

VOL. 3A

Fort S.t George January 15.th

The Extraordinary Occurrences and Consultations of Thomas Saunders Esq.r President and Governour &c.a Council of Fort S.t George containing their Proceedings and Transactions in the Affairs of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies relating to the Presidency on the Coast of Choromandel.

For

Begun 1.st January 1751.

Fort St George January 1754.

Wood; what should We do then with a River between us and the Country that supplys us, which if it rises, as we have no Boats We must starve or Surrender: The other side of the Calle coon is all theirs. When I attacked them before I had such a large Army, that I could divide my Force, as I did & Taking Posts on both the Rivers, stopped their Provisions and made them Prisoners. all this is now impracticable. I can only pretend to defend the Fort: or if that was supplied, oblige them by some movement of mine, to march. Then indeed I might attack them in spight of their Numbers, it would not be so difficult.

However if you think I ought to attack the Enemy, Give me your Orders and I will attempt it. as to the Succes that I cannot pretend to Answer for.

Our Intelligence as to know we agrees when I hear he has marcht I shall acquaint you. The Compliments of the Season attend ye

I am

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient

and most

Humble Servant

Stringer Lawrence.

Camp Dec. 24th 1753.

To the Honble Tho.s Saunders Esq.r President & Governour &c.a Council of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I wrote you on the 24th Instant with an Account of our Situation. We must again have Recourse to Coptions.

101 / Communication / is again in 102. 103. 104 / interrupted / by 48. 47. 46. / the Pallanoy & Manaroon / 102. 103. 71. 73. 277. / Provisions, Money & Ammunition / quite prevented from 68. 70. to us. / coming to us / by 52. 53. 51. Country / by the

Tanjore

Fort St George January N.54.

Tanjore Country / 52. 51. 53 / the King of Tanjore / will not let come
159. 75. 76. / his Horse / unless 61. 62. 68. 70. / the English with
towards 173. 174. 175. / Deve Cotah /

I beg you will send me Orders. shall a
65. 59. 61. / the English / 70. 68. 3. / march / to them, or howmuch
or not 68. 69. 70. / march / at all. If you could spare some 5. 7. 6
83. / English / for 52. 53. 51. / The King of Tanjore / I could also 70. 69. 6
/ send / some on my side, and 81. 82. 83. 84. / join / them in his
Country with some more, and the rest 62. 61. / of the English
may make / Face against 63. 65 66. 67. / the French / nigh 13. 21. 22
23. / Trichinopoly /.

The Nabob sends you Extracts of Letters
from his Vackeel at the Court of Tanjore, you will see the
purport of them I recommend them seriously to your
Consideration.

If a certain Gentleman had been with
the 10. 11. 50. 51. / the King of Tanjore / this would not I believe
have happened. The Great Man there, is too much 16. 17. 63. 6
/ A Frenchman in his Heart.

I acquainted you in mine of the 23d Inst
a Party of 200 Europeans from the Enemy had march'd to
Gingee, the Party was paraded but countermanded

I have wrote to Mr. Starke not to send
21. 30. 59. 71. / Money / till further Directions. Indeed is a
general Muster of the Troops under my Command.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
and most
Humble Servant

Camp Dec.r 26th
1753. —

Stringer Lawrence.

P.S. Upon second Thoughts I
have not sent you the Musters taken
by Mr. Maunsell for fear they should
fall in the Enemy's Hands as soon as
I hear the Roads are clear they shall be
forwarded.

To

Fort St George January 1754:

The Honble Thos Saunders Esq.r President and
Honble &c.a Council of Fort St George —

Honble Sir & Sirs

This accompanys Dupliate of my Last
dated 25th Instant I am sorry to acquaint you that the Tanjore
Troops are not yet stirrd nor can I form any Judgment
when they design it. The Kings Fears for the Safety of his
Country is not yet to be overcome, Monajee is still out, looking
after the Enemy in the Carricaul Quarter. Another Party
of them from Serringham gave an Engagement to those Troops
the Day before Yesterday, in which engagement they have
taken 120 Horse, 2 Jemmidaars, and about 50 Seapoys
Prisoners, besides many more who were let to Escape with
their Wounds. With this Loss they retird back with Pre-
cipitation and We hear Morarow is not a little cha-
grind at the Misfortune. I am endeavouring all in
my Power to get the Troops to Proceed, and have wrote the
King several Letters to that Purpose but have not yet receiv
any Answers. On the Contrary he is Soliciting the Assist-
ance of our Troops against the Enemy at Carricaul, This the
Major and I have both Evaded as well as we could by desiring
him first to fill Tritchinopoly with Provisions, otherwise we
could not leave that Fort, and therefore recommend Him to
apply to you. He has several Times importuned me to
write to S.r David and Dove Cotah to get him a Force from
thence, and I have been Obligd to tell him that I had
done so, though as well knew the Insignificacy of it I
never did However our Assistance is what he seems much
to Insist on, and I am much afraid will not Avoid
of his Troops Joyning of us before his own Country is clear.
As the Major of them keeps all further Proceedings at a stand
and Time running on so Fast I think it proper to
recommend these Circumstances to your Reflection.
I am Your Honours of the 9th and 13th Inst.
are come to hand, but cannot Inform you of any Success
from

Fort St George January 1754.

from the last Proposals carried by the Jemmidar, No answer have ever been receivd to them. This Lofty Behaviour you must readily Conceive gives little hopes of doing any Thing with him, was I in the way to make further Offers, till our Forces is all Collected and he sees himself surrounded. I therefore think with the Major that my first Business is to see the Tanjore Troops Joyned, for which Purpose I am with his Approbation still attending on them. By Means of the Kings Vackeel We hear that Morarow has offerd to retire if the Nabob will only make Good his Promise he made him of 3 Lack of Rupees at his first coming to his Assistance. This has been Communicated to the Nabob who would readily comply with it, Could he find the Money The half of it in ready Money is thought will be sufficient and the King of Tanjore has proposid to assist with 50,000 So that there only wants the Lack which I am told the Nabob has applyid to you to furnish, but whether Morarow will Continue in this mind till the Receipt of your Answer is I think very precarious - Your Proposal of mortgaging the Whole Country to the King of Tanjore remains still Dormant for Reasons already given which I hope will be Satisfactory. I am in due Form

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Tho: Cooke.

Princathypoly
the 28th Decem 1753.

The Extract referrd to in Major Lawrences Letter of the 26th Decem from the Nabobs Vackeel at the Court of Tanjore are to the same Effect as what Mr Cooke mentions in relation to Morarows Offering to Return to his Country if the Nabob will agree to give him three Lacks

of Rupees half in ready Money and Security for the rest. upon which offer the Nabob says the King of Tanjore will lend half a Lack; and desires us to advance one Lack and be Security for the Remainder.

The Board having considerd the said Proposal are of Opinion that We ought not, and indeed cannot comply with the Nabobs Request as his Debt to the Company is already so large, & daily encreasing without any certainty of its being repaid, besides that Morarow is by no means to be trusted, his whole Aim is the Acquisition of Money and he has given many instances that he will Stick at nothing to gain it, Agreed that the Major and Nabob be Acquainted hereof.

The other parts of Major Lawrences Letter being also considerd it is Agreed that as the detachment of two Hundred Men which the Major before Advisd had been sent from Syringham to Gingy, did not proceed, and the incursions of the Morattas into the Tanjore Country requiring some Assistance from hence, the Reinforcement of Fifty Men before intended to be sent to Camp do proceed to Dove Cotah on board a Sloop now in the the Road which the President acquaints the Board the Owners are willing to let to the Company for that Purpose. Ordered that the said Detachment be embarkd as expeditiously as possible, and that the Master of the Sloop be ordered to touch at Fort St David to take on the Officers for Camp who lately were sent from hence, and land them also at Dove Cotah

Draught of a General Letter to Major Lawrence is now read and approvd as follows

To Stringer Lawrence Esq.r Commander in Chief of all the Companys Forces in India

Sir

Since We wrote you the 30.th Ultimo your Letter of the 21 Inst which We had not then receivd is come to hand as are also those of the 24.th & 26.th

Fort St George January 1754.

We are well perswaded that both Col. L
and your Endeavours would be to promote the Publick Servi
and it is from the Same Inclination that We desird yo
would acquaint us how you proposd to act in case of his d
we should be glad to be informd in this Particular that
every thing may be avoided which might tend to obs
so laudable a Purpose.

We can by no means take upon us to
give you positive Orders to attack the Enemy We do not pre
to Judge of their Strength & Situation sufficiently to do
but whenever We hint any thing of this Sort it is only
consequences of what Advices we receive which are com
municated to you, the better to assist your Judgment.

By our Letter of the 23d you will see
what were our Intentions in regard to a Supply of 69. 8
Military
61. 27. and what prevented, that being removd by yours
Letter of the 26. We desire your Acceptance of 50 Tun 3-14
English
75. 61. 94. which you will receive by the Hands of 157. 173.
Tun Grass
151. 'tis all We can spare at present and with what
in no Danger
Tun 121. 74. 59. can 81. 73. 76 We hope 61. Tunjore 95. 120. will be 183. 167. 174.
Officers
The 113. 123. 151. We in a former Letter wrote you were to go
St David
Camp to 31. 22. 23. were dispatchd a few Days ago to 88. 132. 1
We have seriously considerd the Ex
sent by the Nabob which you mention in your Letter of the 20.
and We are firmly of Opinion the Contents cannot on any
Account be complyd with and even if there were a
Morarow
possibility of doing it 133. 15. 47. cannot be trusted to.

The French Officers for the Reasons
we have before mentiond we think might be better
accomodated any where than in their Present Situati
Fort St Dav
their Company would be very inconvenient at 78. 88.
distinguish
33. however we must do the best We can if the Nabob should
think their Parole may be taken your Interest wit
Him might possibly procure their Release on promis
not to serve in India, untill exchangd not even in
Garrison for that would give an Opportunity to

of Rupees half in ready Money and Security for the rest upon which offer the Nabob says the King of Tanjore will lend half a Lack; and desires us to advance one Lack and be Security for the Remainder.

The Board having considerd the said Proposal are of Opinion that We ought not, and indeed cannot comply with the Nabobs Request as his Debt to the Company is already so large, & daily encreasing without any certainty of its being repaid, besides that Morarow is by no means to be trusted, his whole Aim is the Acquisition of Money and he has given many instances that he will Stick at nothing to gain it; Agreed that the Major and Nabob be acquainted hereof.

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Fort S.t George January y.e 1754.

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We can by no means take upon us to
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but whenever We hint any thing of this Sort it is only o
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Join Join Farrore in no Danger
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Fort St George January 1754.

like Number to take the Field which in reality would be the same Thing as if those were to Act, if the Nabob should not think this advisable 106. 198. 99 - 121. 136. may 68. 81. 108 - at 173. 206. 52. 61. 130. 24 - from 78. 134. 157. will afford a Convenient 68. 157. 161 - 63. 113. 154. to 173. 178. 201.

In case you should find it necessary to march with the whole Army to the Tanjore Country would it be improper to take with you as much 82. 63. 89. as may put 11. 13. 198. 186. the Difficulty will be in finding Warehouse room at 201. 55. 173. till it can be conveyd 83. 115. 88.

Capt.n Schaub has represented to us that when a part of his Detachment at Trinchinopoly deserted to the French he thought it necessary to reward the rest for their Fidelity and to encourage them to continue so by giveing each of them a Gratuity of six Pagodas, which he desires to be allowd & repaid him instead of half Batta in Consideration of the Expences he is obliged to be at which he tells us are large; these are Points on which we should be glad of your Judgment and We have therefore acquainted Capt.n Schaub that We should consult you upon them.

Capt.n Charles Campbell has applyd to us for some Recompense for a Horse he lost in the Action near Syringham which he tells us he was obliged as Adjutant to have Constantly with him in the Field. this falls immediately under your Cognizance & We therefore desire you will inform us whether he is entitled to any Satisfaction and what.

We are

Sir

Your

13

Fort St. George January 1754

Fort St George
the 8th Jan. 1754.

Your most Obedient Servants
Tho. Saunders &c. Council

Letter from Messrs. Talk & Vansittart acquainting us that on their Arrival at Sadras they wrote to Mr. Dupleix who returnd them for Answer that he had wrote to Mr. Saunders desiring Passports for his Deputy & that till he received them and Mr Saunders Reply to his Letter they could not set out.

