Services
performed to the Rajah, Consequently the Jaguer is
at the Rajahs disposal - Should (they to whom the
question relates) appoint a Successor not of their
lineal descendants the rights of their lineal —

descendants

descendants would not be superseded. The following are the words of Brodspot Mooneu Sureeu "The Grant of joint property without the consent of all the Sharers is not admissible: But the property which is not ancestral but acquired by a man's own exertions, and is real property, and is more than is necessary for the support of his relations, he may bestow upon persons not his heirs: but the house and the property requisite for the support of his kindred he cannot bestow" Menu has said "A man who has derived no property from his Ancestors but obtained solely his own knowledge, skill, or bravery, in such case the person acquiring is at liberty to dispose of his self acquired property to whomsoever he pleases without consulting the will of his Son. Katyayan Moonee lays down, that "the father and Son have a joint power over ancestral property whether personal or real." Becas Moonee has said "that the real property is the right of all the persons descended from the same grand father (Each Dadee) and that consequently it cannot be sold or given without the consent of all"

Answer to Question 4th.

Of

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Fort St. George 24th November 1795

Of Lands without heirs let the
Sovereign on being informed proposes himself.
the property of Brahmins accepted. Dewaul
Nonnee has said, "the Sovereign is at liberty to
possess himself of property without heirs. but he
is not at liberty to possess himself of the property
of Brahmins; let him give it to some Brahmin
of Superior Character to the deceased" Narud Moonee
has said, "Should a Brahmin of such description
not present himself Let him bestow it to such
brahmin as be at hand; Let not the Sovereign
himself possess it, otherwise he will be criminal"
This is the decretals of the Pundits according
to the Shastra

A true Translation,
Signed D.S. Stuart
D.Y. Regr.

Revr Dept.

A true Copy
Signed G. H. Barlow
Sub Secy

Read the following petitions
from Ragonaut Row and Vencat Row

To

4338 Fort St. George 24th. November 1795.

To the Right Honorable Lord Hobart

President Governor &c. &c. &c

In Fort St. George

The humble Petition of Ragonaud Row

the Jaghiredar of Arnee Country

Humbly Sheweth

Petitions of Ragonaud Row on the subject of his claim to the Jaghiredary of Arnee &c.

That with submission your Petitioner begs leave to Represent to your Lordship, that whereas your Petitioner is remaining here in Madras in hopes of being restored to his hereditary Right as Arnee Jaghire, but now as it is the widow of the late Seemavas Row, did thro' the influence of her Brother, the Tanjore Vakeel, throw many obstacles in the way of your Petitioner enjoying his Right, and besides this she took a Boy and most illegally made him manager of the said Jaghire, tho' he had not any Right or Title to the same, She likewise favoured him with all manner of Titles as well as the Honorary Drums &c. appertaining to the Jaghiredar, without even obtaining the consent of the Honorable Company, and further She induced the Inhabitants of the said Jaghire to pay him all manner of Respect as if he was the

Jaghiredar

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Sagheedar and besides that she obliged them to pay him the customary Nuzzer, In short she kept to herself the power of granting Summads and the Distributing Justice amongst the Inhabitants, and not only that. She squandered and Embezzled most part of the Property of the said Saghur as she thought proper in making various presents and in allowing and encreasing the payments of her people or adherents —

That altho' the said Saghur and all its Estate have been deposited in the hands of Tanjore Vakeel by the Honorable Company, yet the said widow without paying due Obedience to the Order of the Honorable Company began to carry on her affairs in the manner hereinbefore mentioned, and so the unjust proceedings of the said Widow is quite contrary against your Petitioner who is the real Inheritor of the said Saghur, and who remains here without making any Molestation in regard to his right and property for fear he should incur the displeasure of the Honorable Company —

Whereas

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Whereas your Petitioner having
no other Protection but the Honorable Company
in whom he placed the strongest Confidence —

As now your Petitioner is sorry
that the Arbitrary power of the said widow is
Daily increasing on Order to shew that she had
enjoyed the said Right, and for want of Justice, in
short it is by our Law that a widow ought to be
Remained in her apartment without interfering
with any other affairs or Concerns, but now so
it is She is using her utmost endeavours to usurp
your Petitioners Right and your Petitioner further
Sheweth that the Tanjore Vakeel and his Brothers
are the real Authors of this Dispute who are
your Petitioners inveterate enemy, especially
the Arrear Sagheer is Deposited in their hands,
they therefore took upon the liberty of enjoying
it as they pleas and now your Petitioner is
Informed that the said Vakeel of Tanjore is
absconded for the earnest Demand of his Corditors
but now have not proper Justice in the said Sagheer

Your Petitioner therefore
most humbly Solicits the favor of your Lordship,

as

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as to see his right secured to him and at the same time putting the said Jaghire into your Petitioners Possession —

For which act of humanity Your Petitioner as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray —

(Signed in Malabar)

To the Right Honble Lord Hobart

President &c. in Council

of Fort St. George

The humble Petition of Nagoonad Row

Jaghiredar of Arnee District

Humbly Sheweth.

That your Lordship &c. will have been well convinced by a Petition Represented from your Petitioner in respect to the Jaghire of Arnee District, that altho your Petr. is an Inheritor yet Governor Holland, has by the allurement perverted from the equity and granted a Sunnud to Seenevas Row was a Son of an Adopted Son, but not Inheritor as well as your Petr. the said Seenevas Row, — however died 2 Years ago, and his Widow hath by the instigation of her Brother Tanjore Vakeel Seigned that as if the Deceased were bequeathed to profess

Petition of Nagonaud Row — on the same Subject

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Fort St George 24th November 1795

professes herself the injoyment of Arrow District
and at the same time also pretended that she
was big with Child; besides this they produced
a false Will and continued to raise differences
and Obstacles to the greatest detriment of your
Petitioner —

Your Petitioner further begs
leave to State, that the said Seeneevas Tow-
comformably to the custom make a Will or
bequeath in the presence of European Gentlemen
Principal Inhabitants of Madras and of his
Relations in case he done it, because he was linger
of Sickness previous to his Death, and in
consequence your Petitioner assure that she
was ingrounded on, by the intention of the
said Tangoo Vachul, who is now absconded
besides She was Adopted a Son notwithstanding
there was no a least degree of reason to adopt
on the death of her husband as already men-
tioned in his Petition to your Honble Board.
Your Petitioner with a view of meriting
the favor of this Honble Company waited
at this Honble Board Since the 2 Years —

Your

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Fort St. George 24th. November 1795

Your Petitioner has no other alternative left, but our Supplicating your Lordship's will vouchsafe to grant a favorable order that he may be restored with the Sagheer of Arnee District as reason permitted for which act of benevolence your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall &c.

Ever Pray

(Signed in Malabar)

To the Right Honble Lord Hobart

President and Governor in Council

of Fort St. George

The humble Memorial of Vincatarow

the Heir at Law both by blood and

adoption to the Original Sagheerdar

of Arnee —

Petition of Vincat Row — on the same Subject.

That with due Submission, and respect your Memorialist begs leave to state that he is confident that your Lordships is perfectly acquainted with your Memorialists undisputed right to the Sagheer of Arnee in and by several Petitions he had the honor to address

To

4344 Fort St. George 24th. November 1795

It is now 2 years since Semvasa now / to whom Mr. Holland hath unjustly given the Pagoda having Departed this Life, and between 50 and 60,000 Pagodas has been Collected from the Talook, and the Amount converted by Tanjore Vakeels Troyambaw Row, and Nagoojeerow for their private uses —

That the Ancestors of Ragonadarow had held but 3 Villages from your Memorialists Ancestors, he is now enjoying 7 Villages which — were given him by the usurper, as well as 2 Villages to Tamarla, a Son by a Concubine kept by the said Tirmalarow, thus the Revenue of your Memorialists Pagoda is — lavished away for want of Justice, which your Memorialist the — rightful Owner of the Pagoda is left greatly embarassed —

That

4345 Fort St. George 24th November 1795

That the Board of Revenue

having been pleased to entrust the Collection

of Revenue with the said Tumabarow,

and Nagogerow, who have Contracted

Debts to a considerable amount, on

and as their Creditors became very

Clamorous they absconded from the

place, Therefore your Memorialist hath

great reason to believe that there is but

little or no hope of Recovering the Amount

of Revenue collected by them as aforesaid

That

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Fort St. George 24th. November 1795

That the Inhabitants of your Memorialists Jaghire is greatly injured and oppressed by the Amildars employed by the said Nagogerow in extorting large Sums of Money from them under apprehension that they shall be deprived of the Jaghire very soon—

Lastly your Memorialist most humbly begs and entreats that it may please your Lordships under all the Circumstances herein stated to appoint a Person of undoubted Integrity on the part of the Honble Company in order that the Revenue of the Jaghire may be secured (without being awarded away,) and paid to your Memorialist on his being indulged with the Jaghire, which is his Right,—your Memorialist also prays that necessary Steps may be taken for Securing the Amount already Collected by the said Peons and Converted to their private uses,— in securing Justice done to your Memorialist he as in duty bound—

Madras
5th November 1795.

Shall Ever Pray,
(Signed in Malabar)

Po.

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Fort St. George 24th November 1795

To the Right Honble. Lord Hobart

President and Governor in Council of

Fort St. George

The humble Memorial of Venkatanna Nair at

Law both by Blood and Adoption to the Zaghire

of Arnee.

Sheweth

That with due deference your Memorialist begs leave to approach your Lordship to state, that the Original founder of the Zaghire of Arnee, was named Vadaga from whom the Succession had devolved on, and enjoyed by the Descendants of the Eldest Son until the same had devolved on your Memorialists adopted Father who took his uncle Tremalarow as his Dewan as your Memorialists said Adopted Father had no male Issue of his own he did previous to his death propose to adopt some body as his Son and Heir, but as the said Tremalarow acted as his Dewan, and thereby vested with every power, and authority he prevented the wish of your Memorialists said Father being carried into Execution —

Your Memorialists said Father did previous to his demise direct and advise his Wife (your Memorialists Mother) to adopt a Boy of her Cousins as her Son, and Heir, as your Memorialists Mother was also confined by the said Tremalarow until such time that his Highness the Nabob has taken the Zaghire from him, she had afterwards

Petition of Do. on the same Subject

4348 Fort St. George 24th November 1795

aforesaid and lawfully adopted your Memorialist, being the grand son of one Cashava Row Married A who governed the Sagtiri after the demise of his Eldest brother Senevasarow as will more fully appear by a Table of Consanguinity, as her Son, and Heir — That on the Arrival of Orders from Europe to grant the Sagtiri of Arnee to the lawful Heir thereof, he presented a Memorial to the then Governor Sir Archibald Campbell, who was pleased to refer it to the Board of Revenue, and they in consequence referred the Matter to one Madavarow, Onegeye of the Carnatic, who after a very narrow, and Minute Investigation of every Circumstance made his report stating "that your Memorialist was "Heir at Law of the Eldest line" - that Senevasarow (since Deceased) was of the second line, and one Ragonada row of the third line, but previous to any decision being finally made, the said Governor Sir Archibald Campbell embarked for Europe, and John Holland Esqr. succeeded him who unjustly granted the Sagtiri to the afore mentioned Senevasarow of the Second line, when it is well known that according to the Laws of the Country the Heir of the Eldest line inherits the Sagtiri —

Your Memorialist in consequence of such Injustice appealed to England, and to the Supreme Government of Bengal stating the Injury done to him

him by Mr. Holland, and they were pleased to send out Orders that a proper Enquiry should be made, and the Pagoni given to the Lawful Heir - previous to the receipt of the said Orders, the said Seneva sa row Departed this life -

That thereupon the Board of Revenue were pleased to obtain in writing the Opinion of Several Brahmins learned in the Indian Sastrums, or Laws, which as well as several Memorials, and Table of Genealogy heretofore laid by them at divers times before this Government were to meet your Lordships inspection, and perusal, he is confident that he would be immediately restored to his Right, which he has been with held from him, Contrary to Equity, and Justice by the Tanjore Vakeel Tryagamba row, under pretext that his Sister the Widow of the deceased Seneva sa row was in the state of Pregnancy -

The Honble Board having been pleased to direct a Doctor to examine if it was true that She was Pregnant, the purport of his Report is well known to your Lordships Wisdom, so as to pass your Lordships Sentence on the Subject, and even admitting her to be really Pregnant, it cannot be an impediment to restore your Memorialist to the Pagoni for She is the Widow of an Usurper, who unjustly acquired possession of the Pagoni from Mr. Holland as aforesaid -

After

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After Mr. Holland had unjustly granted the Sagtuni to the late Senevasarow one Nagoga Royen Brother to Tanjore Raja he hath personally called on your Memorialist at his House, and informed him that they have given 7 Villages to Ragonadarow and obtained written agreement under his Signature that he or his Heirs should have no Claim whatever upon the Sagtuni of Arnee, and promised to give 12 Villages to your Memorialist if he would agree to execute an Agreement as the one granted by the said Ragonadarow, whereto your Memorialist refused to agree alledging that he has a preferable right to the Sagtuni, and that the Ancestors of the late Senevasarow, and Ragonadarow never had any interference therein except the enjoyment of the said Seven Villages —

Since your Lordships Arrival as Governor of Madras 6 Petitions have been presented — your Memorialist was so unhappy to learn that the Government of Bengal have transmitted to this Presidency their Opinion on the Subject of your Memorialists Claim. — your Memorialist trust that your Lordship will be pleased to permit him to pay his Visit as he is very Anxious to have that honor —

Lastly your Memorialist most humbly begs and entreats that may it please your Lordship to see him Justice done by restoring him to his Sagtuni — in doing speedy relief in the Premises your Memorialist as in duty bound —

Madras
9th November 95.

Shalle Eder Praff
Memorandum

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Fort St. George 24th November 1795

Memorandum.