Draught of a General Letter to Mr. Dupleix read and approvd as entered in the French Correspondence dated 9th Instant

The President Lays before the Board the Country Correspondence.

Abdul Bob Cawn is very pressing for a Detachment of Europeans to be sent him and says Anwarzey Nunt the Nabobs Vackeel has acquainted him he is ready to pay the Expences of the Expedition

The Board are of Opinion that as our Garrison will be considerably reduced by the Reinforcement Agreed to be sent the Major it is not advisable at present to spare any Men for Abdul Bob Cawn unless some very particular Occasion should require it.

Letter from Vizaam Rauze advising Shah Salabet Jung had conferrd the management of the Rajahmundrum and Chicacul Countrys on Moro Pundy and requesting that in case the French should Attack of disturbing him on Account of his former attachment and Friendship to us that we will order the Chiefs at Vizagapatam, Ingeram & Madapollam to Join him with their Forces, advising us to be very carefull and reinforce our Northern Factorys, lest the French should molest them, and direct our Chiefs to hoist Nabob

Anwar

Fort St George January 1754.

Anaverdecan's Colours every where if it is our intention
those Countrys should be under his Government in which
case He will Join his Forces with ours

Letter from Jaffer Ally Cawn Nabob
of Rajahmundrum & Chicacull giving in an Account
of the Quarrell between him & Vizianaum Rauze reminding
Us of his former Friendships to us when he had Orders
to destroy our Factorys but declinid it and desiring that We
will send five hundred of our Forces to Join him and he
will pay the Charge, assuring Us of his strict Friendship
and that he will order all the Villages round our Factorys
to be put under the management of our Agents

Agreed that Letters be wrote to Nabob
Jaffer Ally Cawn and Vizianaram Rauze advising them
to accomodate their Differences Amicably as the best way
to Promote their mutual Differences Interest and pre-
vent the French from taking Advantage of their
Quarrells to subject themselves of the whole Country to the
utter Ruin of Both that We shall always Bear a grate-
full Remembrance of the Services We receive from our
Friends that at present our Forces are pursueing the
Advantages they have gaind over the Enemy in this Coun-
which is the Reason we cannot at present spare any Men
but as soon as Affairs will permit We shall reinforce our
Factorys and write our Chiefs to be mindfull of our Friends

The President acquaints the Board that
he is informd the french Emissarys have been useing means
to seduce Gataka / the Person whom We set up under M
Floyers Government for King of Tanjore in Opposition
to the present King, and who now receives a Pension from
the Company / from Fort St David in Order as it is imag-
gind by his means to create a civil War in the Kingdom
of Tanjore, the President also acquaints that Board that
he is likewise informd some Shroffs are combining to

Destroy

Fort St George January 1st

compass the Escape or enlargement of Rangopaunt now under
Confinement at Fort St David; Agreed that the Deputy
Governour & Council be advisd of our Apprehensions &
directed to Confine Gataka in such manner however that
it may be as little irksome to him as Possible and that a
strict Watch be kept over Rangopaunt.

Tho. Saunders.
Chas Boddam
Henry Lowndes
Wm Lynch
John Smith
G. F. Brandeis

Fort S.t George January 1753.

January

9. Receivd a Letter from M.r Dupleix N.o 1. wherein he says that the Pass we sent him for his Deputys being in the English Language is not Sufficient and desird one in the Persian, encloses a French & a Moratta Pass for our Commissarys, he further says that untill he receives the said Pass and the Presidents Answer to his Letter of the 25 December his Commissarys cannot set out.

The Presidents Answer read in last Consultation not being sent, on receipt of the above Letter a Paragraph was added acquainting M.r Dupleix that We consider his deferring from Time to Time to send his Deputys as mere Excuses and look upon it as an indignity offerd the English Nation, the said Answer was Dated & Sent this Day N.o 2.

At a Consultation Present

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Gov.r Presid.t

Charles Boddam, Henry Powney

Alex.r Wynch, John Smith

Charles Bourchier

Monday the 15.th

Two General Letters from Major Lawrence & one from M.r Cooke read as follow

To the Honble Thos Saunders Esq.r President & Governour & Hon.ble Council of Fort S.t George

Honble Sir & Sirs

Fort St George January 1754.

I have receivd yours of the 20th December with the inclosd Papers.

I had acquainted you in some of my foregoing Letters, of the Irruption of the Mr ratto's in the Tanjore Country. That Gauderaro had set out as far as Trichinapoly, In order to Join me, But delayd it from Time to Time. Also that the King had appld to me for a Party which I refusd till the Fort was sufficiently supply with Provisions. I never receivd an Answer to that Letter. On the 30th Dec. Gauderow got Orders from Court to march back again, and in Consequence immediately set out. The Reason given for it was, That Monagee had been obligd to return; having met with some Repulse from the Enemy. This Proceeding obliges me as soon as the Weather will permit, to march myself & rescue a large Party down to the King, And see what once more can be done to save us that Ally; But I must persist in think ing had what I first proposd been followd we should have had him much heartier in the Cause. M.r Cook is also gone back with the Troops, which I suppose he informs you of.

I am afraid there is but little likely hood of a Peace, nor do I think We ever can have one till the French court of their own Accord or obligd by ours, recall M.r Dupleix. He would sacrifice every thing to his Ambition & Pride. And while he can raise an Army to give Disturbance, and Money to support it, his Neighbours can never enjoy Quiet. His Letter is answerd with Judgment & Spirit.

You think with a great deal of Justice Gentlemen on the Necessity of having Officers relievd from the fatigue of a Campaign: But give me leave to say that the Methods you pursue for that Relief, are Extraordinary. You keep with Us three of the Chiefs

Fort St. George January 1751.

Men of the Coast, to do Duty in Garrison, and send me in their Stead three Invalids. I may name them Capt.ns Gardiner, Pascall, Lieut.t Speare; for the two Capt.ns Campbell & Rigou. I think the Disposition might have been made otherwise, and more for the Good of the Service. You see the Effects of it in one Gentleman you sent me up lately, Capt.n Sanderson, he was obligd. to return in three Days Time. The Disorders that the Capt.ns Campbells went down for, were not very Dangerous, and but Just begun: more out of precaution, than Necessity, I must own Capt.n Charles Campbell, should not be mentiond, as he is properly relievd. the length of his Service entitles him to it, and the Gentleman sent in his Room, is in good Health and able to relieve both us and him, by the Change. But the other two have no such Rights, to plead, and the Persons sent in their Room have not Constitutions for the Field, but may be of use to us all in Garrison. Capt.n Kilpatrick lately tho incapable by his Wounds to act in Camp, yet shewd by his Gallant Behaviour in the Fort he was able to do great Service there. I beg you will think of this. And not let a determined resolution to oppose me in every thing make the Interest of the Honble Company less dear to you.

You ask me concerning the Vacancy & my Opinion of Mr Brown. Be so good Gentlemen to settle, and agree that amongst Yourselves, as you have done before on many other Cases, without ever consulting me. A few Months will decide whether I am at all to be concerned with the Military Affairs

I dare say our sending a Party to Tanjore will help to remove any Jealousy from the King. Your Method of treating is very proper between Dupleix only, and the Nabob. Tho I am afraid he will also bring in M.r Holloway as a Party concernd, especially if

Fort St. George January 19 1754.

has a mind, only to amuse us, by raising Difficultys, and to make them all seemingly come from him. I wish it were Possible to manage him, and Morarow. You have heard of his last offer I suppose. To draw off his Troops for a Lack and a half of ready Money, & the other half to be securd him. of the ready Money the King of Tanjore offers to pay 50000 Rupees. so the Nabob has but one lack to pay, could he raise it. I had the Letter read to him, from Morarow he could say no more to it but that Morarow was a Rogue and not to be trusted. That he had been one of his Chief Advisers, not to give up the Fort.

The french Prisoners are changed Prison, & now securd against any escape, as to the Officers I refer you to my last about Changing their place of Confinement. I will not answer for them, to the Nabob, on their Parole, you know how they servd me once. Besides they may serve in their Garrisons, and others be sent in their Room; so the want of them would not be so much felt.

Pray were you Ignorant that Ramah Naigue was out of Favour with the King of Tanjore: He is so much so that the King has refusd giving him an Audience yet. As to his Instructions I know nothing about them. It would be proper so far to let me know them, as the People that he treats with will expect I should; and may be surprisd were I to advise Contrary to any Directions he may have received, for want of knowing them.

I have desird Capt.n Killpatrick not to send his returns yet, you may guess at the Reason. The Commissary musters them regularly, as the other Troops: I will be answerable his Lieg.s Pasors are just.

their

Fort St George January 175A.

The late bad Weather or perhaps what is worse the latter Season of a Constitution wore out with fatigue, and I must say Uneasiness makes me afraid I cannot much longer resist, on Account of my Health, & serve the Company, or be of the use to them I would chuse, and ever endeavourd to be, I have been obligd to go into the Fort again, to see what a warm House may do for me

Camp
January 3.1754.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
and most
Humble Servant
Stringer Lawrence.

N.24.

To The Honble Thos. Saunders Esq.r President
and Governour &c.a Council of Fort St George
Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receivd your Favour of the 20.th and since of the 23.d I had in the Letter of the 7.th (the receipt of which you Acknowledge) given you an Account of my Strength, and what I know of the Enemies. I have informd you since of the reinforcement they had receivd of 200 Europeans, and beg to refer you to mine of the 24.th for a more particular Account of my Situation, since that of the 7.th is not plain enough to shew I could not think it adviseable to attack the Enemy. The Accounts you have of the Sick, and wounded, may be very Just, but give me leave to Judge, (Since their Battalions out at Exercise two or three times a Week) of their Numbers here; Be that as it will I think superiour to us, Besides the Advantage of their Situation. It is needless to repeat it, that I do not think it a warrantable Action to

attacke

Fort St. George January 175A.

attack them, and I hope before you receive this you will
think the same; If not, I must beg you will come and
conduct yourselves, and give me leave to have the
Honour of serving under you; But as a Commander
I cannot order it.

Our Affairs at Tanjore are in a very
ticklish Situation, and had not a late lucky Stroke of
Monages happened which perhaps may alter them,
A Neutrality would have been by this Time signd
This Opportunity may still be improvid, and if
Mr. Palk is no more wanted at the Congress, his
Presence will be of great Service.

Mr. Cook certainly informs you
of all that passes so I refer you to him.

I did intend marching, but the Nons
stopp'd me and if I find we can get Provisions I shall no
ik except you think it necessary. As for his Troops come
I believe it will be a Work of Time. The Friendship of the
King of Tanjore is of the greatest Consequence to us, n
thing shall be wanting on my Side to encourage it,
I flatter myself your Endeavours will be to the same
Purpose.

You desire me in your last of the
20th to purchase for the Company what Arms may
have been taken from the Enemy as to us We never get
any, the strict Order We are obliged to keep in, for fear
of the Enemys Horse in any Engagement will not
let our Soldiers stoop to pick them up. The black
People get them all, and sell them so much better
amongst themselves, that they would not accept of th
Price the Company would offer. and besides we see
very few of them afterwards. In the Assaults of Tric
nopoly, We took no Stand but were obligd to give them
to our Artillery, who had lost all theirs in the Assa

Fort St. George January 1754.

of the 21st Septem. which they were obligd to throw away
to be the better able to work their Guns.

Camp
Janf 6th 1754.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient and most
Humble Servant
Stringer Lawrence.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.
President and Governour &c. Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

This encloses Duplicate of my last dated
28 Ulo. with Copys of what I have since wrote to Majr.
which will fully inform you of the Reasons of my Return
to this Place, and the Strange Things that are doing at
it. Till the Major and Nabob appears I expect nothing
but Tales to amuse, without any Design of Performance.
As you have the whole Particulars encloss'd it is needless
for me to insert any more here on this Subject. News was
sent me from the King this Morning That Monajee had
engagd the Enemy again with great Succes, 800 Horse he
says are taken and the rest are quite dispersd. I attribute
this Action to have been very opportunely, as the Enemys
Order for that Party to retire was Expected every Hour.
Whether this Succes may give the King new Spirits and
engage him to cast off his regard to the late Negotiations
he has had with the Enemy a short Time may discover.
The Major & Nabob will I believe be here very shortly
when (if ever) he must be prevaild on. Yesterday came
to hand an Answer from the Dalloway to my last
Proposals. I have not had Time to Learn it contents but
therfore must Declaim against you that the whole material
of it lyes in these two Chorces. Either to give him up Trichi
monoply, or pay him his Expences from the first Day

Sept

he came into the Province Grandthem either of these and he offers to retire. I am afraid this will be too great a Sum tobe any Ways complyed with, however shall take the first opportunity of discoursing the Nabob when I shall inforrm you of the Steps I take in it. Morarow is already flown off from the Proposals mentiond in my Last. I am in due forrm

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient humble Servant

Thomas Cooke.