Memoranda of a Memorial on the same Subject —

1st That in November 1786 Sir Archibald Campbell in Council having directed the Board of Revenue to enquire into and ascertain in whom the Right of the Saghire of Arnee Should devolve to, I presented a Memorial to Council representing my preferable Claim thereto; Whom a Reference was made to Madava Row, Canogoya of the Carnatic, Whose Report I have Reason to presume has been transmitted to Government by the Board of Revenue —

2nd That in June 1789 Governor Holland — Confirmed the Saghire on Seemevasa Row, Notwithstanding he was well assured of my Right thereto, and his permission for my Writing him on the Subject —

3rd That Soon after General Meadows's — Arrival I presented him a Memorial accompanied With a Table of Genealogy ascertaining my Claim in the — clearest Sense —

4th That about the Same time I transmitted to Earl Cornwallis in Council at Bengal a Similar Memorial and Table of Genealogy, also a Mahazur Signed by the principle Inhabitants of Madras, and Several districts adjoining, Confirming My Right —

5th That after General Meadows's departure to the Field I waited upon Govr Williams and fully informed —

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informed him of my legal Claim to the Sayhire, when he was pleased to acquaint me that the papers I had Sent to Bengal had been Received by him with Instructions to decide thereupon and that he would give Orders accordingly; but in the interim Governor Sir Chas. Oakeley Arrived, If your Lordship will Condescend to inspect the Papers Received from Bengal, I presume it will manifestly appear, my Claim is Just and Well founded:—

6th. That on the 20th. Novr. 1790. I waited on Govr. Oakeley and laid before him a Memorial, Table of Genealogy, and Mahazur, Similar to those transmitted to the Right Honble Governor General, and acquainted him of my having Written to Bengal and of the Orders that had been Received in Consequence. Govr. Oakeley assured me that the Matter should be determined upon, as soon as the then, State of Affairs would admit.

That finding no Attention was paid to my Repeated Representations, I wrote to General Medows in the Field, who was pleased to send me in Answer, written by Col. Harris, that the Board at Madras would enquire into and decide on the premises—

7th. That on the 7th. of February 1792 Govr. Oakeley Sent for me before Council, and then informed me, thro' Mr. Secretary Jackson, that Government had Represented.

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represented, in their General Letter to the Court of Directors the full particulars of my Claim to the Jaghire, and that on reply thereto from, I should be acquainted with the Result,

8th That in Consequence of the foregoing Infor-
=mation I lost no time in transmitting to London a Memorial, Table of Genealogy and Mahazur, Similar to those sent into the Government —

9th A short time after I requested Revd Oakeley would be pleased to forward a Set of my papers in the Government Packet, — his Reply thereto, Was, that orders on the Subject were daily expected from Europe —

10th That on the return of Earl Cornwallis and Genl Medows from Camp they permitted me to wait upon them selves — they assured me that Government had written to Europe on the Subject of my Claim, and that Immediately on Instructions thereupon being Received I should be informed —

11th That in Novr 1793 Seemeyasa Row, the unjustly (admitted Jaghiredar of Arnee, departed this Life —

12th That on the 24th Decemr 1793 Revd Oakeley having been pleased to send for me to the Government Garden House, informed me that the papers I sent to Europe had been returned with Orders to determine my Claim to the Jaghire, — and that in Consequence he had referred the Same to the Board of Revenue —

13th That —

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13th That on the 23 January 1794 the Board of Revenue required of me to produce Documents in Support of my Claim, When I addressed to them a Memorial, which with other papers I should fain hope have been transmitted to Government, if so, I humbly beg your Lordship will be pleased to pay a Momentary Attention to them —

14th That in March 1794. The Board of Revenue Summoned Several Reputable Brahmins Versed in the Indian Code of Laws, and Obtained their respective Opinions in Writing as to the Validity of my Claim —

15th That on the 15th Octr 1794 I addressed a further Memorial to your Lordship in Council and on the 17th of the same Month, Received Word from the Board of Revenue that Government had Sent the Said Memorial to them, and that they the Board of Revenue would ultimately decide thereon, on Receiving Instructions from the Supreme Council of Bengal —

I have been necessitated, in Justice to Myself and injured family, to be thus Circumstancial in laying before your Lordship the Several transactions that have passed in the different Governments Since the Year 1796. in order to Remove every possible doubt of the Justness of my Claim to the Jaghire in question. It will appear at large by the Table of Genealogy that I am Heir at Law,

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Law to the Sagheir, both by Blood and adoption in the Eldest
Son, and it will also appear, that had not Toemala Row who
then acted as Dewan to my father by adoption, usurped to
himself the Sagheir, the same would have progressively —
devolved to me without Interruption —

In perfect Confidence of having advanced the
most unequivocal facts and a thorough Knowledge of your
Lordship's Veneration for Justice, I earnestly Crave that
Merited protection due to an injured and Cruelly oppressed
Native of distinguished Birth —

President's Minute

In Council 24th Novr 1795 —

Presidents Minute on the Subject of the Succession to the Sagheirdam of Arnee

To elucidate the subject now under discussion,
it will be proper to go back in the History of Arnee to the year
1762, when by the Treaty between the Nabob of Arcot and the
Rajah —

X

Note. Vadagen Brascara Pow, was the
first and Original proprietor of the Arnee Sagheir. He
had Six Sons — The Eldest Conary Row, — was the Second Sagheir =
= dar — He had eight Sons — The eldest Son quitted Arnee in the
life time of his Father and Settled at Tanjore, His Name was
Ramchunder Row —

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Ramchundra Row - The Second Son Shreemwassa Row Succeeded, and was the third Jaghiredar - He had four Sons - Venkat. Row, the eldest Succeeded, and was the fourth Jaghiredar, he had one Son, who died, or is said to have died during the Life Time of his Father. Timmul Row, the Second Son of Shreemwassa Row, succeeded Venkat Row, and was the fifth Jaghiredar, he had no Male Issue, but adopted Sewaram, the Grandson of the aforesaid Ramchundra Row, who had Settled at Tanjore, and thus brought back the Succession in a direct Line from the eldest Son Canary Row, the Second Jaghiredar, Subanna Row, however died before Timmal Row. and left one Son Shreemwassa Row the late and Sixth Jaghiredar.—

Shreemwassa Row was therefore the Great Grandson of Canary Row in a direct Line from his eldest Son, — Ramchundra Row — Pagonaut Row the present Claimant is also the Great Great Grandson of Canary Row being descended from Pagonaut Row, and the younger Brother of Timmalrow — Venkat Row, and the Claimant — is the Great Grandson of Canary Row, being the Grandson of Cashewa Row, the third Son of Canary Row. — This Venkat Row also claims by adoption, stating that Venkat Row, the elder Brother of Timmal Row, and fourth Jaghiredar had a Son named Shreemwassa Row, who was left in confinement by his Uncle Timmalrow, — and on his death Bed, directed his

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Widow Arathaboy to adopt a Son - and that she accordingly did adopt this Venkata Row - But there is no record of this circumstance - nor were any references made at the time the treaty of 1762. was formed, that could lead to the supposition that the aforesaid Shreemwaserow was then in existence -

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Rajah of Tanjore, guaranteed by the Government of Fort St. George, and confirmed by the Company, the Jaghire of Ormee was restored to Trimulrow, who had, by a refractory Conduct, some time before, forced the Nabob to reduce them by coercive means - Trimulrow died the following year - and Shreemwaserow his Grandson, by adoption, then a minor, succeeded, with the consent and approbation of the Company, the Nabob of Arcot, and the Rajah of Tanjore - But Troubles having been excited in the Jaghire by the contumacy of certain Brahmins, the Nabob, in the year 1778. took possession of it - a measure, which was acquiesced in by the Rajah of Tanjore, and the Government of Fort St. George - The Court of Directors, however, disapproved of this arrangement, and in the year 1785. and again in 1784. insisted, that the Nabob had no right to withhold the Jaghire from the Descendants of Trimulrow, the Company's faith having been pledged to the Treaty of 1762. - The Rajah of Tanjore soon after his restoration, for he also was dispossessed of

his.

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his Country by the Nabob required to be put in possession of Arnee, and in two letters from the Governor of Fort St George to the Nabob, dated the 30th July and 24th August 1776 — his Highness was called upon to deliver up the Fort and — District of Arnee to the Rajah — But it does not — appear by what Title his Excellency claimed it, or what degree of — relationship or Connexion subsisted between him and the Killedar of Arnee — The Nabob, however, did not surrender the District and the matter remained in dispute until the year 1784 when the Court of Directors went fully into the subject, and declared that neither the Nabob, nor the Rajah, had a right to withhold the Sayhire of Arnee from the Descendants of Tirumulrow — and therefore directed, that it should revert immediately to the Person entitled to it by the Stipulations of the Treaty of 1762, unless there were particular reasons for suspending the execution of their orders, —

The Court thus express themselves — "although "these materials have not furnished us with evidence "in support of the Rajahs Claims, they are far from "satisfactory to evince the Justice of, or political oeconomy, "for continuing to withhold the Sayhire from the "Descendants of Tirumulrow, his Hereditary right "to what Sayhire, seems to us to have been fully — "organized

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"recognized by the stipulations of the Treaty of 1762, and
"so little doubted, that on his death, his widow was admitted
"by the Nabob to hold it on account, as may be presumed,
"of the Non-age of his Grandson and Heir Shreemunsa Saheb,
"who appears to have been confirmed in the Jaghire on
"her death, by the Nabob, as the lineal Heir and Successor
"to his Grandfather" —

"With respect to Shreemunsa Row, it does not
"appear by any of the proceedings in our possession that he
"was concerned in the misconduct of the Brahmins —
"complained of by the Nabob in the Year 1770. which
"rendered it necessary for his Highness to take the
"Jaghire into his own Hands, or that he was privy to
"or could have prevented those disturbances" —

"We therefore direct that if the Heir of —
"Tremuck Row is not at present in possession of the Jaghire
"and has not by any violation of the Treaty, or act of
"disobedience, incurred a forfeiture thereof he be forthwith
"restored

Note. According to the literal meaning of these orders, it is to be presumed, that the Government of Fort St. George did not suspend the execution of them, because they were in any doubt as to the right of Succession, but because some "powerful motive of prudence to the peace and tranquility of the Carnatic, rendered it expedient and yet it was beyond the reach of probability, that either the peace or tranquility of the Carnatic could be affected "in the Year 1795. by any dispute Amongst the Claimants —

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"restored to the possession of it, according to the terms and
"stipulations of the Treaty of 1762. But if any powerful
"motive of regard to the peace and tranquility of the Carnatic
"shall in your Judgment render it expedient to suspend
"the execution of these orders, in that case you are with all
"convenient speed to transmit to us your proceedings thereupon,
"together with the full state of the Facts and of the reasons
"which have actuated your conduct".

Notwithstanding these instructions the point was at Issue until the year 1799. when Mr. John Holland, gave the Sagbire to Shermawas Row, - and tho' it almost amounts to positive proof that he was bribed to do Justice, yet it seems clear that his decision was consistent with the orders of the Company - In consequence however of a Memorial from Vencat row, the Court of Directors in their orders of June 1793. instructed this Government to go anew into the subject. They say, "Our approval
"and confirmation of a Resolution of a former Government
"for putting Shermawas a Row, into the Sagbireship of
"Arnee, agreeably to the Stipulation of the Treaty between
"the Nabob of Arcot and the Rajah of Tanjore in 1762,
"arose from an attentive and impartial perusal of
"the documents at that time before us, which carried
"conviction to our minds of the superior pretentions
of

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"of Shenevasa Row, — But the circumstance which you
"have stated to us of Mr. John Holland having received a
"bribe of sixty thousand Pagodas from Shenevasa Row,
"upon that occasion, has certainly very much weakened
"our confidence in the propriety of the former determination
"— At the same time we are aware that in the general System
"of Corruption which appears to have characterized the
"short Administration of Mr. John Holland, an acknowled-
"gment even of the most unequivocal claims, founded
"on the clearest principles of justice and equity, might not
"have been obtained, but by means of a pecuniary gratifi-
"cation — If however you shall see any cause to doubt
"the superior pretentions of Shenevasa Row to the
"Jaghiredarship of Arnee, over those that have been
"preferred by Vencat Row, as mentioned in your subs-
"equent dispatch of the 26th. January 1792. we desire,
"that the respective Claims do undergo another inves-
"tigation — And as both those Claimants endeavoured
"to ensure success by the same unjustifiable means,
"we trust you will not allow the circumstance of the
"bribe alledged to be given to Mr. Holland by the former,
"to operate in prejudice to his Claim; but that with
"unbiassed minds you will proceed to determine
"according to justice, and agreeably to our former orders

"upon

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"upon this Subject of the 9th December 1784. founded on
"the terms and Stipulations of the Treaty of 1762. —
"We have lately received a Memorial from
"Vencata Row, dated Madras the 30th July 1792. a Copy
"of which is enclosed, on the subject of his Claim to the —
"Jaghire of Arnee, and direct that you take the same into your
"consideration, with a reference to the observations in the —
"preceding Paragraph" —

There is nothing upon our Records to shew —
(except what Mr Holland's Minute of the 14th July 1789 —
sets forth) that any further proceedings were had to confirm
the succession of Shrenevasa Row, during the life
time of his Grand father Tremul Row. It seems to —
have been admitted as a matter of course that he —
succeeded to all the Rights which his Father derived
from the adoption — for upon the death of Tremulow.
he succeeded without dispute or interruption, and —
held the Jaghire for 8 years, until he was displaced,
as hath been before shewn, by the improper conduct of
the Arnee Bramins —

If the Treaty of 1762 which guaranteed
the Jaghire to Tremulow and his Descendants. be not
brought forward, to decide the question, the pretentions
of Vencat Row and Ragonaut Row, must of course
be