Tanjore
4th Jany 1754.

The King of Tanjore's Behaviour of late seeming to incline much towards a Neutrality which it is probable the march of the Army from Trichinopoly towards him might prevent. Agreed that it be hinted to Major Lawrence but left to him either to do so or not as the Affairs at Trichinopoly are so precarious that some new circumstances may arise which only those on the Spot can Judge of.

As Mr. Dupleix and indeed other Advices mention that 'tis not improbable Salabat Jung may come into this Province very shortly to settle it. Agreed that the Major be desired to consult with the Nabob and acquaint us with their Opinion what Steps should be taken in case he should really march this way and require us to withdraw our Assistance from the Nabob

The Commissary Lays before the Board a Letter from Captain Pigou at Arcot acquainting him some of the salt Provisions in that Garrison had been given to the Men but that it was so very salt and Rank it could not be eat and he thinks it must condemned. Agreed that Capt.n Pigou be ordered to send part of it hither that it may be properly surveyd and dispos'd of if Saleable and that it be replaced as soon as possible with new Salted Provisions.

M

Fort St George January 1751.

Messrs Palk and Vansittart Commissarys at Cadrass write 13th that the French Deputys were not then arrivd.

The President lays before the Board the Country Correspondence

Letters from the King of Tanjore & Succopee Naigue his prime Minister, advising of the Incursions of the Morrattas into the Tanjore Country and the advantage gaind over them by Monajee, that the Apprehension of having his Country laid Waste and plunderd obliges him to keep all his Forces in a Body to make head against the Enemy that he wrote to the Major and Nabob and also to Deve Cotah for Assistance but none came and that his Relyance is entirely on us for the Protection of his Country agreable to our Promise

Agreed to write to the King of Tanjore that We have sent a Detachmt. of Men to Deve Cotah and desird the Major to concert proper Measures for the safety of his Country, and to assure him of our firm attachment to his Interest.

Tho.s Saunders
Thos Lewis
Henry Lowry
Wm Lynch
John Smith
C Brunton

Fort S.t George January 1754.

16 Peneral Letters to Major Lawrence and Mr. Cooke signd and sent as follow, also Genl. Letter to Capt.n Kilpatrick at Trichenapoly which containing nothing material is omitted.

To Stringer Lawrence Esq.r
Commander &c.a

Sir

We have receivd your Letters of the 3.d and 6 Instant

The Incursions of the Moratta's into the Tanjore Country will undoubtedly make the King very uneasy induce him to recal his Troops and desire our Assistance which We think should be given him as far as the Situation of affairs will admit to facilitate which We have sent on the Salangore Sloop to Deve Cotah a Detach-ment of 50 Europeans who will wait your Orders We believe also that an Apprehension of the Conference with Mr. Dupleix and treating with the Dallavoy may raise his Jealousy though the greatest Caution is taken to prevent it no doubt but the French will take all opportunitys to heighten it and probably by the means of Succajee Naigue, such People are always gratifyd, and if the Nabob could bribe higher he might purchase him. We have always thought with you the Kings alliance is of the utmost consequence and whenever his Resolutions is suspected to be wavering the march of the Troops might We conceive greatly influence him as these Princes are sometimes more afraid to refuse than forward to grant

By the inclosd Letter from and ans.r Mr. Dupleix you will see the little Prospect there is of con-cluding any thing with him our Commissarys have been at Valdaore ever since the 30.th but he has sent none this Affront is so Great that We shall recall them

2

Fort St George January 1754.

25

Dupleix's Ambitious Disposition is known in Europe as well as India and Endeavours have not been wanting to remove him We hear two of the French Directors are gone over to England and hope our Gentlemen will exert themselves

I would be a pleasure to us if we could supply you with every thing you can desire on your Request of Officers Capt.ns Campbells Lin.d Greenvilles & Pascall were order'd: the two first equally alledge their long Services in the Field and that it was but reasonable all Officers should have their Turn of Duty Capt.n Lin declares himself incapable of Duty from a violent Pain in the Head Capt.n Pascall by Gentlemen from Devi Cotah is represented to us as well in Health as ever he was in his Life Capt.n Pigou has the Command at Arcot a Place of Consequence that requires an active healthy Officer and We have none capable of relieving him

The King of Tanjores Coolnefs to Ramah Naigue proceeds from Succajee Naigue, had We given him any particular Instructions you certainly would have been acquainted with them in our Letter of the 5 Nov.r We informd You that Ramah Naigue having been "conversant with the Affairs of the Country Powers We have "ordr'd him as Vakeell first to Tanjore Either to Carnpe where you may employ him on all Occasions you Judge necessary and the President in his Letter of the same Date mentions on h.s intimation concerning the Government of Trichinopoly as the our Intentions were that he might be employ'd as a Broke whenever he was usefull

In regard to Treaty The Dalloway demands remain just the same nor do We believe he will abate in them probably by negociating with the Rajas of Mysore much more may be effected this seems to be the General Opinion here Mr Cooke writes us Morarao has already flown off from his Proposal, his going to his ow

Coun

Country we never credited, The Nabobs Request of us
was not quite so modest as he told you & Mr Coote we
were to advance 1 Lack and get him Bills on our Sous
for 1½ more for which we were to be Security which
was in Effect paying the whole and this the low Estate
of our Finances will not admit of

We have already wrote you concerning
the French Officers.

Capt. Schaub assures us the Detach-
ment
^ did not exceed 50 Men

Salabad Jung is so distressd for
Money that to satisfie the French for the Pay of their
Troops he has given them a Grant for the Rents of the
Rajahmundrum & Chicacul &c.a Governments Jephor
Alley Cawn the Nabob and Vizeram Rauze had wrote
the President that they would not deliver them if they
had any European force to assist them Vizeram Rauze
writes that a Son of Gauzedee Cawn has been appointed
to the Government of the Decan

Mr Dupleix says it is possible Sala-
bad Jung may come to settle this Province and the King
of Tanjore says Ballazeroo was to begin his March this
way in September and Salabad Jung very probably would
come with him. We have no Accounts of any Motion made
by either of them, and look upon it as very uncertain
however should such a Thing happen it will be prudent
to concert measures in time please to talk with the Nabob
on this Subject and Leave his Sentiments

On Mr Calls return we shall
prevail on him to go to Camp

Enclosd are Copys of Letters to the
Nabob & King of Tanjore

We are sorry to hear of your Indis-
position and hope you have found benifit from your
being

Fort St. George January 1754.

in Triplicano

Fort St. George
the 16th Janry
1754. 4

We are
Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
Thomas Saunders
Charles Boddam
Henry Powney
Alexr Wynch
John Smith
Charles Bourchier

To Thomas Cooke Esqr

We have receivd your Letters of the 28th Ult.o and 4.th Instant with Copys of those to Major Lawrence the King of Tanjores Country being destined to Plunder must certainly make him uneasy and wavering and Possibly a Jealousy of what may Pass in Conference with the French and in Treaty with the Mysoreans may contribute to it but when he finds that We have sent a Detachment to Deve Cotah and that the Mayor will Imediately move towards him and has from us the most Solemn Asurances that Nothing shall pass in Conference or Treaty but with a strict regard to his Interest as our own & add to these Monajees late Succesps We hope he will be easy We imagine Succojee Naigue does not support the French, Interest Interrewarded it must be your care to lay before the King every thing in such a manner as may most remove his Doubts We dont conceive the Dollaway will hearken to any Term but the last / for the first is impracticable / except obligd to it and in that Case the Nabob may give him such as he pleases When Ramah Naigue round from hence Mr Starke was desird to supply him with what Trifles he might have Occasion for, he has made an Extravagant Use of this Liberty Inclos'd is a list of things he

Fort S.t George January 1754.

he took with him which may be made use of as Occasion requires

We are

Sirs

Your Affectionate Friends

Fort St George
16 January 1754.

Tho.s Saunders
Char.s Boddam
Henry Bonney
Alex.r Wynch
John Smith
Char.s Bourchier

At a Consultation Present

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Gov.r Presid.t &.

Monday the 21.st

Charles Boddam Henry Bonney
Alex.r Wynch John Smith
Charles Bourchier

General Letters from M.r Henry Bonnke at the Negrais Dated 31.st December & 11 Instant and the first being a Duplicate the Original whereof is not yet received, also General Letters from M.r Robert Westgarth at Ayen dated 18 Ult.o & 2.d Instant read as follow

To the Honble Tho.s Saunders Esq.r
President & Gov.r &c.a Council of
Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I take this opportunity of the For
-tune Sloop bound to Madras which put in here w

Fort St George January 1754.

some Provisions in her Way from Bengal to Syrian, To acquaint your Honours that on the 24th Instant David Hunter Esqr Departed this Life of a Fever which continued Eight Days.

I have agreeable to your Honours Commands in your Letter to me of the 4th April last taken upon me the Charge & Management of this Expedition & shall inviolably adhere to the Plan he has proceeded on until I receive your further Orders.

The Detention of this Sloop here being very inconvenient to the Gentlemen of Bengal, prevents my writing to You by her so fully as I could wish, but I shall do Myself that Honour by the Cuddalore which I shall Dispatch to your Honours from hence in a few Days.

Duplicate

Negrais
31st Dec. 1753.

I am
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt Hble Servt
Henry Brooke.

To the Honble Thos Saunders Esqr
President & Governour &c. & Council
Fort St George

I have had the Honour of addressing your Honours the 31st Dec. last p. Sloop Fortune, in her way from Bengal by Syrian to Madraß. Duplicate whereof I now endose you

Under Cover hereof I take the Liberty by the Cuddalore Sloop to transmit your Honours the Several Papers as p. List of the Packet, which I thought most necessary on this Occasion of Dispatch, but as Mr. Hunter has been destitute of an Assistant by any Detention at Syrian till 3d Dec. last, by a long Illness, which

Fort St. George January 1754.

which with his own Indisposition at this Place, has prevented the Papers relating to the Honble Company being kept up with so much exactness as I could wish. This I hope will be my Advocate to your Honours for those Errors or Incoherences which may appear in my Conduct; But whatever mistakes I may have been guilty of since the Death of Mr. Hunter, as I have with an upright Intention and with the utmost Application endeavourd to avoid, will not I hope, be imputed to me as my Fault, but any Misfortune.

Mr. Hunters Letter to your Honours under Date the 20th. Sept. last represents our present Situation so Strongly, that it might be deemd Presumption in me to add any thing further on that Head: But as I think it is now my Duty rather to incur Censure than be silent, I shall beg leave to offer the following

The King and Rajah as well as the Peguers in general extreamly Jealous of Foreigners, since the Time of the Portuguese, who defended their Fort at Syriam for many Years against their whole Nation, it will not therefore be an easy Matter to prevail on them to ratify the Articles agreeable to Mr. Hunters Plan, without some acknowledgement made them for Return, and even did they give up the Negrais to us upon our Terms, I cannot think it will be for many Years, if ever a Place of Profit to the Honble Company. The Country for 80 or 100 Miles about is compos'd of Islands almost entirely destitute of Inhabitants, and cover'd with Woods; a fine Harbour, plenty of Wood, and good Water, but scarce in the dry Season, are the only Advantages it can boast of, it is in itself incapable of maintaining for many years to come a number of Inhabitants, & must therefore be Dependant on the

Places

Fort St. George January 1754.

Places for the Necessaries of Life; & the great River leading to Persaim & Ava from whence all Provisions & Merchandize must come lies open to the Sea above us, and is at most Times, but particularly in the South West Monsoons extreamly Dangerous for the Country Boats to approach us; these Inconveniences will ever make Provisions scarce. Persaim which lies about 80 Miles from hence has none of these Inconveniences it has by all Accounts, the Advantage of a fine Air, a good Rice Country about it, a River safe and navigable for the largest Ships, & is capable of maintaining any Number of Inhabitants, I am therefore of Opinion if ever the Honble Company may Reap a Profit from the Trade of this Country, they must make Persaim the Head Settlement; The Destruction of the Kingdom of Ava by the Peguers, from whence all the Riches and Commodities proceeds, has ruined Trade universally throughout this whole Country and it must take some considerable Time before it can flourish again. The Peguers have on every Occasion endeavoured to represent Persaim in the most favourable Light, to ease but whether they intended us a real Advantage, or to draw us nigher to them, and Therefore more on their Power I shall not take upon me to Determine. Our Situation here at present is not the most eligible, We have lost Dr. Hunter before any thing Material has or could be done with the Court of Pegue for the Interest of our Honble Masters, We have tis true got some Houses or more properly Huts ashore, but Ware far from being in a State of Defence, even against a Country Enemy should they attempt to attack us, We are much exposed from the Hill and the Wood behind us, as it is

possible

possible to secure ourselves for some considerable time to come with the Number of Hands we have; our Guns are mounted on the Ber to the No. of 26, but We cannot afford above one healthy European to five; however they make a Shew and serve as a Terror to the Country People, and so far they may have a good Effect.

Capt.n Mainwaring has given in his Protest, & his Charter Party will soon expire, should he leave us before We are reinforced by your Honours. We then are left only to the Scott for our Guard Ship, which has been so leaky since her arrival here that she can scarce be kept above Water.

If the Turtle at Diamond Island at any Time fail us, which we cannot tell how soon may happen, and which is so essentially necessary to the Support of our People in General, 'twill then be impossible to subsist here much longer, but this I am certain of, that in the S.W. Monsoon we cannot be supplyd from thence. We also had such an universal lingering Sickness for Months past raging amongst us, that of the M not half have been able to do Duty, of 40 Lascars 20 in the best Days could be musterd to the Works, two 40 Bengal Lascars & Coolies also, tho' they arrivd here in November last, have fallen Sick in Proportion, & the Mallabars to a Man have been rendered Useless.

These our Circumstances being taken into Consideration, will I hope demonstrate to your Honours how much We stand in need of Supplies both of Men & Provisions, and as M.r Hunter has made an Estimate of both, We doubt not of your Friendly Care to Supply Us with Speed.

The Mallabars being a considerable Addition to the Expence of the Honourable Company, and rendered incapable of Working by a tedious Sickness, I have agreeable

Fort St George January 1751.

agreable to Mr Hunters Intention returns Sixteen of them to your Honours by this Conveyance, and also Sergeant James Jackson an European who was found Guilty of Mutiny by a Court of Inquiry held at this Place, he has not received any pay since the 15th May last.

I also send you one Coffrey Slave who was transmitted here from Syriam, & has been paid by Mr Westgarth five Pickall pr Month, but as We do not think proper to trust him with fire Arms, neither as a Companys Slaves entitled to Wages, I have taken the Liberty to send him to your Honours.

I must also beg leave to acquaint your Honours that the the Horble Compys Cash begins to grow Short the Ballance in our Hands for last Month is but 1651-1-77 Rupees Sixteen Thousand nine Hundred & fifty one one Quarter & Seventy Seven Reas, as will appear in the Account Current for last Dec.r and the monthly Expences for this Place Syriam & Bengaim, begin to run very heigh, not withstanding our utmost Frugality to the Contrary. There are eight Months Arrears due to the People of the Arcot Snow the Cuddalore & Fortune Sloops, & also a Considerable Arrears due to the Military and People of the Train, for Hatchet Work done, in cutting down the Trees at our first Arrival here; for which they Expect to be paid at the Rate of four Fanams pr Day according to Mr Hunters agreement, & for which I wait for your Honours Approbation. Coll: Scott from Bengal has also wrote for a large Quantity of Timbers which are much wanted there, & which we shall not be able to procure, unless your Honours will please to supply us largely with Cash.

Mr Hunter having acquainted your Honours of the Inconvenience he has been at by

Fort St. George January 1754.

with him
by not bringing a Person, who could write a fair hand, I must beg leave to represent to your Honours, it is absolutely necessary that We should have one or two Persons in this Place who can Copy fair, to be able to keep up our Honble Masters Affairs with any tolerable Exactness.

By this Conveyance you will receive as Musters, Two Timbers of 16 Inches square, and from 20 to 23 feet long, which are the produce of this Island at 1½ Rupee P.r Timber, and also two Teak Plank of 11 Inches Broad, 2¾ thick, and 35 feet long, which was procurd at Pondicherry: there can also be procurd here Timbers of the Sundry Woods from 15 to 16 Feet long, & from 11 to 14 Inches square, at 2½ Rupees each & Teak Plank may also be procurd at Pondicherry from 20 to 48 Feet Long, from 11 to 15 Inches broad and from 2 3/4 to 3 3/4 thick at 5½ to 8½ Rupees P.r pair.

We have taken the Liberty to send you an Indent of Medicines, which cannot be of much Service unless your Honours will please to send here a Judicious Person to administer them I am

Negrais
11 January 1754.

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obed.t humble Serv.ts
Henry Brooke.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council
Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I herewith send you my Accounts from January last to the month of November by no

Fort St. George January 1751.

of the Negrais, and by the Neptune shall transmit you my Accounts for the whole year, by which I shall give you the full Situation of the Hon.ble Comp.ys affairs here and must desire you will be pleased to send me some Supplys as I have been obliged many Times to disburse my own Money on the Hon.ble Comp.ys Account and have almost built a new Vessell of upwards of Forty Tons, for the Hon.ble Company.s Service at the Negrais, and when finished I shall send you an Account of the Particulars of her Cost.

I have applyd to Gov.r Hunter who has been kind enough to assist me with some small Supplys, as you will perceive by my Accounts but as he has no Orders or particular concerning me, I must beg the Favour of you to give him some Direction relating thereto, in case I may for assistance, I remain with great Respect

Syrian
Dec.r 18.th 1753.

Hon.ble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obed.t
Humble Servant
Robert Hyde

To the Hon.ble Tho.s Saunders Esq.r
President and Governour &c.a Council
of Fort St. George

Hon.ble Sir & Sirs

I now send you Duplicate of my last, Accompanying my Accounts for the ... Year, and can only tell you the Hiring of ... only trifling and drawing us for Splinters ... ceive they have no Foolination to Carry ... our Demands any further than what ...

induces them to, they have frequently given Orders for ever
Thing I desird but such Orders as his People are at pres
afraid to comply with I had an Order with the Rajah
Chop to ik for sending Boats to the Negrais, which afte
my Boats were Loaden, the Government of this Place
took the People out, took the Rajahs Order from them
sent them to the Government of Pegu who whipt them
and made them pay sixty Tical before they were Relea
at that very Time I happend to be with the Rajah,
when the People came & told me what had happend,
which gave me some concern I immediately desird
Rajah to reprimand his Government for such Treatm
which he promisd to do, and likewise they should n
do so again.

The King desired I would go to dan
Gov.r Hunter to come to this Place, and on my return fro
thence I waited on the King with Gov.r Hunters Letters
him and the Rajah, when I applyd to him for Satisfa
for the Negroes he very readily gave me an Order to t
Rounday at Invented, and likewise one to the Ro
-day at Cossaim, to send a hundred Cooleys from them
and for all the Supplies that Country could afford Co
away with Joy to think of the Supplys He had grantes
me, and when I came to Syrian the Rounday told me
to send what People I could get, but the People are afra
to go, for fear in their absence, the Government will op
-press their Families, as the Rajah had not mentio
their Names singularly, to satisfie them in this Po
I provided to indemnifie them against any thing of this
kind, and for that purpose have wrote to the Rajah
three times for such an Order as the People want, and
has wrote to the Rounday & one, but in such an Evasiv
manner that it plainly appears he does not intend
We should have them, I hope his Orders to Cossaim
ha

complying with Morarow's Proposal but to apply to you

Tanjore
15th Jan.y 1754.

I am in due Form
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obed.t humy Servt
Thomas Cooke.

NB. The Purport of Mr Cookes Letter to the Dollaway is that he thinks his Demands Extraordinary. that of being paid all his Expences to this Time is quite unreasonable & Asks the Sordar is the Moguls.

24. a General Letter to Major Lawrence having been prepared before the Receipt of the foregoing an Addition is now made thereto & sent by Tappies also General Letters to Messrs Starke & Cooke Viz.t

To Stringer Lawrence Esq.r Commander in Chief
of all the Companys Forces in India

Sir.

We wrote you under Dat the 16th Inst. since which the President has received your Letter of the 12th Inst. as also one from the Nabob inclosing Copy of a Sanad said to come from Gazee-ud-eenns Son Nabob Bachshey at Murralick Accepts Sah Nizam Mulluck Shahubedy Cannt Behader Phatha Jung Sapadar for the Carnateck.

The Nabob in general Terms says he is obedt always to our Advice & will agree to any thing we may do, as this is an Affair of Consequence the Expression seems too loose, for should he be hereafter callid to an Account he may possibly alledge he was oblidged by us to do it, as no Confidence is to be plaed in these Eastern Princes, We think Caution is necessary, & as he is well acquainted with the particular Jagueers & their Value, which the French have, it seems requisite he should mention what he would be content to allow them, and as Banoor & Trivady lie very inconvenient to Us, to give them for their Stead, & if Porto Nova & Vencatapettah remaind in the Hands of the Country Government, as Chellumbrum belongs to the Nabob of Cuddapah the Communication between Fort St. David & Fort Cotchi would be open, and in regard to this Place, if Covelam, Chingalepaut Carim[illegible] & the Route to Arcot were not encroachd on, our

Fort St. George January 1754.

In the would not be confind. Please to communicate this to him and desire speedy Answer.

We have already advisd you that the Nabobs Request was no less than 2½ Lacks, which We are not able to comply with, if Abdul Cairn & Mazabulla Cairn acted justly by him, the Country in their Possession would furnish a much larger Sum.

Inclosd is Copy of Letters to the Nabob and King of Tanjore & of one from Mr. Dupleix acquainting us that his Commissarys will be at Madrass the 20th he will contest the Nabobs Rights, submits it to the Examination of the Comonissarys, and says he will stand to the Decision of Salabat Jung, in regard to the King of Tanjore says he is ready to make Peace with him, if he will lay down his Arms: this We think absolutely objecting to the Basis We propose & without his acceeding to it, no Peace can ensue. We have answerd him before that We look'd upon Salabat Jungs Decision as Arbitrary, for if granted that Salabat Jung was Prince of the Decan, he is overawd by an Army & therfore not at Liberty to decide, and that as the Nabob certainly had a Sanad from Nazir Jung for the Carnateek which was never disputed by any but Chunda Saib & his Allies & would have & would have enjoyd it peaceably, We think his Right is indisputable & requires no further Examination; & in regard to the King of Tanjore, he cannot be treated with seperately, He is an Ally to the Nabob & consequently must be included in the general Treaty.

You will remark in Mr Dupleix's Letter that the King of Tanjore had sent a Vacqueel & wrote Letters to him concerning Race the Nabob & We have never been acquainted with it, and may therefore look upon it as a Breach of Friendship, Mr Cooke writes us he rejects the Proposals of settling Affairs with the Dollorway & delays sending his Troops, as this is a very critical Juncture We are of Opinion if you could do it, your marching to Tanjore and with the Nabob, intimating that it was for the sake of his Country as well as the Nabobs Interest, & at his desire that the War was proceeded in might have a good Effect.

By the Companys Ship Dragon from Bengal yesterday, & in five or Six Days to proceed to the West Coast, came Military Officers Lieutenant Richard Bishop, Ensign Francis Hayes and Lieutenant Lawrence Witherington of the Train, they will proceed to St. David in order to go to Camp by the first Opportunity.