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be removed — The former claims by descent as the Grandson of Cushewa Row, the third Son of Canary Row, — and by adoption as the Son of Shreenawassa Row who was the Son of Wencat Row, the elder Brother of Tammul Row, — Ragonaut Row, claims only by Descent, as the Grandson of Ragonaut Row who was the young= =er Brother of Tammul Row, and the Grandson of Canary Row. — If the Treaty be the point on which we are to decide — the late Shreenawassa Row, according to the declarations of the Camongoe of the Carnatic, and the principle Bramins of Madras, was undoubtedly the legal Heir of Tammul Row, for the former gave it decid= =edly in his favor, and the latter state, that "the said Tammul Row, put the said Jaghire in charge "of his Grandson, the present Shreenawassa Row, Son of "the said deceased Subaa Row, and died". (Vide Mr. Hollands Minute 14th July 1789) and further — "The Pundits of Tanjore declare the Laws of the Shaster to be this, in case of adoption — "If there "be no legitimate Son, or Son's Son, the adopted "Son is the Heir: and if he be no more, his Son "succeeds" — See Mr. Swartz's letter to Government 12th April 1793. — It might too be a question whether Shreenawassa Row could not have claimed by

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by descent, as the lineal Heir of his Great Grandfather, Ramchunder Row.— the eldest son of Conary Row, the second Jaghiredar— for,— altho' Ramchunder Row never succeeded to the Jaghire, neither did Cushava Row, nor Ragonaut Row from whom are descended the present Claimants, Vencat Row and Ragonaut Row having brought the subject thus far, it remains to determine / if the Right of Shreenivasa Row to the Jaghire be admitted / whether the verbal order of the late Jaghiredar to his Wife, upon his death Bed, to adopt a Son be consistent with the Hindoo Law,— The papers received from Bengal express, that, according to the case of Ramkishen a Wife can adopt,— under a written authority from the Husband— and the Pundits of Benares, and of the Sadder Dewanny adawlut go further, for they say, that the widow can exercise the right of adoption by order of the Husband, but make no mention of written Authority,— as the pregnancy of the widow is now out of the question, the matter rests (admitting the right of Shreenivasa Row as before Stated) upon the following points, whether the Hindoo Law, as expounded by the Pundits, shall govern the determination of the Board — or whether we shall set aside the right of adoption, on failure of written authority, in favor of the lineal — Descendant? The superior Government have not directed us to be governed by the opinion of the Pundits— but

last

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but we plainly perceive that Lord Cornwallis and his Council decided in favor of Ramkishen, principally from the written authority of the Zemindar of Rajeshahy to his widow, on his death Bed, to adopt a Son. Iam of opinion that the first measure to be adopted, is to satisfy ourselves as to the credibility of the Oral Evidence respecting the adoption, and with this view the Board of Revenue should be instructed to proceed to the examination upon Oath of the several persons who are said to have been present when the late Zaghire dar gave the order to his Wife — A copy of the letter from Bengal, with copies of the papers accompanying it should also be sent to the Revenue Board, that they may follow, as nearly as circumstances will admit, the Mode adopted by Mr. Meyer, the acting preparer of Reports in Bengal, in taking the examination of the Witnesses in the case of Ramkishen —

Minutes of the Board —

The Board having maturely considered the foregoing Subject, are of opinion that the Treaty of 1762, the orders of the Company, and the circumstance of the late Sheemaja Row having held the Jaghire without dispute or interruption from the year 1763 to the year 1771, are points which furnish a presumption of right in the late Jaghiredar scarcely to be questioned —

It.

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– It therefore remains to ascertain how far his Widow can be entitled to nominate the Successor from the verbal order of her Husband – The proposed investigation by the Board of Revenue, will enable Government to judge of the Credibility of the Oral Evidence regarding the adoption – and if the Depositions to be taken on the occasion, should be conclusive as to the Fact brought forward by the Widow the only point remaining to be decided in order to enable Government finally to pronounce upon the case, will be, whether the Hindoo laws admit of Adoption by any other means, than written Authority –

Resolved that Copies of all the papers be sent to the Board of Revenue, and that they be instructed to proceed on the enquiry agreeably to the Presidents Suggestion. –

Read the following Letters from Bengal –

To the Right Honble Lord Hobart

Governor in Council at

Fort St. George

My Lord.

From Bengal – entirely concur in the Boards Communication to Commodore Cornwallis on the preliminary articles for the surrender of Batavia,

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordships Letter of the 15th October with the papers enclosed, and in reply to it – have only to express our entire Concurrence in your

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Determination on the preliminary Articles for the Surrender of Malacca, and in the Communication made by your Lordships to Commodore Rainier on this Subject.—

The objections had equally occurred to us, but the Expedition having been planned and executed under your Lordships Authority and Directions, it appeared to us consistent and proper that your Lordships Determination should precede any Resolutions on our part.—

We have great Satisfaction in learning that Malacca has Surrendered.—

We have the honor to be

&c &c

(Signed) I. Shore

" Robt. Abercromby

" P. Speke

" Wm Cowper.

Fort William
the 6th of November 1795.

To the Right Honble Lord Hobart

Governor in Council
at Fort St George

My Lord

We have received your Letter of the 27th ultimo, with its enclosures, relative to the Salary of your Military Auditor General.—

From Bengal—
approve the amount of Salary granted to Col. Malcolm—of opinion also that the arrears should be allowed.—

From

Fort St George 24th November 1795

From a thorough conviction of the propriety of the measure We are happy to find that your Lordship in Council has determined to make an addition to the Allowances of your Military Auditor General - When we recommended the principle for regulating the Allowances to that Officer, the application of it was of course left to the Government of your Presidency and as you have deemed 600 Pagodas per mensum an equitable allowance for him and fixed his Salary accordingly from the Month of September, We must leave this part of Colonel Malcolm's representation entirely to your own decision -

With respect to his claim to arrears, upon the increased Salary now fixed for him, from the time of his appointment in 1792, having before us a similar instance in which the Honble Court of Directors have been pleased to allow such arrears; viz. in the case of the Military Auditor General at Bombay (a Copy of their orders respecting whom is herewith sent for your information) and being sensible that Colonel Malcolm's conduct in the discharge of the duties of his Office has been such as cannot fail to dispose the Honble Court to be

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be equally favorable towards him, on consideration of the reference made to them by your Lordships in Council, We are of opinion that the difference between the Salary heretofore drawn by your Military Auditor General and that which you have now judged it equitable to allow him, should be granted to Colo. Malcolm from the period of his Appointment to that Station; and recommend the same to your consideration accordingly.—

We have the honor to be

&c. &c.

(Signed) J. Shore.
" Robt. Abercromby
" P. Speke.
" Wm. Cowper.

Fort William
the 9th November 1795.

Extract of a Letter from the Honble Court of Directors to the President in Council at Bombay dated the 15th April 1795.—

Para: 36. We perfectly agree in opinion with the Governor General in Council that it will not be sufficient merely to put wells adopted rules on your records unless they are enforced with undeviating attention and that the most sincere concurrence of Government.

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Government should be afforded to the Auditor General to accomplish by a regular and well supported control, the essential purposes of the new system, we confide in the assurances you have given of your decided and effectual support to the Auditor General to this effect, and from your strong recommendations in his behalf added to our conviction of the services already rendered by Lieutenant Colonel Kerr, we cheerfully comply with your request that his salary shall be increased to Rupees 18,000 ₹ Annum, to take place from the day of his appointment - but this is to be in full for all allowances whatever, except his pay according to rank in the Army; and we have no doubt but he will be encouraged by this Addition to exert himself to the utmost in discharge of his official Duty -

(Signed) J. H. Harrington
Sub Secy

Minute thereon

Resolved, in conformity with the recommendation of the Supreme Government, that the Military Auditor General be permitted to draw the Arrears of Salary from the period of his appointment -

Ordered that a Company's Bond with Interest at 8 ₹ C. ₹ Annum be granted for the Amount -

Read.

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Read the following letter from the Rajah of Tanjore — (Entered also in C.C. No 111)

Translation of a letter from the Rajah of Tanjore to the Right Honble Lord Hobart Governor &c. &c. &c. dated 17th November 1795. —

From the Rajah of Tanjore — suggesting a mode of adjusting the payment demanded of him on account of the November Kist, and requesting the restoration of the four Maghans of Karical —

Your Excellency will have been fully — informed of circumstances by the letter, which I addressed to you on the 11th Inst. According to the periods of payment fixed for the preceding year I have paid the complete Sum of thirty thousand pagodas for the November Kist into the Companys treasury: and I entreat that your Excellency will so far favor me, as not to impute to me any deviation, because I have not paid the Sum of forty thousand — pagodas on account of the November Kist according to the communication made to me in your letter of the 12th. September. I request that your Excellency will do me the favor of taking into consideration the letter, which I addressed to you on the 11th. Inst. and I shall then be ready to conduct myself according to the arrangement, which your Excellency from your favor towards me may fix. — I request that your Excellency will from motives of justice as well as of Kindness towards me settle my pay- =ments according to the terms of the preceding year, or

that

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that according to my request reckoning three years from the date of the treaty to the conclusion of the last year you will allow a balance to be struck of the whole sum which has been received by the Company from my country, and that deducting therefrom my net Rists to the Company as well as my payments to Sherfoge amounting in the whole to pagodas 14,80,000 - - - - you will allow the overplus to be deducted from my Rists on account of the current year -

I likewise request the favor of your Excellency that I may have Credit on account of the current Rists for whatever may have been collected from the four maghams of Karical from the time the Honble Company took possession of them to the conclusion of the last year; and I gather entreat with the greatest deference that your Excellency will so far favor me, as to put these four maghams under my management for the current year. - There is not the smallest connexion between me and the French. - Formerly when peace was concluded between the English and French these maghams were to be ceded to the latter by the stipulations agreed upon in Europe: in consequence of this I was solicited to give them up, and I was indeed

by

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by my friendship for the English to make over the
above mentioned four maghams of Karical to the
Honble Company even at the expence of considerable
detriment to myself, in order that they might
be restored to the French according to the request of
the Company. — Since this, divisions have again happened
between the English and French, in consequence of which
the Company have assumed the maghams and continue to
enjoy them. If justice be attended to, it is my right that
they should be restored to me. Your Excellency is the —
protector of all according to equity, your disposition is
mild, your rank exalted, and you are the Supporter
of the humble; I have therefore the firmest confidence
that you will cause their property to be delivered to those,
who may have the right to possess it, I have no friend
or protector but your Excellency: I rely upon you in every
respect: and I therefore request that your Excellency —
will continue to shew me favor and attention —

The letter which your Excellency addressed
to me on the 13th October was delivered to me yesterday
the 16th Inst. by the Commandant Colonel Baird. —
and I understand the contents. Your Excellency is —
therein pleased to inform me of the death of the Nabob
Wallajah, and to dwell upon the praise the good —

qualities

Fort St George 24th November 1795.

qualities which he possessed. That a man of so great Character and wisdom should have departed this life is cause of much concern to myself, But what can be done; what can avail the efforts of man against the dispensations of providence; as your Excellency has informed me that the illustrious Omdat ul Omrah Bahader, as being the eldest son of the deceased Nabob, will succeed to the power and authority possessed by his father, I have been made very happy. As the Honble Company are just, they turn their attention to the protection of all: and every one is perfectly confident that out of their favor they will establish each in the fortunes, to which he may have a right. Believe me always your Excellency's Sincere friend. - To a friend why should I write more, &

(A true Translation)

(Signed) J. Webbe
M.S.

Minute thereon

The letter from the President to his Excellency under date the 19th instant, contains an answer to the several points referred to in the foregoing letter -

Read the following letter from the Board of Revenue, &

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To the Right Honble Lord. Hobart,

Governor in Council

My Lord:

From Board of Revenue relative to the Conduct of Cummea Naick one of the Madura Polygars in Engaging to assist and plunder the Cutchy-Watty Fort and Pollam &c

We have the honor to Submit for your Lordships information a letter, with enclosures received from Mr. Powney, detailing the Conduct of Cummea Naick one of the Madura Polygars, who appears to have been instigated by the Nabobs Phowzdar at Madura, to engage in the usurpation and plunder of the Cutchey Watty Fort and Pollam, tributary to his Highness - It also appears from the information given that this transaction has been conducted under the Co-operation of a party of the 9th Battalion in addition to the Sepoys in the Nabobs pay whom the Phowzdar has employed in effecting his purposes, on this occasion -

Entered on the Revenue Consultations the 7 Nov.

It is unnecessary for us to Comment on the Consequences that must result from a persevarence in this Conduct on the part of His Highness's Managers Since We have had so often occasion to Record our Opinion that while the present divided authority over the Poligars exists, no permanent arrangement for the benefit or protection of the Country Can be completely -

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completely enforced. —

We have the Honor to be

&c. &c.

Fort St. George
18th November 1795.

(Signed) Edwd. Saunders.
Geo. N. White.
Thos. Cockburn.
Wm. Harrington

Order thereon — Ordered to lie on the Table. —

Read the following Letter from

Colonel Stewart. —

The Right Honble Lord Hobart

&c. &c. &c.

My Lord

Agreeably to your Lordship's commands, signified to me by Mr. Secretary Jackson in his letters dated the 7th. and 8th. instant, (which only reached me the 22 at night,) I sent the necessary orders to Major Dalrymple on the 23. to employ such Ships or Vessels as he could procure at Pulicat, or Point Pedro, for the purpose of conveying the Flank Companies of the 71st. Regt. under his command to the nearest or most convenient Port or Anchoring Ground on

From Col. Stewart — has received the Board's letters of the 7th 8th 13th 16th 18th and 25th and executed the orders contained therein — Want of Pilots — Hour of Receiving — Unable to procure any supplies to the Dutch from his Country — States the difficulty of marching his Army on the Coast, with Tents and Guns — recommends that the Shipping for Pulicut be sent with them for landing the Troops &c. &c.

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on the Coast, where the Troops could be landed in=
Safety; and proceed from thence to join his Corps at=
Tanjore. I have also signified your orders to Captain
Barbutt to succeed him in the Command at Jassa=
=napatam and its dependencees. Those circumstances,
however, will be detailed to your Lordship more fully
by Colonel Brathwaite =

I have been honored with the letter of
Government of the 13th. inst. and have communicated
to Mr. Andrews such part of it as related to him=
He has, in consequence of the intimation therein=
contained, altered his intention of proceeding in
The Company's Sloop, The Swift, to Madras; and
proposes to go from hence to Jassanapatam by=
land, which he finds will be a much more eligible
mode of travelling for The King of Candia's Ambass=
=adors as the voyage at this Season to the Coast from
this place is extremely precarious. They will accordin=
=gly proceed to Jassanapatam, and take the earliest
opportunity of going from thence with Mr. Andrews
to the Coast. He will by this means be enabled to
inform himself of the State of the Revenues
of that Province, and to report the results of his
enquiries, and his opinions to your Lordships=

upon

Fort St. George 24th November 1795

upon his arrival at Madras.—

I shall give the necessary directions for The Dutch Officers, coming within the description stated in the letter of Government, being indulged with permission to remain on The Island, and to receive the subsistence which they formerly drew under Their own Government. Were they all to remain, I think it would be of advantage, and save the expence of Shipping to convey them to The Coast.— but the subsisting those Officers will necessarily encrease our demands for Money. None of the Dutch Servants shall receive any subsistance, those excepted, whom we may find it necessary to employ.—

My letter of the 22. will have informed your Lordship that 12 of the 20 Elephants found at Jaffanapatam have been disposed of for 3599 Porto Novo Pagodas.—

Mr. Jackson's letters of the 16. and 18th inst. I have likewise received, and I have in consequence abolished The Office of Agent for Transports, Mr. Marshall is put into charge of his appointment of Master Attendant at this Port. I have also directed The Barrack Master to make up the number of Cots necessary for the use of the European.

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Fort St. George 24th. November 1795

European Troops on The Island of Ceylon —

As soon as the Hirkara has discharged her Cargo, I shall order Captain Lightburne to proceed to Bengal, and furnish him with a letter for Mr. Secretary Hay as directed by Mr. Jackson —

Captains Pitchford and de Meuron of the ~~Comte~~ de Meuron's Regt. have arrived here, They inform me that their business was to have been made known to me by your Lordship, or Mr. Jackson — but I have not received any instructions respecting those Gentlemen By the Hirkara and Mary Ketch lately arrived from Negapatam we have received four Massoolah Boats with their Crews, and 68 Artificers. The latter were much wanted in the departments of the Engineer and Commissary of Stores: and here I think it necessary to observe, that both the departments and Corps are very deficient in Tent Lascars. The particular numbers to complete them, I have reported to the Officer Commanding the Army on the Coast —

I have now the honor to acknowledge your Lordship's letter of the 25th. by Captain Page, acquainting me of Major Agnew's Mission not having answered expectation. I beg leave to assure

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assure your Lordship of my being ready to attempt
any enterprize that may be determined upon with
chearfulness and alacrity: and that every step in
my power shall be taken to prevent any supplies being
thrown into Columbo. Captain Pardner sailed yesterday,
accompanied by the Bombay Frigate, to cruize off
that place. The King of Candia has been written to,
not to allow The Dutch to draw any resources from
his Country; and to endeavour to distress them by
every means in his power. I shall write to Captain
Bowser, who commands at Manar, to exert himself
in drawing from the Country in his neighbourhood
stile held by the Dutch, as large a Stock of Cattle
and grain as he can possibly procure, in order to form
a depôt at Manar. Troops may march from this
place to Manar, but without tents or Guns — The
want of Draft and Carriage Cattle, the narrowness
of the Roads, and many other difficulties, particu-
-cularly for 46 miles from hence, render the transport-
-ing of Guns by land impossible. The road from
Manar to Negombo is represented to me as better, and
that light Guns, with Cattle to draw them,
might be got on with great facility, and possibly
heavy ones, by widening and repairing the roads

at.

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at different places; but the want of draft and Carriage Cattle must ever be attended with insurmountable difficulties to a Body of Troops attempting to march Through any part of this Island, with tents, Canon, Ammunition, and Stores. Thus Cattle may some time hence be supplied from the Coast but for any expedition to be immediately undertaken, all the necessary heavy articles must be conveyed by Water — And here I shall beg leave to call your Lordships particular attention to two very material points in the intended expedition against Colombo, Viz.t that the Shipping be sufficiently roomy for accommodating The Troops; and that Boats for the purpose of landing them, The Ordnance and Stores be sent with them. For I must observe with regret, that the flat bottomed boats which we found the most useful for that purpose at this place, are rendered entirely useless from the damage they received in running on shore in the high Surf, which at that time prevailed here. They were examined by The Commodore's Carpenter, in order that he might form an estimate of the repairs necessary to be made; and he reported it impossible to put them in a serviceable State unless they were entirely rebuilt —

Two of the Massoolah Boats — Sent.

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sent from Pondicherry were sett on the expedition against Jaffanapatam, when all our Catamaran People with their Catamarans deserted to the Coast— Our whole stock of Boats now only consists of Eight Masoola Boats, four of which remains of the five formerly sent from Pondicherry, and four lately arrived from Negapatam, towed by the Hurkar, with two Catamarans, which I have sent at this present—

I have the Honor to be

&c &c

(Signed) J. Stuart

Tranquebar
31st October 1795.

P. S. This letter I dispatch by Manar as the surest and most Expeditious Conveyance from this during the present Monsoon—

The President delivers in the following Minute—

Entrusted with the Government of the Company's affairs upon the Coast, it is my Duty not merely to look to that temporary prosperity which can encrease our their revenues and the manifest improvement of their commerce concerns is calculated to afford, but considering their permanent interests as the substantial object of every

President's supplementary Minute on the subject of the Nabob's Debts stating the subjects of the Orders and Regulations of Government for the public Credit of the Company and the Commerce Interest of the Country— and stating his Sentiments in respect the Provisions or even a Compulsory Application of the Country Powers to Nabob's Creditors to procure if possible an Arrangement of the Debts upon Principles and Regulations for preventing Loans in future—

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administration to point out all defects in their system, and more particularly if they are of a nature tending to undermine their resources, and contribute in an alarming degree to the insecurity of their Possessions —

Under this conviction the minute to which the opinions I am now offering — may be deemed a supplementary has been submitted —

The treaty of 1792, entered into by — Lord Cornwallis on the part of the Company and the Nabob Walajah appears to have embraced three objects — Viz — "The discharge of the — Nabobs private consolidated debts. Provision for a military establishment in time of peace, and an arrangement to supply resources for a Period of Hostility" —

The Company binding themselves for a stipulated sum / nine lacs of Pagodas / to furnish a sufficient Military force for the defence of the Carnatic, and the Nabob — engaging to pay a certain subsidy under a Guarantee of landed security. whereby a proportion of the Revenues of the Carnatic were mortgaged for the execution of the — provisions

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provisions of the Treaty, and therefore so long as the Company fulfilled the conditions on their part they have acquired an interest, and eventually a right of interference to prevent the declension of those Revenues to the extent of their being rendered inadequate to the security for which they have been pledged —

As they can have no claim, and notwithstanding the increase of their Military expences have made none under any circumstances for calling upon the Nabob to augment his Stipulated payments, so on the other hand under a liberal and equal construction of the treaty they would be justified in interposing their authority to guard against a positive deficiency in the appropriated resources. —

Was the security in Bullion or moveables of any kind, an attempt to transport it out of the reach of the Company, even during a period that no defalcation had arisen in the payment of the Rists would probably be resisted if necessary by force. —

The difference in the case now under discussion is that whatever diminution / and

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/and it is considerable/ in value the security is gradually
this rapidly sustaining, carries along with it the destruction
of the husbandry and the desolation of the Country —

The treaty is formed upon a well —
founded presumption, that the districts specified —
therein are capable either in the hands of the Company
or of the Nabob of producing revenues, competent
to the purposes for which they are given as Security — but
that security becomes nugatory if the excessive deteri=
=oration of it shall not be deemed a virtual violation
of the treaty, and warrant the adoption of measures
with a view to avert the injurious effects of such —
deterioration —

If we look back to the origin of the treaty
of 1792. we shall find that it arose from the
Representatives of the Nabob Wallajah, that with=
=out imposing burthens on his people which
they were not able to bear, he could not make the
payments to the Company stipulated for in the
treaty of 1787. — but he had no sooner prevailed
upon the Government to acquiesce in a reduction
of those payments, which he effected by the
treaty of 1792. than, by the manner in which
he carried the provisions of it into execution,

he

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to encrease the miseries of this people tenfold, and defeated every humane and salutary object it was intended to attain — Should this principle I have laid down be deemed insufficient to warrant a recession and even a compulsory modification of the treaty. Nabob, by granting without the authority of Govern- ment Sunnaus and assignments upon the Mortgaged districts, contrary to an express Article of it, would undisputably justify such measures as might be thought advisable for the security of the Company and in my opinion calls upon the Court of Directors to issue such orders as may be best calculated to guard the interests of their constituents from so alarming and extensive an evil — ventured to make a proposition to the Nabob offer- ing gratuitous but in my mind necessary sacrifices on the part of the Company for the accomplishment of an object connecting their substantial interests with the welfare of the People of the Carnatic — To those who may think the Sacrifice too great, I would re- observe that the realization of the sums proposed to be relinquished (probably above thirty lacs of Pagodas

under

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under the present system is a Phantom that may be held up to their view but must forever disappoint their — expectations —

The advantages to the Nabob as well as to the Company in the plan I have suggested are extremely obvious — During the period of Hostility an increase of revenue accruing from an improved management would be an essential resource to the Government, on which his Highness would participate from the receipt of a proportional addition to his fifth of the whole Produce — whilst in Peace the benefit would be — exclusively his —

Under existing circumstances the Company — any sustain no loss, except in the extinction of the — inhabitants of the Carnatic, but in the arduous — season of War they must experience the most fatal depredations — It has been with much — that I have found the Nabob unmoved by my — entreaties and remonstrances upon this subject, not that he has been insensible to the justice and expediency of what I have proposed, but as he has candidly confessed at several interviews with me, that he has not the resolution to — comply — — —

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Informing me that his Native Ministers and European Advisers so perplexed, plagued and intimidated him that he could not venture upon the measure notwithstanding his conviction that he ought to do so —

In my minute of the 24th ult. I went into a full explanation of the mischiefs resulting from the pernicious practice of usurious loans & traced the iniquitous system through all its intricacies, and exposed a detail of oppression and rapine not less offensive to humanity, than destructive of public Property, and ruinous to the permanent interests of the Carnatic —

The operation however of this system is not confined to the subjects of his Highness, it takes a wider range and affects in a sensible degree the public credit of the Company: for a very large proportion of the Specie in circulation being applied to the uses of the Nabob at an exorbitant interest, Government are forced into the measure of depreciating their own paper in order to raise funds adequate to the exigencies of the State —

The persons concerned with the Dubbas from

Fort St. George 24th. November 1795

from the immense profits they reap, are well able to afford to raise money at twelve p.r Cent, the legal interest of the Country, and to lodge ample security for the debt — and hence it is that the Company are driven to the necessity of increasing the rate of Interest upon their own papers in order to supply their immediate wants —

The effects of these usurious loans upon the Commercial interests of the Country as well as every — national improvement which would require a capital are most lamentable — No Trade can stand a competition with such exorbitant profits, and when the practice which so generally prevails with the Eastern Princes of hoarding up every Pagoda they can lay hold of is superadded to the various corroding evils that have been stated, it would seem that such a complicated system of ruin and devastation was without a Precedent in the annals of the World — Had the treaty of 1792 been adhered to with that good faith which the British Nation had a right to expect from his Highness the Nabob, the Country would have found in it a source of encreasing prosperity — since by its provisions a considerable Portion of the Carnatic was separated from those private assignments which

which have ever been productive of such oppression and distress to the Inhabitants —

To the violation therefore of the Treaty may be attributed those evils which have been so fully set forth, and which loudly demand — instant eradication —

The situation of the Tanjore Country from precisely the same causes is still more desperate — It has recently been developed with an accuracy not to be questioned — by which it appears, that — notwithstanding the Company consented with a view to the Rajahs accommodation to remit for the term of three years more than one fifth of his annual payments, his Excellency is at this moment embarrassed with a debt of at least twelve lacs of Pagodas and when we consider there is an interest chargeable upon it of two and three p.c. Cent — per month, and that the whole Country is mortgaged for the payment, where are the — means by which the Rajah will be enabled to fulfill his engagements to the Company without ruin to his People —

Were I to attempt to describe the present state of the Tanjore Country, it would be

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be little more than a repetition of what I have said respecting the Carnatic, since the same system prevails throughout, but if possible has been productive of a quicker progress to decay and Impoverishment in the Rajahs Dominions —

I have it therefore in contemplation to — authorize Mr Macleod to propose to him to assign over to the Company the Districts mortgaged for his stipulated Payments, upon a footing similar to that as far as circumstances will permit which I have suggested in the arrangement relating to the — Carnatic —

I must candidly acknowledge that I am not sufficiently sanguine to expect that the influence which has operated to prevent the Nabobs concurrence will not have equal effect with the Rajahs — as precisely the same arguments and the same — urgency apply to the one case as the other, I doubt an early remedy for both will be provided by the Court of Directors and before the Countries are irretrievably ruined —

The acts of the Legislature with respect to usurious bargains, the interested views of the Company on the subject, and the iniquity of such Transactions abstractedly —