By the Cuddalore Sloop just arrivd from the Negrais We are advisd of the Death of Mr. Hunter the 22d Ultimo. The place is very unhealthy & Provision Scarce, the Treaty with the King not ratifyd & he seems not very inclinable to do it. The Works advance but slowly as most of the Natives are

Fort St George January 1754.

sick or dead. We should be glad of your Opinion who you think a proper person to succeed him there are the Sentiments of Coun[cil] Mr Percival & Mr Hopkins We are Sir

Your most Obed[t] Servants

Thomas Saunders &c[a]

Fort St George
the 23 Jan[y] 1754.
To Stringer Lawrence Esq[r] Comm[r] in Chief &c[a]

Sir

Since closing the foregoing Letter We have receiv[d] your[s] ...
We have wrote to Bengal for Colonel Scot to ... over ...
If upon perusing our Sentiments in regard to ... the King ...
Tanjore you concurr in them and nothing may ... more happ[y]
to make such a Step dangerous, We think yours & ... Nabob
=ing to Tanjore & talking with the King may ... a good
If any thing of Consequence had been conceivd in ... letter to ...
=je Naigue; the Copies would have been transmitted ... but as ...
represented in the French Interest they were no more ...
of Compliment referring him to the King for the rest.
We with you think Capt[n] Schaub's Presence ... have ...
& shall therefore not comply with it.
Since Capt[n] Schaub's arrival here, Happears ... Pondicherry
only bore M[r] Dupleix's hand.
We have just received a letter from Maj[r] Polier ...
=sing that the Reverend Father Lavaur & Maj[r] de Bussy & ...
French Commissarys are arrivd at Ladore, & that the King of ...
=sore's Vackeel & two other french Gentlemen were expected ...
so that if our Proposals for a Basis are granted the Treaty will be ...
General, We shall constantly Advise you of what occurs. We are

Sir

Your most obed[t] & Humble Servants

Fort St George
the 24 Jan[y] 1754

Tho[s] Saunders
Charles Boddam
Henry Bonney
Alex[r] Wynch
John Smith
Charles Bourchier

To

Fort St. George January 1754.

54

...taby Deputy
Governour of Fort St. David

Sir By the Cuddalore Sloop takely arrivd from the Negrais we are informd of the Death of Mr. Hunter the 24th Ultimo, We desire your Opinion who you think a proper Person to succeed him there are the Gentlemen of Council Mr. Perceval and Mr. Hopkins

We are

Sir

Your Affectionate Friends & Servants

Thomas Saunders
Charles Boddam
Henry Bonney
Alex. Wynch
John Smith
Charles Bourchier

Fort St. George
the 24th Jan. 1754.

To Thomas Cooke Esqr.

Sir We have receivd your Letters of the 10th 12th & 15th Instant with your Accounts & Copies of Letters.

The Apparances from us & the late Success of Monajee should move think make the thing easy, but by what you write & what We hear, there is Reason to believe the French are negotiating, & We wish it has not proceeded to a great Length; his desiring the Troops might return shews a Coldness that would cause Suspicion. As all offers of accomodating Affairs with the Dollavoy Offers that took their Rise from him have been rejected, what is to be done but his joining the Army, for We dont imagine he will readily do, whilst a Conference with the French subsist & the most likely Means to effect it, is, as you observe the Major & Nabob's marching as to the Morattas, you write as he had already flown off from the Proposal & the Nabob says he is not to be trusted, What then can be expected from him, and even if he agreed to it We cannot raise 2 ℔ ... which is the Sum the Nabob desires of us. If Abdul Cob Cawn and Nozabulla Cawn acted honestly by him, We are persuaded they might furnish him with that Sum.

Please to acquaint the King that 'tis above a Month since his Vachell has been desird to receive the Salt Petre & Lead which is

Fort St George January

is not yet done. As the French Comissarys are coming
is very uncertain when Mr Pulk can proceed to Camp, We
therefore cannot yet write you concerning your Return.

By Advices received within these few Days from
the Negrais We are informd of Mr Hunters Death. We desire
your Opinion who you think a proper Person to succeed him for
are the Gentlemen of Council, Mr Perceval & Mr Hopkins.
We are,

Fort St George
the 24th Jan.y 1754.

Sir
Your Affectionate Friends
Tho.s Saunders & Council

Major Lawrence in his Letter of the 16th Instant having fully explaind himself in regard to the manner in which he proposes to act on Collonel Scotts Arrival here, & the Opinion of the Gentlemen of Council having been taken thereon, it was agreed To write for Collonel Scott & General Letters to the President & Council of Bengal & to the Coll.e were accordingly this Day sent as enterd in the Copy Book of Letters sent N.o 10 & 11.

At a Consultation Present

Monday
the 28th Jan.y

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Govern.r Pres.t &c
Charles Boddam, Henry Bonney
Alex.r Wynch, John Smith
Charles Bourchier

General Letters for Major Lawrence read &
Mr Cooke read as follow

To the
Right Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

My last was of the 16th Instant since
which a Vackeel from Bollygerow has arrivd here to the
Nabob, with Offers to send to his Assistance any Number of

Fort St George January 1754.

56

of Horse from 20,000 downwards. He says he is convinc'd of the English Bravery; and the French are not, what they talk themselves off for. He desires the Nabob to send him Word for what number he Chuses, & that they shall be with him in a Month Time. These Offers are very advantageous if Sincere, & this Friendship worth the Cultivating.

I take the Opportunity of a Party I send to Carnicorneare; (to meet Capt.n Lascall & his reinforcement) to send you Capt.n Kilpatricks returns. That Gentlemans Wound is still open & the Bones continue exfoliating very often.

Capt.n Gaupe goes down with this Party on his way to Fort St. Davids, to see if a change of Air will be of Service to him to recover the use of his Leg, & for his Health which is much impair'd.

Mr. Spears has declar'd himself unfit for the Field, (as indeed I think he is) & at his Request I have put him in Garrison at Trichinopoly.

Capt.n Howes has been so good at my Request, to take the Care of the Troops on himself; he is very capable of it, & the only Officer amongst us that has served in the Horse. In a short Time he will be able to make them as compleat a Body as their Numbers will

Danish of

I am

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient & most humble Servt

Stringer Lawrence

amps the
th January 1754.

ver.

To the Honble Tho.s Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I receivd yesterday a Letter from Mr. Cooke, informing me that his Health was so bad, that he was obliged to go from Tanjore without waiting

Fort St. George January 1754.

send me Copys of the King of Tanjores Letters. Mark you would please to let me be acquainted with the Contents of Succoji's

I have got the Nabob's Consent to the Consent to the French Officers going away upon their Parole. The Instrument drawn up for them to sign shall be sent up to you he has thought proper to write to the King of Tanjore first and make him acquainted with his Design

Capt. Schaub's Allowance of half Batta I must own I think Sufficient. That was once given him on Account of the Additional Expence he might be at in an Enemy's Town. But I think his Situation compard with his Brother Officers in Camp, where they are obligd upon the whole to pay for Cooleys, and the other Expences attending a Campaign, he will be found to be much better off an Augmentation therefore is not my Opinion. His Bonard to the Moors for their Fidelity, I cannot help Looking on it, but as an Act of piece of generosity. I think the reviving their Pay they do, & the Engagements they are under to us, when be of Sufficient Force to make them faithfull to without any Reward for barely doing their Duty. But as the Gentlemans Action has been solely intended for the good of the Service; In Consideration of that he might be defrayd the Expence he has been at for their Time. Letting him know our Opinions of the Subject

I suppose you have been misinformed of Capt. Campbells Affair with Mr. Dupleix, who has assurd me Strongly on the Contrary. As the Report has given that Gentleman a great deal of uneasy-ness. I think some Pains ought to be taken to let him know that you are Satisfyd of Falshood of it. Concerning the Horse I shall enquire about it.

I have receivd your Accounts of the

Fort St George January 17th 1754.

reinforcement.

There is a young Gentleman at Deve Cotah his Name is Blaction who has been appointed by you to do Ensign's Duty. I should be obligd to you if you would grant him a Commission by all Accounts he is very deserving of it he would willingly come to Camp but as he is of use at Deve Cotah I hope his being kept there will be no Bar to his Preferment

I took the Liberty of opening a Letter addressd to Mr Saunders from the Moguls Vackeel for fear there might be any thing in it we should know immediately. I have forwarded it some time ago.

I have sent the Bill to Succojee Naik and shall inform you when it is paid.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
and most
Humble Servant

Stringer Lawrence

Camp
16th Jan.y 1754.

To the Honble Thos. Saunders Esqr.
President & Governour &c. Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

My last to you was under date the 12th Inst. of which the annexd is Duplicate. Therein referred to your Honour &c. the answering the Dollonays Letter to Me. His Demands being such as I know not what to say to them. However upon further Reflection as it would be ill Manners were I not to make some Reply to him, I have wrote him this Day as p Copy inclosed being intended for Form sake only. The Major informs me that the Nabob still says he is unable to raise any ready Money & that he has no other Method of

Fort St George January

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is very uncertain when Mr Pulk can proceed to Camp, We
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At a Consultation Present

Monday
the 28th Jan.y

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Govern.r Pres.t &c
Charles Boddam, Henry Bonney
Alex.r Wynch, John Smith
Charles Bourchier

General Letters for Major Lawrence read &
Mr Cooke read as follow

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Right Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c Council
of Fort St George

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Fort St George January 1754.

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Gentlemen

Your most Obedient & most humble Servt

Stringer Lawrence

amps the
th January 1754.

ver.

To the Honble Tho.s Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I receivd yesterday a Letter from Mr. Cooke, informing me that his Health was so bad, that he was obliged to go from Tanjore without waiting

Fort St George January 1754.

for your Answer to the Request he made you of recalling him

By what Accounts I can learn, Mr Hall will not be much longer wanted at Cudrass. I therefore renew my Request, on his return, that he may be sent to Tanjore. The Necessity of having somebody there I hope you are convinc'd of; & at the same Time you may like with me that Gen.l Kerr is as proper a Person for the Purpose as any body. I make no doubt but you will approve of this Proposal, & agree to it, & hope soon We shall find the good Effects of it.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obed.t & most Hum.ble Servant
Stringer Lawrence

Camp at the
22.d Janry 1754.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council
of Fort St George
No 28.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I wrote you some Days ago, advising you of the Nabob's Intention to release the French Prisoners on their Parole as the best Method. The only reason for the King of Tanjore's Approbation, which he having had, they were this Day sent away to Terrenan in order to proceed for Pondicherry, their Place of Destination as you will see by the Annexed Copy of their Parole which they have given.

We have heard that M.r Dupleix has at last sent his Commissarys to Cudrass to meet ours, & hope the meeting may be to the purpose as we are ordered.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obed.t & most Humble Servant
Stringer Lawrence

Camp the
23.d Janry 1754.

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Fort St George January 1754.

Nous Soussignés Officiers François Prisonniers du Nabab Sarauid, Dondan, Anaverdee Caron Bahaudes Shaw Hamet Jung. Donnons notre Parole D'honneur qu'en Cas que le dit Nabab, veuille bien nous Permettre de nous rendre à Pondicherry, jusqu'au tems de notre Echange, de remplir les Conditions Suivantes.

1.mo De nous rendre Incessamment a ces Ordres en cas qu'il juge a propos de revoquer la dite Permission; sans que le dit Nabob soit tenu de nous faire expliquer les Raisons de ce Changement.

2.do De ne faire aucun Service Militaire, de quelque Espece qu'il puisse etre.

3. De ne point nous eloigner de Pondicherry sous quelques pretextes que ce puisse etre, A moins que pour repasser en Europe. Cas de nous que repasseroient en Europe et qui reviendront dans ce pais icy, continue-ront à ce Soumettre aux Conditions cy dessus: Mais Comme il y a deux de ces Messieurs qui appartiennent aux Isles Ils ont La permission d'y retourner sur les dites Conditions.

Nous les dites Officiers ci dessus don-nons egalement notre Parole D'honneur au Major Lawrence Commandant des Troupes Angloises au Service de L'Honorable Compagnie, de remplir les Engagemens cy dessus; reconnoissant que c'est a sa requi-sition, & sur la Parole qu'il a bien voulu donner pour Nous au Nabab, que celuy cy nous relache sur notre Parole pour passer a Pondicherry.

Nous Supplions le Major Lawrence de croire que nous ne voudrions passer tout au Monde le mettre dans le cas De Suivre quelque reproche a notre Sujet.

Fait et Signé
Trichinapaly
28 de Janv.r Son
Sentence de Mess.rs Calliaud Capt
1754

Leaude
Bonville

Bouchet Astruc
Carpentier Montmeuil
Lebrun Eveillon
Duvalgra Dupontdacier
Du Passage Defecan
Tilly Diandres

Fort St. George January 1754.