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abstractedly considered have had so little effect, that I scarcely know what to suggest as a means of future prevention, possibly it might be attended with good consequences if the Court of Directors were to order the Governor and Council of Fort St. George to take an oath, that in every case where according to his or their belief there shall be reason to suppose that any Servant of the Company or Person being under the Company's Protection shall, subsequently to the Publication of the orders in question have been concerned directly or indirectly in any loan or other money transaction with any of the Native Powers unless with the knowledge and express permission of the Government, such Servant of the Company, or Person being under the Company's protection shall be called before the Council Board, and examined upon Oath touching such supposed loan or money transaction, and in the event of such Servant of the Company or other Person living under the Company's Protection refusing to answer to such questions as may be put to him, or not answering satisfactory so as to exculpate himself from all concern directly or indirectly in such loan or money transaction he shall be sent to Europe by the first opportunity for having been guilty of a disobedience of the Orders of the Company.

and

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and frame his accordingly, and with a view more effectually to check this mischief, I would recommend that a Proclamation should be issued inviting to the discovery of these nefarious transactions, and offering a reward to any one that should bring forward substantial proof that such prohibited loans had been negociated —

The pains, the trouble, the anxiety, and above all the pressure upon my personal feelings arising from the investigation, and exposure of this subject in its true colours must be a test to the Court of Directors how important I consider it to their interests as well as to the Welfare of British India —

I am aware of the numerous enemies who will start up against me for the part I have taken — but I have a shield in the consciousness of an honest execution of my Duty, which blunts their arrows, and which will ultimately render all their efforts impotent and unavailable —

I have forborne to bring forward the names of Individuals, not because I am not able to do so, but because the subject the subject is above personal considerations —

Let those who have amassed wealth by such means enjoy it as well as they can, let it be my pride to have paid this tribute to suffering humanity

Fort St. George 24th. November 1795.

humanity, by deterring others from the commission of similar Enormities —

Minute thereon

Ordered that a Copy of the foregoing Minute be sent to England a Mr. in the Packet Pr. John, and that it be recommended to the particular attention of the Honble Court of Directors —

Death of Capt. A Beale —

The Secretary reports to the Board the death of Captain Anthony Beale, Commanding Attore, and the 24th. Battalion Native Infantry at Attore on the 23d. Instant —

" Abbott

" Col. Saunders

" C. Pascoe

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Diary

24th Received the undermentioned Letters Entered in the WBs Nos. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175.—

From Commissary of Stores at Pulicat representing the want of Chickledars Lascars &c.a to clean the Arms &c.a.—

From Deputy Masters Attendant requesting that his Bills for Water Casks &c.a supplied for the Expedition against Trincomale may be discharged.—

Ordered that the Bill be paid.—

From Lieutenant Tickburne enclosing a Contingent Bill for certain Expenses incurred by him in marching a Detachment of the 5th Battalion from Timericotah to Guntoor.—

From Commandant at Ryacottah advising of the arrival there, of two Vackeels from Tippoo Sultaun, who are on their road to Madras Translate of the Sultaun's Letter to himself and a letter to the Governor, enclosed.—

From Mess.rs Roebuck abbot & Co.a enclosing a Bill for 31 Days additional Freight for the Ship Ever.—

From Commandant at Malajaubad sends the Cittwal of that place to Madras and disavows any Knowledge of the greivance complained of by the Bramins of Cottapawkum.—

Dispatched the undermentioned Letters Entered in the WBs Nos. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183.—

To Secretary at Bengal transmitting Copy of Mysore Intelligence.—

To Military Auditor General referring a Bill Hardons Estimates for December.—

To Lieutenant Colonel Geils directing him to

24th. to State at what period of his Defence, the attendance of Captain Read will be required.—

To Colonel Braithwaite — To Commander of the Army informing him that Colonel Geils application for the removal of Captain Clark and Lieutenant Burke from their situations, merely because he accuses them of improper conduct, is utterly inadmissible.—

To Mr. Powney — To Collector at Ramnad enclosing a letter to be forwarded to Colonel Stuart, viâ Manaar.—

To Lieutenant Colonel Baird.— To Colonels Floyd & Wilkins and Majr. Tonnins and Kenworthy.— To Commandant at Tanjore Enclosing a letter for the Rajah.—

To Ditto at Trichinopoly and Pondicherry and to the Residents at Nagore and Cuddalore directing that the Embassadors from the King of Candea may receive the Civility and attention due to their public situations, on their Journey to the Presidency.—

To Colonel Collins — To the President of Colonel Geils, Court Martial advising him that Lieutenant Fireworker Haddon has been ordered to Madras, provided his services at Trincomale can be dispensed with.—

25th. Received and Sent the undermentioned Letters Entered in C.C. Nos. 184 185 186.—

From Colonel Malcolm — From Military Auditor General advising of his having directed the Military Paymaster General to raise two new Heads on his Books viz. "Expedition against the Dutch Settlements" and Dutch "Prisoners."—

From Colonel Geils — From Lieutenant Colonel Geils stating that Captain Reads attendance will be required on Monday the 30th Instant.—

To Captain Read — To Captain A. Read directing him in consequence to proceed to Madras.—

Substance of a Letter from Tippoo Sultaun. — 27th. Received a Letter from Tippoo Sultaun entered in C.C. No. 113 expressing his Concern at the Death of the Nabob Walajah and advising of his having sent two Deputies for the purpose of paying the usual Compliments of Condolence, to His Highness the Amaut ul Omrah.—

A.

Fort St. George 27th November 1795

At a Consultation

Present

The Right Honorable Lord Hobart

Governor — President

Edward Saunders Esq.

and

Ernst William Tallofield Esq.

Friday
27th November 1795

Minutes of last Consultation read and approved.—

The President lays before the Board the following letter received from Bengal on the 17th ultimo.—

To the Right Honorable Lord Hobart

Governor in Council at Fort St. George

My Lord,

From Bengal suggestion for a New arrangiment, in consequence of the Nabobs Death — the Courts orders of the 10th June 95, to be the Guide in respect to the Polygar Districts. —

We have been honored with your letter of the 13th Instant, advising us of the death of His Highness the Nabob of Arcot.—

2nd. The first Consideration which occurs on the event is the Right of Succession in his eldest Son the Nabob Amaut ul Omrah which we find to be acknowledged in its fullest extent by the Treaty concluded with the late Nabob and the Marquis Cornwallis in July 1792.—

3. As the Sentiments of his Lordship on the Subject of that Treaty entirely coincide with our own, and as they suggest

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suggest the most desirable Plan of Arrangement between his Highness and the Company, We think it proper to introduce the following Quotation of them from his Lordships address to the Honorable the Court of Directors under date the 9th July 1792.-

4 "The disadvantage and Danger arising "from the Separation of the internal Government and Manage- "ment of the Revenue of the Country, from the Responsibelety "for its defence is so obvious, that if there had appeared to be the "least chance of obtaining the Nabobs Voluntary acquiescence, I should "without hesitation have been ready to propose to him as the "plan best calculated for promoting his own Interest and "Comfort, and the happiness of the Inhabitants of the Carnatic, that "he should entrust the Company with the entire management "of the Country in addition to the responsibility for its defence, "under an Engagement on their part, after allotting certain "Sums for Public purposes and for the gradual liquidation "of his private Debts, to pay to him regularly a Liberal "Portion of its Revenues for the maintenance of his Family, and "the support of his Dignity, but the Nabobs own disposition, and "the influence of a Number of interested people of a variety of "descriptions with whom he has intercourse, left me no "ground to hope that he could be brought to give his free Consent to an arrangement of that nature, and a regard to Justice and Liberality towards an Old ally as well as to our own reputation in India, equally precluded the most distant idea of making use of any other means than those of perse- =asion which I knew would be ineffectual.-

5 Whether the difficulties stated in the above quotation still exist in a degree to preclude any negotiation for

Fort S.t George 27.th November 1795.

for accomplishing the arrangement pointed out, your Lordship in Council must determine. But if there be any probability of obtaining the Nabobs acquiescence to it, we have only to express our wishes that it may be attempted, and our fullest Conviction of the Acknowledgements which will be due to your Lordship's ability and Address in effecting an Arrangement of so much importance to the prosperity of the Country, the Interests of the Company, and the real Happiness of the Nabob.-

6 The private Debts mentioned by the Marquis Cornwallis must be understood to mean those only which are acknowledged by the Company and the Liquidation of which has the sanction of the Legislature.-

7 The Arrangement if practicable will of course include the Polygar Districts, but as the orders of the Honorable the Court of Directors of the 10.th June last are full and explicit on the subject of those Districts independantly of any arrangement in consequence of his Highness' Death, We have only at present to refer you to them.-

8 This is all that occurs to us as immediately necessary on the subject of your reference, but as a point of secondary Importance, We think it proper also to suggest to your consideration and Judgment the propriety of attempting to prevail upon the Nabob to fix his Residence at Arcot or Trichinopoly.-

We have the honor to be,

Fort William
28.th October 1795

Hon.ble Hon.ble
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servants
Signed J. Shore
Rob.t Abercromby
P. Speke

The

4400 Fort St. George 27th November 1795

The President states that he deemed it necessary upon the receipt of the foregoing letter, to address a letter to the Nabob, of which the following is a Copy. (vide also CC No 113)

To His Highness the Nabob of the Carnatic

&c.a &c.a &c.a &c.a &c.a

May it please your Highness,

President's letter to the Nabob, proposing a new arrangement conformably to the Orders from Bengal and advising of the Court's late Orders relative to the Polygar Countries.

The Letters which I addressed to your Highness, dated the 19th and 23d Ultimo having fully conveyed my sentiments, with respect to the Arrangement which I had the honor to propose to you, as much with a view to promote your permanent Interests, as those of the Company, I should scarcely have thought it necessary to trouble you with any further Communication, within so short a time of the period your Highness has fixed for giving your final Answer, - and more particularly as, from the tenor of your Highness's recent Conversations with me, I am led to entertain, I trust, a well founded Expectation of your acting consistently with the gratitude you owe to the Company, and the Affection you must naturally feel for your people, were it not that I deemed it my Duty to intimate officially the Instructions of the Supreme Government upon the Subject, and to apprize you of orders which I have received respecting the Polygars, from the Court of Directors.

The discussion which has already taken place between us, renders it unnecessary for me to do more at present than

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than to acquaint you, that the Supreme Government, in conformity to the Sentiments of Lord Cornwallis, have instructed me to propose to your Highness, for the purpose of obviating the Disadvantage and Danger which arise from the Separation of the internal Government and management of the Revenue of the Country, from the Res= =ponsibility for its Defence, "that the Company should be intrusted with the entire Management of your Country, in addition to the Responsibility for its Defence, under an Engagement on their part, after allotting certain Sums for public purposes, and for the gradual Liquidation of your private Debts, to pay to you regularly a liberal portion of its Revenue, for the Maintenance and Support of your Dignity."

That such an Arrangement would be the most eligible that could possibly take place, I cannot entertain the faintest doubt, and apprized of the Sentiments of his Majesty's Ministers, as well as of Lord Cornwallis, previous to my leaving England, I should, at an earlier period, have made a proposition to this Effect, had I not been desirous of qualifying what I had to propose, in such a manner as I conceived likely to meet with your Acquiescence and I am confident, your Highness will not be insensible to the attention I have shewn to your Feelings, and my Anxiety to prevent any possible Difference between us, when by the Exercise of your own Judgement you are made to understand the "moderation of the measure I have submitted, and upon which I am still to desire your Decision, in Comparison with that suggested by the Supreme Government, and which indeed in

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Fort S. George 27th November 1795

a general point of view, would be more desirable, but to which I am not sufficiently sanguine to expect your Consent. -

It now remains for me to inform your Highness, that the Court of Directors, struck with that Ruin in which the Polygar Countries must inevitably be involved, by the present divided System of Government, and desirous that their power in India should be felt as a Blessing, and not — operate as a curse upon the people, have resolved upon the abolition of a mode of Administration, pregnant with such Mischievous Consequences and have therefore instructed me, in the first Instance, to apply to your much revered Father, for his Acquiescence in an Arrangement, calculated to attain so desirable an End — at the same time, they express their Apprehensions, from some of his late Letters upon record, that this Acquiescence is more to be desired than expected — and they accordingly direct that, notwithstanding his Refusal, effectual means should be taken, to thwart any endeavours he might make to counteract the Execution of their Orders for the introduction of an Uniform and undivided System of — Government — leaving with your Father the nominal Sovereignty, but taking upon themselves the full and uncontrouled Exercise of all the Functions of Administration — a Measure which, they are satisfied will, under all the Circumstances of the Case, be considered as — disinterested on their part, highly essential to the —

Happiness

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Happiness of thousands, as contributing to the peace and Prosperity of the Country - and therefore ultimately beneficial to the real and permanent Interests of your Father. -

As this Arrangement constitutes a part of that plan, upon which I am to expect your Highness's Determination, I shall postpone adopting any line of Conduct, with respect to the Execution of the Orders in Question, of the Court of Directors, until after the period you have fixed for the Communication of your final Resolution. -

I have the honor to be

Yr.a Hs.a Hs.a

Signed Hobart

Fort S.t George
17.th November 1795

The Board entirely approve the Letter written by his Lordship to the Nabob. -

His Board approves the above Letter

The President lays before the Board the following Letters received from his Highness the Nabob on the 25.th Instant

(vide also C.C. Nos. 114. & 115. -)

Translation of a Letter from His Highness the Nabob Omdat ul Omra Bahader -

To the Right Honorable Lord Hobart -

Governor of Fort S.t George

Dated 24. November 1795

Received D.o D.o D.o

I have had the honor to receive your Lordship's Letter

From the Nabob detailing at length his Sentiments in regard to the Treaty of 1792. and the propositions for a Modification of it. His final Resolution - requests the Demand of the New Cavalry Loan

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Letter may be referred to Bengal and that all business may in future be conducted in writing

Letter of the 20th ultimo, and should have made my acknowledgments earlier, had I not been prevented by a combination of circumstances occasioned by the Death of my ever revered Father, of whom your Lordship is pleased to express the most friendly Sentiments such as are very grateful to me, and such as demand my warmest Thanks. The Rectitude of his conduct and the Sincerity of his Attachments, have often met the Admiration and received the Applause of yours generous and enlightened Nation and he always declared, that it was the first object of his Ambition to be considered by the English, whom he loved, as their faithful friends and Zealous ally. How far he succeeded in his purposes, and how far his actions corresponded with his professions the page of History has faithfully recorded. I had early in life looked up to his conduct as the guide for my own, and I determined to Copy his Virtues, by treading in his footsteps. My Lord, the difficulties that have fallen upon me in these days are not a few on the one hand, the Sickness and death of my honored Father, on the other, the lamentations of his family who amount Men and Women, to near four thousand Persons, then the Arrangement of the Country and at this time, the unexpected requisition of my Friends was a severe blow, such as I could not have expected and consequently, such as I was not prepared to meet. It added anguish to distress and I felt the sharp thorn of affliction penetrate my soul, nor should I have been enabled to bear up against the misery that pressed upon me with so much force, had not a sense of the duty which I owe to the memory of my honored Father, who ever

supported

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Supported the dignity of his Situation, and to the honor of my family, illustrious through a Course of ages - had not the duty that I owe to my own Character as an Ally of the Honorable Company and the British Nation - roused me into exertion, and by the blessing of God, given me the firmness necessary to my Support, upon so trying an occasion - The Subject of your Lordship's Letter, now before me, renews all my Griefs, for, although your Lordship has abated somewhat in the extent of your first requisition, yet I should not act less dishonorable, nor less criminal were I to Comply with it in its present state, than I should have done, had I yielded to it in the first instance; nor should I be the more secure against disgrace and ruin, - on the contrary I should appear in the Eyes of the Surrounding Powers, as a person who, conscious of his own inability to perform the duties of a trust reposed in him, shrinks from the arduous Task, and anxious only to indulge on the lap of Indolence, seeks an Asylum in the bosom of obscurity - I should be considered as degraded by my own Acts, as one, who with ingratitude peculiar to himself, had basely thrown away the inestimable blessings procured for him by the best of friends and men (my Father) and secured to him by the Kings of Hindostan, by the most munificent King of Great Britain and the most generous people on the face of the Earth - and the ..... permit me, my Lord, to crave your attention to the probable Language that would be held on so deplorable an occasion by the Nizam, Tippoo and the Marattas - they would naturally say - "See the Nabob of the Carnatic, "whose ancestors have ever been attached to the English - fought "in their Battles - shared in their adversity, and participated in "their prosperity, he after having been honored with their alliance

Fort St. George 27. November 1793

"during a long period of years, and been guaranteed in his possessions
"by the most solemn act of the State, has at last sunk into oblivion,
"stripped in a moment of his sovereignty and his Country, his
"ancient and hereditary rights, and has nothing left of a prince,
"but the empty sound of the Name".-

Your Lordship, alluding to the death of my honored Father, is pleased to say "that if you could have felt any consolation under the impression of such a loss, it was the reflection that the ruin with which his country was so imminently threatened, by the operations of the Treaty of 1792 might be averted by the adoption of a modification of it by me. Permit me, my Lord, to observe, that the Marquis Cornwallis, whose name I shall ever mention with gratitude and respect, framed that Treaty, after having maturely weighed and duly considered the effect it was intended to produce, and his Lordship possessed such an extensive and accurate knowledge of the resources of my country and the system of its Government and the various objects intended to be embraced by the Treaty, that in digesting it his Lordship's great wisdom, was aided by the best informed and most correct judgement, and as a proof that it was not hastily concluded, I beg leave to observe, that his Lordship, in a Letter to my honored Father dated the 17th July 1792, thus expresses himself "My Friend it is my real desire, in all affairs between your Highness, and the Company, to comply with your Highness' wishes, as far as may be in my power and with this sincere intention I have not neglected nor passed over one single circumstance from the first commencement of the late Treaty. And my Lord,

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on my own mind this conviction is deeply impressed, that the Treaty of 1792 is the shield of my rights, and that all its operations will be to the public good—in this light it was considered by my— honored Father, and the absolute necessity therefore of preserving it inviolable, so much occupied his thoughts and engaged his— attention, in the moments of reflection and retirement, that, in his Will written with his own hand, three or four months before his death, he remarks upon it in the following most— pointed terms "My Son, remember, Consider the Adoration of "the Almighty and his Prophets as the first of your Religious "and Worldly concerns and after that, the King of England, "whose firm ally both Sand you are—and have not— "friendship with any other nation than the English—"

"My Son: In your life, you have seen "much of the Good and bad of the World—may you re= "member God and wisdom.—Don't forget One word of "mine—that is Do not make the deviation of a hair'— "breadth in the late Treaty, which is the remover of all "evils.—If anyone should tell you that he will alter the "Treaty for your Good, do not agree to it."—and, in addition to this injunction of my honored parent, the Marquis— Cornwallis, in a letter to which I have already alluded in my address to your Lordship of the 22d. Ultimo, required of me a sacred promise, that I would not allow my Father to break the Treaty in his life time, and that I would not break it myself after his demise—The duty I owe to the memory of my Father is too obvious to require any explanation:— to the Marquis Cornwallis I am bound

bound by the strongest ties of gratitude, strengthened by those of Friendship - The liberality of his Lordships mind raised him above prejudice and in considering the Interest of my family contrasted with that of the Company, he made his decision upon the strict principles of impartiality and Justice - Iowe to his Lordship every thing that I hold dear in life, and under all the circumstances I have stated, I am satisfied that your Lordship will, in your own breast, not only commend me for adhering to the Treaty, but that you will also admit, that it would be both dishonorable and ungrateful in me, were I to act otherwise - and I sincerely declare to your Lordship, that I do not know that the operations of the Treaty are, or that they possibly can be, injurious to my Country. -

Your Lordship, enlarging on this subject, is pleased to say - "that the distresses of the Carnatic evidently proceed from the perversion of the System which has - rendered the provisions of the Treaty wisely intended for the benefit of the Country extremely injurious," - but how, or in what manner, I am yet to learn, - and I beg to assure - your Lordship, upon my honor, that I do not know of any distress that has arisen in the Country, in consequence of the Treaty, or subsequent to the conclusion of it, on the Contrary, I know that it has been continually emerging from the effects of the misfortunes it had sustained by War, and that it is, at this moment, in an - increasing state of prosperity, and by the blessing of God and

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and the assistance of my Friends, I am hopeful the time is not far off when it will once more resume its former — splendour and enjoy that Tranquility and happiness, of which it has long been deprived by the depredations and — cruelty of a profligate and savage Enemy, and to that end all my endeavours shall be Constantly and indefatigably exerted. I will give every encouragement to labour and — industry and severely punish every species of oppression and injustice. With those sentiments and with such a — disposition, and by a rigid adherence to the Treaty of 1792, I am confident that I shall acquire the approbation of my Friends the Company, and of the whole World. and that your Lordship may be satisfied that no perversion of my Country, will, in future, have any effect. But, my Lord, I really do not comprehend what perversion of System — your Lordship alludes to. If your Lordship means the Government of the Country, permit me to say that, to the best of my knowledge, that Government has been lenient and just, and that it has secured to the Ryots all their — privileges and rights, as established under the first mogul Government. —

There may be ill disposed persons in all Governments, and yet the System cannot be said to have been perverted — nor is it in the Power of the prince to — chuse men who are free from imperfections. all he can do, is, to procure the best according to his information and — Judgment and punish those who, by their conduct, shew themselves

themselves unworthy of the Situation in which they had been placed. The Marquis Cornwallis in his Letter to my father of the 17th July 1793 and already refered to gave him this advice "In conducting the affairs of your Country you will employ Amils of experience and Integrity in the Collections of your Revenues cause justice to be done to your Ryots and properly regulate the affairs of your Family" and so far as my influence would extend during the life time of my Father this advice was followed and now that it has pleased Providence to give the sole power to myself I shall religiously adhere to it in every particular.—

The Marquis Cornwallis informed himself minutely of the System of Government that prevailed in the Carnatic and found it to be as I have stated it to your Lordship and his Lordship's comprehensive mind, stored with Local knowledge, suggested the wisest mode that could possibly be adopted to give it the greatest efficacy, and render it the most beneficial to the public and to my people and in consequence the Treaty of 1792 was concluded. If then, my Lord, the System had really been perverted, which I have, I hope, shewn to your Lordship is not the case,— The evil would have been confined to the measure, it never could have extended to the provisions of the Treaty, so as to render them extremely injurious to the Country. The sheep may stray from the shepherd, whose attention was employed solely to provide for their safety, and run into the haunts of wolves and Tygers, but the act of the flock in running into danger cannot convert the

good

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good intentions of the shepherd into operations extremely injurious to them.-

After all, my Lord, I may have mistaken your Lordship's meaning, but, whatever it may be, — admitting that my Country was in a distressed state — and threatned with ruin by the perversion of system and the operations of the Treaty, I do not see how the — execution of a New Treaty could either afford greater — advantages to my Country, or more satisfaction to myself, than are secured by the present Treaty. I now, by the blessing of God, hold the possession of the Carnatic, as its Sovereign, by the Phirmans of the Mogul King and the King of England, guaranteed by the Treaty of 1792. and agreeably to your Lordships' propositions, I should still indeed be a Sovereign, but, without a Country, which, in my very humble opinion, is a contradiction in terms — The Prince who divests himself or is divested of his dominions becomes a private person, and as he must exist some where, in whatever Country he may reside, he must be considered as a private person, and subject to its' Laws so that I — should be reduced to the situation of a subject in my own Territories, and a new Government would be introduced in my country, less mild than my own - It would — place my people under the Management of Collectors, Chosen from amongst the Servants of the Company - and whilst they would be more oppressed, the revenues would of course be ultimately less productive.

Bush,

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But, lest it may be said that I have assumed facts that cannot be supported, allow me to appeal to your Lordship as a man of honor, and to ask you whether in your Tour to the Southward last year, you did not find the Countries you passed through, belonging to me, in a much more flourishing state, than the Company's Jaghire. If I have not been misinformed, you expressed yourself to that effect upon your return to the Presidency. That the Revenue department of my Government is better regulated than that of the Company's, will appear from their own records. During the time that my Father held the Jaghire, he paid into their Treasury annually four Lacks of Pagodas, and it is only very lately that, under their Government, it has produced more than one fourth of that Sum — and when, at the periods of the Assignment and Assumption of my Country, the Servants of the Company held the entire Management the revenues fell far short of those that had been collected when the Management remained with the Circar — and those Circumstances which prove my management to be better than that of the Company's, prove also that my Government is milder than theirs — The Revenue of a Country is, in some measure, in proportion to the industry of the People, and the industry of the People is in proportion to the Happiness they possess — If therefore the Revenues of a Country are greater, under one Government, than another, it is to be ascribed to the greater mildness of the one than the other, and I can safely affirm, My Lord, that my people have always been happier

under

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under any own Government, than under that of the —
Company's, and every person in the Settlement, European —
Gentlemen and others, who are conversant in the subject
will bear Testimony to the Truth I have advanced. —

I have a proper sense of the motive, which,
as Your Lordship is pleased to say, prevailed with you to
defer the measure now proposed to me to remain suspended
during the life time of my honored Father, and I am free
to confess that a Contest with the Company's Government,
regarding objects of such high importance, and —
connected with consequences so painful to the feelings —
even the relation of them would have embittered his
latter days, but I can assure your Lordship, that my ever honored
Father with all "the inflexibility and blind obstinacy —
"naturally attendant on an advanced period of life" could
not have been more tenacious of his Rights, nor more —
determined in support of them, than I am myself. —

It is with much Satisfaction I peruse —
that part of your Lordships Letter which has reference to the
Sentiments expressed in my Letter of the 16. Ultimo —
regarding the friendship and support I have received from
the Honorable Company. I am thoroughly sensible of the
many favors they have conferred on me, and it will
be my study, as it is my sincerest wish to deserve a
Continuation of their friendship and I do not know
any means by which I am so likely to succeed, than
by a Strict observance of every part of the Treaty

Concluded

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concluded with the Marquis Cornwallis. Their Chief Governor one who achieved the most glorious acts in the Cabinet and in the field, and by his integrity and Probity restored and established the british faith in India. The Marquis Cornwallis the illustrious friend of my Family and of Justice..

and this Circumstance, to which I might add a variety of others, will I hope convince your Lordship that, although I cannot accede to your propositions, I was perfectly sincere when I professed a personal attachment to your Lordship and also hope, my Lord, that a difference in opinion, on public affairs, may exist, without any injury to private Friendship and I beg your Lordship will believe, that you will ever find me sincere and honorable in all my dealings as well in my public Character as in private life, and that I shall always be extremely happy whenever your Lordship may be pleased to favor me with your advice particularly on those occasions wherein my Credit and Comfort, the Interests of my Country, my honor, and the welfare of my friends the Company may be equally Concerned..

your Lordship is pleased to say, that the only Modifications of the Treaty of 1792 now required are — that the Company should collect that revenue which is already appropriated for my contribution towards the Military establishments, and that my Country — should cease to be in the hands of Usurers and extortioners

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extortioners. Permit me to suggest that those modifications of which your Lordship speaks so lightly strike at the very roots of my — character honor and dignity as Sovereign of the Carnatic — that dignity and that Character which my Friends the Company, in their numerous Letters to your Presidency, have declared themselves anxious and — determined to support and which it is my duty to support and my Friends the Company have enabled me to do so by the Treaty of 1792. In that Treaty my Lord, my Credit and Comfort, the Interest of my Country and the welfare of my Friends the Company were — equally and impartially considered, and in consequence of Certain acts and things to be done and performed on my part, as — specified in the Treaty, they on their part became the guarantees of my rights as they were then established. -