To the Honble Tho.s Saunders Esq.
President & Governour &c.a Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir, & Sirs

This Incloses Duplicate of my last dated the 15.th I have since been taken Exceedingly Ill by the Return of my old Disorder the Barbiers, which has suddenly deprivd me of all Strength that I cannot Stir without some one to hold by. This added to a Flux that I have never been free from ever since I have been here giving me no small uneasiness It has obligd me to determine on returning to St.t David, believing it the only Chance for my Recovery. I should most willingly have waited the Receipt of your Answer to the Request made you in my address of the 10.th but dread the Consequence that has been already seen in many Instances of staying a Day too late, which leads me not to Doubt, but you will readily excuse this step. Assuring you that when my Health is restord I shall with pleasure return to either this, or any other Duty on which may think proper to command me remaining in due form

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obed.t humble Serv.t

Thomas Dorhs.

Tanjore
the 19. Jan.y 1754.

Agreed to write to Major Lawrence That We have been advisd of Balazeramus Intention, to come into this Province but that We think he is not to be relyed on, yet We shall lose no Opportunity of Cultivating a Friendship with him as he has Commission from Gov.r Bourchier that he would assist them Nabob. That Major Lawrence be also Advisd of what has hitherto past at the Conferences at Madrass and that We

Fort St George January 1751.

The Powers the Nabob has given us to treat are ample yet we think such Powers should always be distinct & seperate from other Subjects & we desire he will procure them so; as also Copies under the Caudees Seal of the Saneds to the Nabob from Nazir Jing, Gauzede Canna, & Gauzede Canna's Son Shahabedy Canna. That We much approve the Parole taken of the French Officers on their Enlargement.

The President lays before the Board the Country Correspondence, also a Letter to him from Mr Charles Knapton Engineer at the Negrais which is as follows.

To The Honble Tho: Saunders Esq.
President & Governour of
Fort St George

Honble Sir

When I had the Honour to take leave of you at Madras you was pleas'd to give me the Permission to write to you by all Opportunitys, which has Emboldened me to address you by this Conveyance, it would be a peice of Impertinence in me to take up your Honours Time by relating every minute Circumstance since our Arrival when Mr Hunter & since his Decease Mr Brooke has so fully laid before your Honour the past & our present Situation of Affairs: therefore I shall proceed to the part of our Honble Masters Affairs that nearly concerns me. & for your Honours better understanding Mr Hunters intended Works incloss'd is a Sketche of his intention & with great Submission I beg leave to offer my Opinion. The Situation is on the Bank of the River / mark'd in the Plan CC / and a Swamp that every Spring tide over flows & will therefore be necessary to rise all the Grounds within the Works about two

feet

feet to the great enhancement of the Expence. The Ba
lier but . . 1014 feet from the Banks of the River &
consequently all the Works that can be built, is
Subject to any Enemys fire of even Musketts. Thes
Works would take five Hundred working Men for
Six or Seven Months to finish; they having Neither
the whole time, & it is with Grief I tell your Honour, the
I fear they would soon fall sick for We have ever since
Arrival here never had less than half our Number sic
often not a third able to stir, in the Months of August Sep
& part of Octr not five well Men on the Island, not a Sc
except Myself from the Govr to the Cooley but have had Sick or
more of this Lingering Disorder. The Bengalers that
arrivd here the 16th of last Novr are now more than half
Sick, under this heavy Grievance it will be with abso
Difficulty that We can get any Works finished here, es
peciallly those of Mr Saunders designing; therefore beg
leave to offer what I think will be possible for us with th
help of 20 Carpenters to accomplish, & will be a good de
fence against the Beguers; the Pier Marked A is about
built one foot above the spring Tide but not so big as
it is represented in the Plan being only 106 feet long & 30
feet Wide on this I would build a House of that length &
breadth of Timber, / the Produce of the Island / & Home Iro
Teak Plank which we can get from Persians; we now
have one Hund.d & 30 Teak Plank some Timbers & dail
cutting more. On the lower floor of the House we can
mount some Guns about 20 to fire through Ports in the
Sides & Ends of the house like a Ships, there will be room
for the Soldiers on the same Floor & manner as on board
of Ships the upper floor will be divided into Apartmen
for the Govr Officers & store Rooms for Provision, Water
as every one will be here under Cover it will not be
liable to the Musketry from the Hill & the Bayonbers
little Acquainted with the use of great Guns they can

Fort St George January 1751.

do but little harm, if this should have your Honours Approbati-
-on with the number of 20 Carpenters I shall with pleasure
execute it, as it will be an immediate Defence & no hinderance
to any other Works being carried on that our Honble Masters
shall afterwards think necessary for the Defence of this Place,
but it is my Opinion that a Work on the Hill will be the
only Defenceable Thing against the Peguers should the
Company ever find it worth any further Expence. If your
Honours should on perusing Mr Hunters Papers Order
Brown the Head Settlement then all the Works more
than such a House as I have taken the Liberty to describe
would be useless on this Spot of Ground, the Places in
my Opinion to keep out an European Force which would
then be the only Enemy to fear, is a Battery on Mr
Taylors Point Pagoda or some one of those Points on y
great Negrais side, any Ships in the S.W. Monsoon being
being Obligd to keep the great Negrais on board till they
come a brest of Mr Taylor's Point & then must haul
directly to the little Negrais side: If this House was once
on the Plan I have described, being sensible of the In-
-convenience of having all the Stores above Stairs to
avoid that & much increase the Strength as well as
Conveniency, I would at Leisure add 36 feet to the
breadth of the Door 18 feet on each side, & 18 feet at the
End next the River by which addition the Guns will be
without the first House & by Covering the Guns will
admit of lodging for the Soldiers & Verander to the
upper Rooms, by which means they will be more con-
-venient & the Lower floor will make very fine Store
Rooms.

As Mr Hunter in his Life Time
was very capable of carrying on & designing what
Works was to be on this Island & not having an Oppor-
-tunity to address your Honours I took the Liberty by the
Elliot bound to Bengal Nov.r the 9.th to beg Coll.l Scott
would recall me where I might be further improving
myself

Fort St. George January 1754.

myself & more use to my Honble Masters as this Place could not imploy two Engineers I hope I shall not Incur your Displeasure by that Action, nor the Signing Jointly with the Officers a Petition concerning our Lotts by the as it is my Duty & ever shall be my Study to be worthy the Liberty of Subscribing myself

Honble Sir
Your most Obedient humble Servant
Charles Knapton

Negrais the 11th Janry 1754

Ordered that Copy of Mr Knaptons Letter with Copys of those from Mr Hunter & Mr Brooke be sent to Major Lawrence.

Abdul Bob Caun advises that arrivd with his Army in the Plains of Tewidore for our Forces to Join him before he can engage the who are within Six Coass of that place raising ances.

Abdul Bob Caun having offer Thousand Pagodas which Ambassy Punt is read for the Expences of a Small Detachment of our Tro Agreed that the said Sum be receivd & that a Thirty of our Military with one Company of from Arcot & another from Chingalapeak be to Join him as they are not designed to marc considerable distance & may therefore are cause have timely Notice to return to their respective

Letter from Mr Maunsell a enclosing a General Return of the Forces there Capt Kilpatrick with a Return of those in nopoly. Capt Pigou at Arcot writes that Mood Caun had releasd one of the Men who was taken Lieutenant with a Promise to release the in a few Days. In regard to the Salt Provision for in that Garrison which has been represented for us he says that it has often been since the Command of that Fort devolved upon

Fort St George January 1754.

bound till after the Monsoon.

The Proceedings at the Conferences between our Commissarys & those of the French at Madrass requiring Dispatch, the Letters receivd from thence have been immediately Communicated to the Gentlemen of Council & answers returnd as entered in the Section apart in the French Correspondence.

The President Lays before the Board a Letter from Ensign Paccard of the Bengal Detachment requesting to be admitted on this Establishment & that he may have Leave at present to go to Bengal to settle his Affairs & return hither again, as to the first the Board do not think it proper to gratify him, but consent to his going to Bengal that Capt.n Saunderson of the same Detachment who some time ago applyd for & obtainid Leave to return to Bengal but altered his Intentions, do also proceed thither the Gentlemen there having Appointed Capt.n Howes to Command the Detachment

Ordered that Capt.n Lieutenant Witherington, Lieut.s Bishop & Ensign Hayes lately arrivd from Bengal proceed to Camp by the first Opportunity

As it is very probable the Conferences at Madrass will shortly be at an end Mr. Dupleix seeming inflexible Agreed that the Dragon be detaind a few Days that our Honble Masters may be advisd of the Event by her, & a Duplicate forwarded by the Durrington

Ino.s Saunderson.
Edwd Boddam
Henry Vansittart
Wm Lynch
John Smith
Wm Bourchier

Fort St. George January 1751.

31. General Letter to Major Lawrence agreeable to Cast, Consultation signd & sent as follows

To Stringer Lawrence Esq.r

We wrote you under Date the 21st Inst. & have since received your Letters of the 20th 22 & 23d Inst.

It has been for these three Months reported that Ballazeroon would come this Way & by some it was said Salabad Sing also but We have not any Advice of their having yet moved Ballazeroon a Jews Son Bourchier he would assist Us & that We think we Dependance can be had on his Promises at the same Time shall omit no opportunity of Cultivating a friendship with him

We have received from Mr. Maconsel a General Muster Roll of the Force in Camp & from Capt.n Kilpatrick one of those in Trichinopoly with Accounts of Provisions & Stores

We approve of Capt.n Howe commanding the Troop

Agreeable to what before wrote you the French Deputys arrivd at Madrass the 29th Dec.r by that Lavaur Mess.rs Bajet & Kjean & the Mayor Pochon & Several Papers said to be Sunnads granted Mr. Dupleix for the Government of the Carnatecko & Boyalaseemy Proposals which is introduced by a Demand of the Prisoners being releasd & Concludes with observing that Proposals that the Gentlemen of Madrass shall be free from an Annual Tribute & that a Demarcation may be made that a Provision shall be made for the Nabob that Peace should be granted to the King of Tanjore who he laid down his Arms. That Measures be concerted for Satisfying the King of Mysore What ever Terms

Fort St. George January 1754.

Consideration of these Advantages the English should evacuate all Places they were in Possession of belonging to the French & leave the Country to be govern'd by Salabad Jing's Order. our Commissarys proceeded to an Examination of the Sanads upon perusing some of them wherein were great Defects Father Lavaur refus'd a further Scrutiny till the Sanad from Nazirjing investing with Mahomed Ally with the Government was produc'd on being told the Originals were in the Nabobs Hands & that Copys should be sent for their Perusal when Father Lavaur declar'd absolutely Mr. Dupleix would never Consent to Nabob Mahomed Ally's being Subah of the Carnateck. Argeements so extravagant & unreasonable have been easily answer'd & We have given them our final Proposals as soon as ever we are a little disengag'd from our present multiplicity of Business Copys shall be sent you

tho the Nabob in his Letters has given us full Power to treat in his Behalf & declar'd that he would Confirm whatever We agreed on yet on these Occasions a Power for Treaty Seal'd with his Seal & not interspers'd with other Subjects is necessary & he should send such an one immediately as also Copys of his Sanads from Nazir Jing. Gauzede Caron & Gauzede Caron's Son attested by the Cowdee

By what has already past we have reason to believe Our Endeavours to promote a Peace will prove abortive & the Conference soon break up when We shall if We can prevail on him send Mr. Saltk to you.

The Parole the Nabob has taken of the French Officers for their enlargement We think extreamly proper, & hope they will not again dishonour their Nation by a Breach of it.

Enclos'd are Copys of the Several Advices We have receiv'd from the Negrais wherein

We

Fort St. George January 1751.

We desire your Opinion

We are
Sir
Your most obedient Servants
Tho.s Saunders.
Chas. Boddam.
Henry Bonney.
Alex.r Wynch.
John Smith.
Cha.s Bourchier.

Fort St. George
the 31st. Janry 1751.

P.S. We also enclose you Copy of a Letter from Coll.o Scott to the President for your Perusal & Opinion

February 3 Letter from the President to the Marquiss Dupleix N.o 1. sign'd & sent as order'd in the French Correspondence

At a Consultation Present.