As to usurers and Extortioners I assure your — Lordship, that such Locusts do not infest the Carnatic, and therefore they have not the means of exercising and of Course cannot abuse any power in my Country, as your Lordship has supposed. - my Country is in my own Hands and managed by my own Servants, and as it is they who collect my Revenues, it is they only who are invested with Power — if they should, as any time, abuse that power, they well know that punishment, proportioned to their Crime, would certainly and speedily — follow. It is true that Extortioners once deprived my father of the means of paying his Kists, - they were men in — power and they exercised their Authority - but they existed before, not since, the Treaty. If then, my Lord, you should have heard, that my Country is in the hands and under the management of Usurers and Extortioners, and that therefore it

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is not so and I hope that the declarations I have made on those points, and I assert that they are founded in truth, will relieve your Lordships mind of every anxiety as to the possible situation of my Country and the state of its Revenues when, in the event of a War, an event which I pray God may be very far off, it will fall under the Management of my friends the Company and that your Lordship will receive satisfaction in learning that the rigid Economy I shall observe, and the rules and regulations I have laid down for the Management of my Country, will ensure all that security to its welfare that your Lordship is so desirous to see established - and whilst I return my thanks for your friendly intentions towards me, your Lordship will have perceived that it does not require any strong Arguments to induce me to act upon the most honorable principles and the strict rules of rectitude, in order at once to preserve my own Dignity and make my people happy.-

I do not know against whom your Lordship means to guard me, when you advise me to consult my own welfare, before I admit the Counsel of my Enemies or rather my pretended Friends to prevail - The man who pretends to be my Friend, and is not so in reality, must be the worst of my Enemies, and I should be very much obliged to your Lordship, if you would give me such information as may be necessary to lead me to the knowledge of Men, who act under such disguise:

not

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not that I have any alarm in my breast from them, as my only friends are the Almighty and Lord Cornwallis's Treaty and his letters regarding it - In those, I find the most salutary advice they are my guides, and the guides of my Durbar, and so long as I continue to act according to such advice, and follow the Direction of such guides, I cannot fall into Errors, and I believe your Lordship will be of the same opinion.-

Your Lordship is pleased to say that the Arrangement proposed has for its object the remedy of the abuses and depredations in the Southern Countries which have been your Lordship observes, a Subject of Complaint on the part of my Father and myself, but I submit to your Lordship, that the Treaty amply provides that remedy, and that it is in your Lordships hands, without the necessity of resorting to any new arrangement and if the aid had been given to my Father, which he often solicited of the Governor and Council of Madras, in vain, if the persons who committed abuses and depredations had been brought to exemplary punishment for their mis-conduct, your Lordship would not have had occasion, at this time, to speak on the subject Their Malpractices would longere this have been at an end, and they might have become the same orderly peaceable Subjects as their neighbours, whom they ill treated and molested.-

Your Lordship is pleased to say, that after providing for the discharge of the sum of £35000 in the first Article of your proposed Arrangement, the surplus shall revert to me, But my Lord, I do not see how it is possible that for my friends the Company should be benefited by such arrangement I have already shewn that my Country, under

under my own management, is more productive than under that
of the Companys, and therefore any alteration that could be made
would serve only to enrich Collectors. In the present State of things.
I hold my own Country secured to me by Lord Cornwallis's Treaty
I have myself the management of it, and it is but reasonable to
suppose, that every person will be more attentive to his own —
Possessions, to render them productive and prosperous, than Strangers
I pay to my friends the Company the said Sum of £,3500 and
as I have the management of the Country which is held the —
Security for the payment of that Sum, whatever surplus may arise,
I of course receive it your Lordship proceeds to the second object of
the proposed Arrangement. which, your Lordship speaks of merely
as a Matter of form. your Lordship will forgive me if my —
Sentiments should differ very widely from those of your Lordship,
on that head. If I were to publish the Supremacy of the —
Companys Authority in the Polygar Countries, as your Lordship
proposes, I do not see how my right of Sovereignty, over those
Countries, could, as your Lordship suggests, be fully or at all
acknowledged. nor do I see, my Lord, how the publishing
of such Supremacy would tend more to the preservation of Order
and the lives and property of the Inhabitants, than the present —
System. I have already submitted to your Lordship, that the
Company have, by the late Treaty, the Collection of the Revenues
and the power of punishing delinquents in the Pollagars Countries,
and that they have exerted that power is within the Knowledge
of your Lordship, as instances have occurred during your
Lordship's Government. Ramalingam, Lukee Naik and
the Pelny man have all been dispossessed of their
Governments

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Governments, in the Course of a few months, and are now under — a
Gaurds of the Company's Soldiery and from hence a deduction may
be made, that the Poligars, under the management of my freinds
the Company, Commit abuses and depredations, in the same —
manner, and that the lives and property of the Inhabitants are
as insecure, as, when their Countries were in the hands of my —
father and under his sole management and the only difference
is, that the Company can take stronger measures against them
than they would permit my father to pursue.—

Your Lordship is pleased to speak of the —
provision in the proposed Arrangement respecting the liquidation
of the advance made by the Company as a proof of your anxiety
to accommodate me but my Lord, whatever may have been
your Lordship's intentions towards me, I do not perceive, upon
what ground my freinds the Company can in justice, make
any demand of me, upon Account of that advance your —
Lordship will find that my honored Father in a Letter to
Sir Archibald Campbell dated the 17th November 1786, so far
from consenting to the mode which the Company thought
proper to adopt in the business that he therein points out certain
claims that appear in what is called the new Cavalry debt as
properly to be placed on the same footing as the Cavalry debt and
that the Claimants should participate in the fund established
for the payment of the Creditors at large but my father never
consented to any seperate Arrangement for those claimants,
on the contrary he declared his inability in the following
words "The sum I have agreed to pay to the Company —
yearly is so great, that I cannot pay any attention to
claims

claims not already funded however just. But as it is my wish to do what is in my power for such Creditors, and that I may be freed from their solicitations and direct my sole attention to the reflourishing of my Country, I am ready to agree to an immediate Arrangement of the whole. And in another Letter addressed by my Father to Sir Charles Oakeley Dated the 6.th of October 1792 he says, 'I have to inform you that the Loan was never declared by me, nor received my sanction to its being paid by the Company on my account, I cannot admit of the above sum which you say has been paid to the Creditors of the New Cavalry Loan, or of any other sums that may be paid to them hereafter being carried to the debit of my Account.'

If then, my Lord, the Honorable Company have thought fit to discharge the debt in question, by any other mode than that which was adopted for the payment of my Creditors at Large, they surely, in reason and in justice, ought to defer any demand of repayment, until my funded debts shall have been fully satisfied, and that I am enabled to make the necessary provision for the purpose, and my Lord the enclosed List contains claims to a considerable amount that are embraced in the Account furnished by your Lordship, that never received the sanction of my Father, and it must appear to your Lordship that the Company could not have any right to adjust my fathers debts, otherwise than expressed in their Orders of 1784 which were given under the idea that they were conformable to my fathers wishes. And, my Lord, it is impossible at present that I should make any further Arrangement for

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for the payment of my father's debts, however desirous I may be to see the whole of them discharged, unless I were to heap upon my Ryots a Load, that they would be unable to bear. but - my Lord, whatever may be my distress, my Ryots shall never feel it - I will do all that in my power lies, to assist them, to enable them to enjoy the comforts of life - to render them happy in the perfect security of their Property, - but, never, never will I do any act that may tend to convey distress to themselves - and families or that may give them just cause of Murmur. - Sir John Shore and your Lordship are Men of Honor and justice. I have stated all the circumstances relating to this - Subject for your Lordship's information your Lordship will be pleased to make such representation to Sir John Shore on this head, as myself, my Ryotts and Country may be able to sustain this burden - and when you receive an answer on the Subject, be pleased to communicate the same to me with your Lordship's own opinion - I will then, inform your Lordship, in what manner it will be in my - power consistently with the exigencies of my affairs, to pay this money.

In regard to the favours I have received from the Company give me leave to assure your Lordship that I have a very proper sense of them, and hope it cannot be deemed inconsistent with that assurance, if I should not agree with your Lordship that the measures you have suggested correspond with the Treaty of 1792 - as I cannot conceive that measures, diametrically opposite to each other in their nature, can possibly operate to one and

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the same end, to the promotion of one and the same purpose. The Treaty of 1792 secures to me my hereditary Sovereign rights and all the dignity of my Ancestors and the measures proposed by your Lordship divest me of those rights, and leave me a mere Cypher.—

As to the Customs of India to apply them to the present case would make it necessary to go into long discussions, that would be ungrateful to me and very disagreeable to your Lordship, although I am convinced that the conclusion to be drawn from such premises, would not aid your Lordship's argument as your Lordship has considered those customs, it would be necessary to reverse the order of things before they could possibly be adopted as a precedent your Lordship is pleased to say "with regard to the Customs of India, I could quote Scindiahs having assigned a large Proportion of his Territory to Mr. Debeigne, for the purpose of supporting an Army for the defence of his Dominions and a more recent instance of the same kind in the Soubahdar of the Decans having made a similar assignment to M. Raymond, on the very confines of your Territories." Mr. Debeigne and M. Raymond are their respective servants, and if either of them should incur the displeasure of his master, he would be immediately dismissed from this situation and punished at discretion, and the Territory assigned would either be assumed by the prince or transferred to some other person and Jaghiredars My Lord are nearly in the same situation, and hold their Jaghires by nearly the same Tenor with Mr. Debeigne and Mr. Raymond, and

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when I reflect upon the Argument as urged by your Lordship in all its relative branches. I thank God that they are not applicable to the relative situation of my friends the Company with me your Lordship concludes with the following remark "It would be however idle to suppose that your Highness's situation with the English Nation is not perfectly understood, or that it is not a matter of positive notoriety what that situation would be, unsupported by the British Government." The British Government, my Lord I respect and venerate and I love and admire the English Nation. They are the most generous People and they live under the happiest Government and I boast the high honor and supreme Happiness of being reckoned Amongst the Number of the allies of the English Nation and they never had one more sincere or more faithful than myself. I am their ally, closely connected by Circumstances and Situation, and united to them by the ties of regard and Affection and that is, I hope, what your Lordship means, when you say that my Situation with the English Nation is perfectly understood" and taking this as granted, I shall not trouble your Lordship with my Ideas of what my Situation would be, unsupported by the British Government, ~~The British Government~~ will support me I know they will support the rights of their allies, and ever regard their Treaties as sacred and, in that knowledge, I am both perfectly secure, and fully satisfied When Tippoo invaded the Territories of the Rajah of Travancore, from whom the Company has not derived those advantages that they have derived from me, and with whom they are scarcely connected, the Army immediately took the Field to avenge his wrongs, and is there that difference between the Rajah of Travancore and me, that my friends the Company should plunge into a War and risk much to preserve his Territories

Territories, and, without any Just cause, and in opposition to a Treaty recently concluded, endeavour to take mine from me? It is inconsistent with their Friendship, with their professions of support- contrary to their honor, and I am sure very foreign to their Intentions- I know their liberality- and I can safely rest on their Justice.-

I am always ready to acknowledge every personal obligation that I may be under to my Friends the Company and I am and shall be at all times ready to convince them of my attachment to their Interest and my Zeal in every thing in which their prosperity may be concerned, and my sincerity must be indubitable, as I consider the Interest of the Company and my own Interest as one and the same.-

Your Lordship is pleased to signify that I ascended the Musnud without any Engagement to the Company- but, if your Lordship will have the goodness to advert to the Treaty, it will be evident to your Lordship's mind that I ascended it under Engagements to the Company, and that those Engagements are set forth in the Treaty to which I am, and by which I am declared to be, a party- I ascended the Musnud in my own right, as the Heir and lawful Successor of my Father, and that right is guaranteed by that Treaty.-

I am sorry that your Lordship could for a moment suppose, that the Letter with which his majesty of Great Britain was graciously pleased to honor my Father might have escaped my recollection- His majesty and his Royal Grand father of their abundant goodness have bestowed upon my family the strongest marks of their Royal favor, and I owe to His majesty more than words can express, more than the liveliest gratitude can suggest- and therefore, my Lord, before I can forget his Majesty's Letters and

his

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his Majestys benevolence, kindness and indulgence, I must cease to [illegible] But, as I do not know my Lord how you intend to apply the Royal Favor to the Subject of your Lordship's Letter, I can only say that his Majesty is the most August amongst — Monarchs and that his Justice is equal to his Power. —

Having thus fully replied to every part of your Lordships Letter, I shall address myself to your Feelings as a man — Do you not think it is a severity in the extreme my Lord, that at the moment I became the Sovereign of the — Carnatic, I should be required to relinquish the Dignity and all the Rights attached to it Princes like private individuals suffer the vicissitudes of Fortune, and who can resist the — decrees of Fate, but all men rise upon the wings of Hope and soar above misfortune — The pleasing prospect opens to their view, and they look forward to future happiness as a compensation for present misery — I have my Lord studied in the School of Adversity and during a long series of time, I have drank of the Cup of Sorrow, and Heaven in ordaining that I should succeed my honored and ever to be revered Parent afforded me this consolation that I should administer to the wants of the unfortunate, give happiness to those who are committed to my Care and guard and protect them against injury, — injustice and oppression and to deprive me of this consolation would be to deprive me of every thing that is desireable in Life. — I have only to add, my Lord, that as mistakes may arise on verbal communications, and as I am desirous to avoid all manner of misunderstanding — because it is my wish to live in friendship with your Lordship, I beg and entreat that, on all subjects on which your Lordship will be pleased to honor me you will be so good to do it in writing — and as it may happen that I may not have expressed

myself

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myself to the Satisfaction of your Lordship in my answer to the propositi-
ons you have been pleased to make regarding a Modification of
the Treaty of 1792, I earnestly beg that my Letter and every matter
connected with it may be forwarded to the Governor General in
Council and to England. — What can I say more? —

A true Translation

I Signed A. Falconar

Pr. Sd

List of Claims included in the new Cavalry loan but which were not recommended
by the Court of Directors nor sanctioned by the Nabob. —

Colonel Bruce One Bond dated 1.st August 1780 @ 12 ℔ Cent ℔ Annum . . .	5704.27.40.
Major Davidson 7 Bonds dated 1. June 1782 @ 6 ℔ Cent ℔ Annum . . .	35,282.27.65
Major Stevenson 1 Bond dated 15.th August 1781 at 12 ℔ Cent ℔ Annum . . .	5362.23.68
Captain Macalister 3 Bonds dated 15 August 1781 at 12 ℔ Cent ℔ Annum —	17004.27.23.
William Petrie and Alexander Brodie 2 Bonds dated 26.th November 1786 at 12 ℔ Cent ℔ Annum . . .	69,265.35.66.
Colonel Manuel Martinz 5 Bonds dated 1.st January 1786 at 12 ℔ Cent ℔ Annum . . .	38,000. " "
Pagodas . . .	1,70,620.16.22.

NB The above Bonds were certified by the Circar Agents
to the Committee appointed by the Company to Investigate
the Circars Debts excepting 1 Bond to Messrs.
William Petrie and Alexander Brodie bearing
date the 26.th November 1786. —

Translation

4427

Fort St. George 27th November 1795

Translation of a Letter from His Highness the Nabob
Omdat ul Omrah Bahader
To the Right Honorable Lord Hobart
Governor of Fort St. George

Dated 24th November 1795

received 25th Do . . . Do

From the Nabob on the subject of the late Instructions from Bengal and from England respecting the Polegars repeats his resolution to abide by the Treaty.

I have received your Lordship's Letter of the 17th Instant, and as its objects are fully embraced by my Letter of this day's date, I at first thought that it would be unnecessary to trouble your Lordship with a separate Answer to it, but, lest I should err in point of form, I now address your Lordship on that subject.

I really do not know what your Lordship alludes to, when you say "from the tenor of your Highness's recent conversations with me, I am led to entertain I trust a well founded expectation of your acting consistently with the gratitude you owe to the Company and the affection you must naturally feel for your People," as I believe my conversations have been invariably the same on those heads they are always uppermost in my thoughts, and I can have but one sentiment regarding them. I have constantly expressed the warmest attachment to my friends the Company and have constantly felt and expressed the sincerest affection for my People. I live but in their Happiness.

I did not imagine that the Supreme Government of Bengal could have given the Instructions your Lordship has communicated, and I am

at

Fort S. George 27th Nover 5

I'm at a loss to know how those Instructions could have been framed upon the sentiments of Lord Cornwallis, sentiments that were given, if I am not mistaken, about the time that the Government of Madras assumed the Management of my Country, at a time, when the Company had no security in the event of a failure on the part of the Circar in the payment of the Kists. but some years afterwards his Lordship concluded that Treaty which I consider as the greatest Jewel in my possession as it gives — Security to all I posses and, my Lord, his Lordship would not negociate that Treaty, until every thing was left to his — entire disposal as to the Arrangements to be made and — Knowing his Lordships' honor and Integrity, his wishes were Complied with, with chearfulness and confidence the sentiments therefore that were, at the time mentioned, expressed by the illustrious Marquis Cornwallis, were done away by the Treaty, which contains his best sentiments after the — maturest deliberation. —

Your Lordship is pleased to say that a part of the Bengal Instructions are "that the Company should be intrusted with the entire Management of my Country in addition to the Responsibility for its defence." The Company my Lord, have also the responsibility of defending the Tanjore Country and yet they have not made any requisition to be intrusted with the entire management of that district and is it consistent with Reason or Justice, that the Rajah of Tanjore, who has ever been considered as a Vassal of the Carnatic, should be maintained and supported in all and much more than his rights, and that I, the Sovereign of the Carnatic, should be

divested

Fort St. George 27th November 1795

divested at once of my Country and my dignity - Permit me to entreat that you will have the goodness to consult the Records of the — Company and the page of History, and it will then be apparent to your Lordship, who has been the most faithful to the Company, who has suffered most in their Cause and contributed most to their prosperity - But my Lord, I have that exalted opinion of Sir John Shore and the Members of the Bengal Government, their honor and Justice and their high regard and respect for a Treaty solemnly concluded, that whenever they are — convinced of the rectitude of my intentions, and the purity of my conduct and the plans I have lain down and the regulations I have framed for the Government of my Country with a view to the security and happiness of my People, I am — satisfied that I shall meet with their friendly and most — strenuous support. -

The attention your Lordship has shewn to my Feelings, my feelings are alive to and I sincerely — hope, My Lord, that all difference between us will be — prevented, as my grand object is to live in harmony and freindship with all mankind - and particularly with your Lordship. -

your Lordship is pleased to say that the Court of Directors struck with that ruin in which the Polagar — Countries must inevitably be involved by the present divided system of Government, and desirous that their Government in India should be felt as a blessing, not operate as a curse upon the people, have resolved upon the abolition of a mode of administration fraught with such mischievous consequences On the subject of the Polagars, I have already my Lord — troubled you with my thoughts, in a detail of some length - and I have not much more to add at present, therefore, I shall

Fort S. George 27th November 1795

shall only inform your Lordships, that the Treaty of 1792 is, and shall be whilst I exist, my guide, and that I will not deviate from it one hair's breadth.

What can I write more?

A true translation

Signed A. Falconar

Pr. J.

President's minute in Circulation

25th November 1795

President's Minute upon the foregoing Letter from the Nabob.

The perusal of the Nabob's Letter of the 24th Instant, suggests no other observation, except that it is evidently the production of an European who has prevailed upon his Highness to deny facts with respect to the Usurious Loans and Duncahs upon his Country as notorious at Madras, as the rising of the Sun. Facts, which during his Father's Life-Time, the Amdet ul Omrah frequently acknowledged to Lord Hobart, upon his representation of their injurious effects - but said - his Father would not advance the Kists from his Treasury. -

His Highness has also been prevailed upon to pledge himself, under every impression of gratitude and attachment to the Company, to concede nothing which he may conceive it in his power to withhold, altho' the Security of the British Possessions, and the Interests of the Carnatic should be the Sacrifice to his Tenacity - and by desiring that all Business should in future be transacted in writing, he has disclosed his intention of throwing himself completely into the hands of those interested and designing men, who are the bane of the British Government

Fort S.t George 27.th November 1795

Government in India and who will involve his Highness and his Country, in the most inextricable difficulties. -

The second letter from his Highness of the 24.th Instant, needs no further remark. - Hobart

Read the following letter from Bengal. -

To the Right Honorable Lord Hobart

Governor in Council at Fort S.t George

My Lord,

From Bengal stating the reinforcements ordered from the Malabar Coast; for the Columbo expedition the application proposed, will be made to the Rajah of Travancore orders respecting the Treaty with Candia. the Commissions for the Count De Meuron and his Brothers will be sent. -

We have received your Letters of the 27.th and 31.st Ultimo, by Express and took immediate measures for procuring the Tonnage required for the intended Expedition against Columbo, which we trust will be ready by the time pointed out. -

2 In consequence of the Surrender of Cochin of which we received notice from the Commanding Officer, Major Petrie on the night of the 11.th Instant, we have further resolved that His Majesty's 77.th Regiment, one Battalion of native Infantry, one Company of Artillery, and two Companies of Lascars shall be ordered from Malabar to cooperate with your Troops to be employed against Columbo, and that another Battalion of native Infantry shall be ordered from Bombay on this Service. -

3 That no time may be lost we have desired the Governor in Council of Bombay to send immediately the Battalion of Sepoys from thence to Cochin as well as Tonnage for the 77.th Regiment, and the rest of the Troops abovementioned with provisions for the whole for

Fort St. George 27th November 1795

for four Months, to be all held in readiness at Cochin, till the receipt of orders from your Lordships in Council, in consequence of the arrangement that may be concerted with the Commander of his Majestys Squadron for the attack of Columbo.—

4 We have also instructed the Supravisor and Commanding Officer in Malabar, to supply any practicable addition to your field and battering Train, which you may find it necessary to require from them on the proposed Expedition.—

5 We cannot on this occasion, but express our concern at your being deprived of the assistance, Protection and cooperation of Commodore Rainiers Squadron in the important Service in contemplation.—

6 We have only to add, on your suggestion of an application to the Rajah of Travancore for a Garrison for Palamcotah and Madura, whilst our Troops are employed on Ceylon, that there could be no objection to your addressing the Rajah to this Effect, which the Governor General will also do, and from the friendly terms subsisting between him and the Company we have little doubt that he will readily furnish the aid desired from him if practicable without danger to his own dominions. At the same time we conclude it is not your intention to withdraw the whole of the Companys Troops from

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Fort S.t George 27.th November 1795

Palamcotah.-

7 The Proposed Treaty with the King of Candia, and the papers you have transmitted to us on the Subject of it, involving many considerations of the most important nature we must postpone, for the present any Specifick communication of our Sentiments upon them. But we propose to write you fully on this Subject with the least possible delay, and in the mean time request that no engagement with the King of Candia may be concluded or ratified by your Lordship in Council until the receipt of our farther sentiments.-

8 We are happy in knowing that the Troops of Meuron has been transferred to the British Service, and request you to give intimation to the Count de Meuron that the Brevet Commissions mentioned in the Letter from His Majestys Secretary of State will be immediately forwarded for him, and his Brother by the Commander in Chief.-

We have the honor to be

Fort William
13.th December 1795

Sir &c.a &c.a
J. Shore
Robert Abercromby
P. Speke
Wm Cowper

Ordered that the receipt of the foregoing letter be acknowledged.- The Order thereon

4434 Fort St. George 27th November 1795

The President lays before the Board the following Extract of a letter from Lieutenant Ridge, Commanding at Rampore, to the Town Major of Fort St. George, -

Extract of a letter from Lieutenant Ridge Commanding at Rampore to the Town Major of Fort St. George - 25th November 1795

From Lieutenant Ridge, to the Town Major with information of orders lately sent by the Nabob to the Rajahs of Calastry and Vencatagherry gone to Bomrauze.

"The Nabob has very lately sent Orders to all the tributary Rajahs and Polygars in this quarter the Vencatagherry, Bomrauze, Calastry &c. &c. to hold themselves in readiness to assemble in the Vicinity of Arcot at the shortest notice with the whole of their troops guns &c. This in fact may be for no other purpose than Agreeable to custom, to renew to him for his succeeding to the musnud of his father, their fealty and allegiance, Accompanied with the usual Nezzer on such occasions But as there is a possibility, however Improbable, of its being for some other Intention, It occurred to me, there could no harm result, from making you acquainted with the Circumstance, as you must be fully informed with matters at Madras, and in this, you will of course, act agreeable to your own direction and Judgment, either to make his Lordship acquainted with it, or not, as it may appear to you necessary."

In consequence of the intelligence received from Lieutenant Ridge, the President wrote the following letter to the Rajahs of Vencatagherry and Calastry and to Bomrauze - (entered also in C.C. No. 116.)

Circular

4435

Fort St. George 27th November 1795.

Circular to the Rajahs of Vencatgherry and Calastry and to Bomrauze

To the Rajahs of Calastry and Vencatagherry and to Bomrauze Commanding them to obey no order they may have received from the Nabob for assembling with their Troops and Guns at Arcot nor any other in future.-

Having received information that orders have lately been sent to you by his Highness the Nabob to hold yourself in readiness to assemble in the Vicinity of Arcot at the shortest Notice with the whole of your Troops and Guns.-

I do therefore positively direct you to obey no such order and that you will consider yourself in future as bound to receive no directions whatsoever with respect to your conduct, except through the Channel of the Company's Government and that you will furnish no Peons, nor make any pecuniary payments whatsoever to his Highness except according to such orders as you may receive from the Governor of Fort St. George. I have made this Communication to you in consequence of recent Commands from the Company, and Expect you to pay the most implicit obedience thereto.-

What more.[2]

Fort St. George
26th November 1795

J. Legrand Hobart

Resolved

4436. Fort St. George 27th November 1795

Resolved that the following letter be written to the Nabob / entered also in C.C. No. 117. /

To His Highness the Nabob of the Carnatic

&c^a &c^a &c^a &c^a &c^a

May it please your Highness.

To the Nabob on the subject of the order lately sent by him to the above Polygars - and desiring he will forbear issuing orders to any of the Polygars in future.-

I had the Honor of informing your Highness in my letter of the 17th instant, that the Honorable Court of Directors had sent orders to this Government to apply to your Revered Father for his acquiescence in an arrange-ment calculated to remove those evils which were occasioned by the present divided System of Govern-ment in the Polygar Countries - but that as this arrangement constituted a part of that plan, upon which I was to expect your Highness's determination, I should postpone adopting any line of Conduct, with respect to the execution of the Orders in question, until after the period you had fixed for the Communication of your final Resolution. -

That Resolution is now before me - and I find by it, that it is your Highness's -

determination

4437 Fort St. George 27th November 1795

determination to make the Treaty of 1792, your Guide whilst you exist, and that you will not deviate from it one Hairs' Breadth. —

I am now to acquaint your Highness — that having received information that orders had lately been sent by you to the Rajahs of Calastry and Vencatagherry and to Bomrauze to hold themselves in readiness to assemble in the Vicinity of Arcot at the shortest notice with the whole of their Troops and Guns, I have positively enjoined them to obey no such order, and I must request of your Highness to forbear in future issuing orders to any of the Polygars referred to in the Treaty of 1792 as I am fully resolved to carry the recent orders of the Court of Directors into immediate Execution. —

For your Highness's information, I enclose a copy of the order sent to the Rajahs of Vencatagherry and Calastry and to Bomrauze. —

I have the honor to be,

&c &c &c

J Lyney Hobart

The

Fort St. George
26th November 1795

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General Letters to England per John Packet, read and approved orders for their despatch.—

The Drafts of the General Letters in the Political and Secret Departments to go by the John Packet, having been read and approved, ordered that they be Copied fair and immediately despatched to Trincomalè Via Manar, with instructions to the Commander of the Packet to proceed to England with all possible expedition.—

" Hobart

" Edw Saunders

" Ed Fendall

R. Maconochie
2d.—