Monday the 4.th

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Gov.r Presid.t
Charles Boddam, Hon.y Bonney
Alex.r Wynch, John Smith
Charles Bourchier

General Letter from Major Lawrence from Richard Starke Esq.r & two from Thomas Hastie Esq.r read as follow

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receivd your Favour of the [illegible] with the Copies of the several Letters

The Nabob writes to you to mention and consi-
ering the Subjects you have desird his Sentiments on [illegible]
send you the Copy of a Letter from the Dolloway he invi[illegible]
or what he is sure he cannot, nor will not grant.

your Answer to Mr. Dupleix car[illegible]
conviction with it, which was necessary for to fairly e[illegible]

Fort S.t George February 1754.

seeming plausibility of his: I do it but barely Justice, when I say it is wrote with great Spirit & Judgement.

Ramah Naigue still continues Ill, I shall make use of him as Occasion requires. . . . .

I am very glad you Intend sending M.r Palk up. Affairs remain in the same Situation. the French have made an Inroading in the Tamiouse Poligars Country which they have Plundered.

The last Letters I had from Capt.n Pascall were on the 25.th at which time he was at Miaveram in his Way to Carrapt.

Camp the
27.th Janry 1754.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obed.t & most humb.e Serv.t
Stringer Lawrence.

P.S. I was concerned not to see the Presidents Name Signd to the last General Letter. I hope the Occasion of it / which must be his bad state of health / may soon be removed.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council
of Fort S.t George

Hon.ble Sir & Sirs

I am favourd with your Letter of the 24.th Inst. advising of M.r Hunters Death at the Negrais, & desiring my Opinion who should Succeed him which is as follows, That if one of the Council can be sent without Inconvenicncy to the Service of the Coast he should proceed; if none of them can be spared, M.r Percival who is next in Standing I am of opinion is a proper Person.

I am with Respect
Hon.ble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Rich.d Starke

Fort S.t David
28.th January 1754.

To

Fort St. George February 1754.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council of
Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

The Occasion of this is only to annex
plicate of my Address to you from Tanjore under date the 1
Instant. & to acquaint you of my return here in the com
state of Health, as therein advis'd of I presume to myself t
the Nature of my Disorder & the different Mobilation that
been oblig'd to dispense with will sufficiently convince you
the Necessity I was under of coming to this Resolution as i
Situation I could have had no hopes of Recovery. I rely that
that this proceeding will not be disapproved. and remain
due Form

Fort St. David
28 January 1754.

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obed.t humble Servt
Thomas Cooke.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council of
Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I am favour'd with your Letter of the 2
I am pleas'd to find your Sentiments relating to
at Camp concur so entirely with what I wrote. When
Tanjore I could perceive no alteration there for the better
do I think the Dollaway is the least inclin'd to come
-modation on any other Terms but the last Article
Morarow be brought off. which my Letter of the
-ed you he had given a fresh opening for. & would
Tanjore but Vigorously Assist with his Troops, I am
of Opinion some favourable Terms might soon be
but the Nabobs Plea of Distress convinces me that
of these can only be done by you. and the latter
assure will never be procur'd on any other Way but by
Nabob & majors pursuit of Application which I believe

they have Thoughts of Trying very shortly.

I am much concernd for the Death of Mr. Hunter, as that Settlement is so lately established, and as I apprehend is yet very unsettled; I think it highly requisite he should be Succeeded by a Person of the most approved Conduct. The properest I can mention for it is Mr. Perceval, but should his Age & infirmities oblige him to decline it, I am then of Opinion it should by all Means be fixd on one of the Council whom you may best approve till our Honble Masters Pleasure be known.

Fort St. David
28 Jan.y 1754.

I am in due form
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient humble Serv.t
Thomas Pooke.

Agreed to write to major Lawrence that We are of Opinion the King of Tanjore will not Join till the Main Army has a Visit with the Army. We therefore think it a Measure that should be taken if it can be done with Safety.

The President lays before the Board the Country Correspondence &c.a as follows

Letter from Mr. Archibald Keir Surgeon at Camp representing the hard Duty he & the other Surgeons there are oblig'd to undergo for want of Assistants & requesting that this Inconvenience may be remedyed, & desiring also to be allow'd Batta from the Time he left this place till he return'd from St. David to Camp as he kept himself constantly in readiness at a considerable Expence to proceed on that Service

Agreed that Major Lawrence be acquainted we would very readily supply the Army with proper Assistants to the Surgeons if it were in our Power but that at present we have not any who can be spared. & as to Mr. Keirs request to be allow'd Batta from the Time he left this Place, that We do not think it reasonable

Capt.n Calgow at Arcot writes that all the

Fort St George February 1754.

The Prisoners at Velore have been set at Liberty except Lieut. Smith who Expects to be releas'd in a few Days

Letter from Capt. Campbell at Chingalap representing the necessity of having some further Repairs m & Works added to that Fort. The President acquaints the Boa he had discoursed with Lieutenant Barker who was sent to Chingalaput to survey the Works & that what appears mo necessary to be done at present is the Counterscarp of the Ditch which having given way the Glacis is in Danger of falling into the Ditch which having given way the Glacis is in Da ger of falling into the Ditch. Ordered that it be repaired & th Expence charg'd to the Nabob.

Letter from Ramah Naigue at Camp advising that he was met at Toincatapelly in this way by Vackeels from Morerar, Tondarrin &c Gollapan in the Trichenapoly Country who made proposals to him to be co municated to the President in regard to settling that Country representing that it was formerly under a Gentoo Gover ment till Chundah faithlessly breaking his Engagements with Nazir Jung Ducen subverted it, that on their Application to Nazir Jung he promis'd to restore the former Government but dying before he had accomplish'd it they are desirous the English should have the Honour of putting the Gentoos again in Possession of the Country; & that in such case they need not be under any Apprehensions on Account of the Moneys they have expended in the present War & in regard to the Way & manner they offer to send a Deputation often of their Body to with him of peace which should he reject they will take Arms against him. The Scheme of restoring the Gentoo Gover ment having already been communicated to the Majority one part of the Business of Ramah Naigue's Journey Agreed that Ramah Naigue be order'd to confer with the Major on that subject & not to do any thing without the & the Nabobs concurrence.

Letter from the Nabob again recommending the raising three Lacks of Rupees to be given to Morarer

Fort St George February 1751.

as a Consideration for quitting the Mysoreans & returning to his own Country.

The Major Nabob, & King of Tanjore have already been Acquainted that it is impossible for us to assist, with any part of that Sum, besides the President acquaints the Board that from his private Intelligence he has Reason to believe Morraroo has no Intention of returning to his Country & that this pretended offer of Morarow's is only a scheme of the King of Tanjores to bribe him not to plunder his Country.

Letter from Abdul Bob Cawn enclosing a paper sent him by Mootas Ally Cawn Phousdar of Vellore containing his Demands, & the Form of an Oath of alliance with Nabob Anawerde Cawn which he offers to take if they are granted,

The President also produces the Draught of his Answer to Abdul Bob Cawn, wherein he recommends an Addition to the Oath to be taken by Mootas Ally Viz. that he will acknowledge Nabob Anawerde Cawn for Subah of the Carnatick, & will pay obedience to his Orders & assist him against his Enemys. which the Board Approve, as they do also of Letters to the Nabob, & Mysore Dalleway; & also to the King of Tanjore in Answer to a long one from him the most material Circumstance in which is the Demand he desires may be made for him at the Conferences Viz. Mr. Dupleix having in Chunda's Time extorted a Writing from him / The King of Tanjore / whereby he gave up his right to the four Magans & remitted the usual Tribute of Caricall he requires the Restitution of the Magans and the payment of the Tribute, that, his Country be not molested, nor his People protected in Caricall.

(Abdul Bob Cawn having advised
Nab

Fort St George February 1751.

that his Elder Brother Mahaphooz Caron Bahader was arrivd with his Family at Nellore and desiring leave for them to reside at Madraſs: Agreed that they have ſoe Permiſsion to settle here.

Tho Saunders
Thos Woodhouse
Henry Lewis
Wm Smith
G Bourchier

Fort St George 24 February 1751.

6 Signd & sent General Letter to the Major Lawrence dated this Day as follows

To Stringer Lawrence Esq. Commander in Chief of all the Companys Forces in India

Sir

We have receeivd your Letter of the 27th. Ult.o We wrote you the 31st.

Inclosd are Copies of Letters to the Nabob, King of Tanjore & Dallaway, with the Original of the last, if you see a proper opportunity & approove it, it may be sent him. The Mysore Vackeel seems very sensible that if We came to any conclusion with the French his Master must be contend with the Terms We pleasd to give him - the Letter will at least shew him Mr. Dupleix's chicanery -

Please to press the Nabob as soon as possible to send the Attested Copies of his Sunneds as this is the only thing they have with the least show of Reason urgd during their whole conference

We are firmly of Opinion the King of Tanjore will not move till you & the Nabob have discourd with him & then not till the Harvest is collected.

Morarow has no Intentions to return to his Country he has remonstrated to the Dallaway the Loss he has lately sustaind in horses - who has made him easy by a Large Sum of Money the two & a half Lack of Rupees to be raisd on as was a Trick of the Nabob & the King of Tanjore by what We can learn as the latter finding the Marattas making inroads agreed to pay this Contribution that the harvest might be collected - If Ballarow should as the King of Tanjore so often writes come this way - Morarow & the Mysore Dallaway would either Depart immediately or by a large Sum buy him off -

M

Fort St. George February 1751.

We dond conceive M.r Dupleix will accept any reasonable Terms his chief designs seem to be to furnish himsely with materials for a plausible Remonstrance to Europe, to amuse & inform himself of the Supports on which we found the Nabobs Title. Set to work to oppose & Invalidate them by Sannads of his own & this with him is not difficult as he has already without scruple, to Day supplyd the place of a Sannad said to come from the Mogull which was found defective with another directly from Pondicherry & through the Hurry of that Dispatch.

Captain Lieutenand Witherington of the Train Lieutenands Bishop & Ensign Hayes who lately arrivd here from Bengal were sent from hence a few Days ago in the Lisle to Fort St. David whence they are to proceed to you & we believe Capt.n Sin will soon be able to follow.

We have receivd a Letter from Mr. Weir Surgeon in Cuzzy complaining of the hard Duty he is oblidd to bear for want of proper Assistands & desiring to be allowd Batta from the Time he went from hence. We do not think the last request reasonable, Has to Assistands we should very readily supply you if it were in our Power but We have not one that can at any Rate be spard at present.

Incloid is Copy of our last Letter to M.r Dupleix

Fort St. George
the 6.th Feb.y 1751.

We are
Sir
Your most Obed.t Humble Servants
Tho.s Saunders
Charles Boddam
Henry Pomeroy
Alex.r Wynch
John Smith
Charles Bourchier

Lt

76. O

Fort S.t George February 1754.

At a Consultation Present

Thursday the 7.th

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Gov.r President
Charles Boddam, Henry Bonney
Alex.r Wynch, John Smith
Charles Bourchier

The President acquaints the Board that all the Proposals made by our Commissarys at Sadras having been rejected by those of the French who declard that Mr Dupleix never would consend to make the Carnatick enjoying the Carnatick, our Gentlemen finding it to no purpose to continue there any longer, as the french still insisted on the legality of their Saneds tho they had been found defective they delivered their final Reply & Objections to the French Demands, took their Leave & are returnd but before they left Sadras they French Deputys delivered them an Answer to their last Letter which is now laid before the Board, & as it contains some new matter Agreed that an Answer be returnd with a Summary of the whole Proceedings at the Conference with Remarks thereon that it may the more evidently appear to our Honble Masters & the whole World that whatever Professions M.r Dupleix may make of his inclinations for Peace his Views are to possess the whole Country.

The Country Correspondence Read

Letter from Carnatick Naique advising that Tondeman, & Moravar, had again sent to Tanjore to press the Scheme of making a Tondou King of Trichenopoly earnestly desiring him to recommend it to the President's Consideration

The Detachment agreed in Consultation the 28.th Ultimo to be sent to Abdul Bob Cawn being in Readiness a General Letter is now signd containing Orders to Ensign Paccard who is to Conduct it directing him

him to proceed to Trivatore & there wait for Advices from Abdul Bobcawn were to Join him. That as the Intent-ion of making this Detachment is to cover & protect the Country between Arcot & Chingalapuet he is not to proceed further or undertake any other Expedition without par-ticular Orders.

A Letter from the President to Abdul Bobcawn is now read & approved, acquainting him that as with this Assistance of this Party he will be enabled to collect the Revenues it is expected he should contribute something towards discharging his Brothers Debt to the Company.

Mess.rs Starke and Cooke having given their Opinions (in their several Letters dated the 28.th Ultimo, entered in the Minutes of last Consult.n) with regard to the Person to be sent to the Negrais, & as the Cuddo-lore will shortly be in readiness to proceed thither, the Board are of Opinion that no time should be lost in making the Appointment that the Person pitched on may have sufficient Notice to prepare, & the Majority of the Board being of Opinion that it is not Essential one of the Council should be named it was then considered who of the Company's Servants below the Council should be appointed, & after some Debate it was agreed to determine it by Ballot which being taken on casting up

For Mr. William Percival, excluding the Votes of Mess.rs Starke & Cooke who declare positively for him in case one of the Council should not be sent — three 3

For Mr. Charles Hopkins — four 2

For Mr. Samuel Wordley — three 3

Fort St. George February 1751.

Mr. Hopkins having a Minority & Mess.rs Percival & Ardley an equality it was agreed to proceed to a Second Ballot for one of the two latter omitting Mr. Hopkins. which being taken the Votes were

		Votes
For Mr. Percival	two	2
For Mr. Ardley	four	4

The Majority being for Mr. ardley he is declard duly elected

Tho.s Saunders &c.
Geo.e Boddam
Henry Lascy
P. Pitt &c.
John Smith
P. Bouchier

Fort St George February 17

Commotions on these Coasts, it is not thought ad
present to withdraw any part of the Garrisons from
Chingalapuet as their whole Force is absolutely
not only for the Defence of those Forts but to keep
in Awe & prevent their Ravaging & plundering the
& Villages round about Agreed that the Major be
with our Motives for not complying at present wh
sal but that as soon as the Enemy are retird we s
him all the Force that can possibly be spard. & in
Time We shall write to Abdul Bob Cawn to prevail
Brother Mauphar Cawn to send to the Nabobs Assis
Thousand Horse he has brought with him from

The Commissary acquainds th
he is informd there are sixteen Topasses amongst th
Prisoners at Chingalapuet who would probably be
Service with us Agreed that Capt. Campbell be a
propose it to them & that if they Consent they be
for the Negrais

In regard to the Coolys sent
Chingalapuet for conveying Letters from the Prisc
Cherry Agreed that they be sent back to Ching
severely whipped there as a just Punishment
& a Terror to others.

The President laye before the
from Messrs Lavaux De Bayfot & De Kepare en
them from one of the French Officers who was
Fridinopoly and Oddy related on their Parole
of the great Hardships he sufferd in his confi
Ordered that a Copy of the said Letter be sent to

The President laye before t
Country Correspondence Viz.

Letter from Nabob Anwar
in he gives it as his Opinion that Mahomet Yoos
into this Province which he supposes with
& Probable Reasons, but should he come he
his stay can be but short & that he may

Fort St George February 1754.

or if that should not be thought advisable he would be well pleas'd if the English were to join him with four or five Hundred Men & dismiss the French which he the Nabob says he is convinced of by Letters from Court. In regard to the Fortress of Vellore he is willing to grant him whatever he possessd in his Father's life time. That as to the sending a Person to Seringapatam to treat with the King of Mysore himself he thinks it will not be amiss though there is no great Reason to expect Success as the head Dallaway with the King is Brother to the Dallaway at Springham & will therefore most probably support his Measures. He mentions that he is advised from Sadabat Sing's Camp the Ministers there disagree with the French, and that a Peace is concluded at Delli between the Patcha & Vizier.

Letter from Narrenarr the Mysore Dallaway to Mr Cooke wherein he recapitulates all his Transactions with the Nabob since he first came to his Assistance argues in support of the Justness of his Demand & endeavours with demanding the Fort or to be paid his Expences.

As Major Lawrence writes very pressingly for Mr Polk to go to Tanjore Ordered that the Secretary acquaint him of the Majors Request & that the Board think it will be doing the Company an Acceptable Service.

Geo: Saunders
Governor
Henry Savery
W Mackett
John Smith
C Boscawen

Fort S.t George February 1751.

At a Consultation Present

Thursday the 18.th

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Gov.r President
Charles Boddam. Henry Vansittart
Alex.r Wynch. John Smith
Charles Bourchier

General Letter from Capt.n Hilpa
Tricheenopoly read advising that they are in hopes so
able to compleat their Store of Provisions in Trichen
that he shall draw on us for one Thousand Bags
leaving the Accounts of Tricheenopoly for the M
January.

As the Accounts hitherto receivd
Provision in Tritchenopoly mention only wheat
ally there at the time but not the Barbicu[e]s of
& Issues Ordered that the Secretary write to Mr. Ha
Maunsell who acts as Commissary enclosing to him
General Account of Receipts, Issues, with the proc
remains since the Provisions have been laid in on
pany's Account, & that a like Account be sent us

The Secretary Acquaints the Board
able to Order of last Consultation he had acquainted
rend Mr. Palk with their Message in regards to the
Request to have him at Tanjore, & that he expressed a
willingness to undertake any thing that might be
the general Service, but having at present, necessary
to settle he hoped it would be of no bad consequen
departure was defer'd till the Dispatch of the Barr
to Europe when he would readily proceed. Mr Palk
always shewn a chearfull compliance whenever
vices have been desired, and as the Dispatch of the Barri
ton will not much exceed a Fortnight the Board do not
thinks his request unreasonable, and this agreed to represen
it to the Major.

Fort St. George February 1754.

The Rich Pallanquin prepaid for a present to the King of Pegue & that for Appa Rauzah not having been yet sent for Reasons which have been assigned Agreed that they be sent with Mr. Hopkins in the Cuddalore Sloop as a present, on the Arrival of a new Chief would probably be expected. & such an one as this may ingratiate him with the King and Minister.

The President lays before the Board the Country Correspondence containing Letters from the King of Tanjore & his Minister Succojee Naigue, Nabob Anawerde Cawn &c.a

Those from the King of Tanjore & his Minister are so full of Complaints of the Distress occasiond to his People & Country by the Morattoes & their fears of a second Visit from them, that there is great Reason to believe they have no Intention of Joining the Nabob at present, untill the harvest is got in.

The Nabobs Letter contains an Account of the Districts now possess'd by the French which they have acquir'd by Force & Refers to a List of the Jaguecers which he is willing to grant them amounting to three Lacks of Rupees p Annum empowering the President to treat with Mr. Dupleix on that Subject & to alter & vary it as he may think proper.

Tho the Nabob has been desir'd to send a full & ample Power to the President to treat & transact Affairs with the french & the Country Powers in his Name yet he does it in so Vague & loose a manner as may leave room for Cavil therefore Ordered that the Secretary draw out & lay before the Board the Form of a proper Power to be sign'd by the Nabob.

Letter from Saydoo Chatally Cawn en-
-closing one to him from Jaffer Alley Cawn relating to

Fort St. George February 1751.

Troubles in the Northern Province Requiring him to apply to us for 500 Europeans to Assist him. Agreed that the same Answer be returnd to Sydoo Bhatally Cauvie that has already been given to Taffer Ally Cauvie As mentiond in Consultation 7th January.

Thos Saunders

Geo Boddam

Henry Ellis

John Smith

Wm Brandyl

90

Fort St George February 1754.

At a Consultation Present

Monday the 18th

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Gov.r President
Charles Boddam, Henry Bonney
Alex.r Wynch, John Smith
Charles Bourchier

General Letter from Major Lawrence

N.o 29

read as follows

To the Honble Tho.s Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

Incloss'd this Morning yours of the
31.st January in Answer to mine of different Dates
I have been with the Nabob, & inclos'd
is the Instrument which I hope will be sufficient: & in two
Days he proposes sending the Copys you desire.
Some hurry of Business prevents my
Answering your Letter more fully at present, but shall do
it in a Day or two

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obed.t Humble.s Serv.t
Stringer Lawrence.

Camp the
10.th Febr uary
1754

Order'd that the proper Officer prepare
a return of all the Forces belonging to this Garrison Arcot
Chingalaput & on Detachment to be laid before the Board the
latter to enable them to form a Judgment what number of Men may
with Safety be drawn from to reinforce the Major as soon as the Si-
tuation of Affairs this way will permit.

As the Major complains that Buckarjees
Bills are not to be depended on & other responsible Shroffs have
promising punctually Agreed that the Major be acquainted

Fort St George February 17 1751.

We shall remit him Money from hence which We hope will
the Grievance.

Mr Andrews at Bandarmalan
in great want of a few Men for his necessary Protection
That a Serjeant with a few Europeans & some Topasses
twenty in the whole be sent him by his Sloop now
to sail & that he be directed to employ them only for
and not to embark in any Expeditions which will
him in Difficulties.

The Commissary lays before the
an Account sent him by the Commissary in Camp of
Naigues Expences, which appearing Extraordinary
Particulars that may be better pidgit in Camp the
Agreed that it be referr'd to Major Laurence to
Allowances.

This being the Harvest Season
plenty & Cheap is the proposed Time for laying
Agreed that the Officers at Arcot & Chingalpat
to press the Hillidars to collect a Quantity of Grain
ent for twelve Months before and each of them
& in case they neglect or refuse, to compel them

The the Nabob is of Opinion the
-tal King cannot come into this Province this
supports it with very cogent Reasons yet as the
influenced by the French, whose Interest it is to
this way & who will doubtless use what Means
to prevail on him, it is much to be apprehended
with these Parts & it is even reported he has
Standard for marching, & as his presence here
greatly change the face of Affairs the President
to the Consideration of the Board what measures
it would be advisable to pursue in such Case

And first as it is well known
Salabat King has never had any real claim
Mogul for the Government of Dreary Cotta

Fort S.t George February 175A.

offer'd to produce in the Conference for Makomed Allys Govern=
=ment of the Carnateck are Canneds from the Mogul
Nazir Jing Sawzde Cawn & his Son Shahebedey Cawn
without denying in express Terms Salabat Jings Right
tho' it is certainly very strongly implied in acknow=
=ledging Shahebedy Cawn for Prince of the Decan by a
late appointment of the Mogul, besides which it is
in several other Places insinuated that Salabat Jings
Title is doubtfull. Whether these Things considerd as well
as his attachment to the French, it would be adviseable
on his approach at the Head of a numerous & power=
=full Army for us & the Nabob to endeavour to make our Peace with
him by acknowledging his Title as Prince of the
Decan & consequently obey his Orders; Or, deeming
him an unlawfull Usurper, oppose him with all
our Force; Or avoiding both extreams; send a depu=
=tation to him to propose an Accomodation &to
join & support him with our whole Force conditio=
=nally that Mahomed Ally be continued in the Go=
=vernment of the Carnateck & our Sagueers of Se=
=verideporum, Coonamalu &c.a Thomi confirmd
to us with a Liberty of free Trade

Secondly in case Salabat Jing
influenced & overawed by the French, which would pro=
=bably be the Case, should refuse to treat with us until
We withdrew our Garrisons from the several Forts
We are in Possession of, whether We should comply
or by refusing make him our declar'd Enemy which
must be the Consequence ϕ

Fourthly as the first grand Aim
of the French should they bring Salabat Jing into
this Province, would probably be to regain the
Liberty of above six Hundred french Prisoners who
are kept in the Forts wher We have Garrisons which
would give them a great Superiority [illegible] the Field

to carry their pernicious Schemes into Execution, & therefore it may be reasonably supposid the first Step would be to attempt the Reduction of those Forts by Force Whether upon these Considerations it would be advisable to trust the Prisoners there or whether without infringing the Treaty of Peace now subsisting between the English and French Nations they may be brought into our Settlements, as they are the Nabobs Prisoners of Distinction & not on the Terms of the Prisoners at St David who capitulated to be sent there & whether this can be done consistently with the safety of those Settlements.

In regard to the first Question, the Board are of opinion that to acknowledge Salabat Jung absolutely considering the French Influence, would be at once to subject ourselves to his & their Power & thereby enable them to effect the Scheme they have so long been laboring to accomplish & do away his Right tho this would be most consistent with the Sunnud Mahomed Ally claims, it would expose the Company's Districts to the Ravages of his Army, for these Reasons the Board think those two Extreams should be avoided & that it would be most advisable to Endeavour to negociate & accomodate Matters with him on the terms proposd.

Secondly in case Salabat Jung should refuse to treat untill we Evacuate the Forts all tho we offer to join him with our whole Force, such a Refusal may be construed a strong Attachment to the French Interest & therefore it would by no means be advisable to comply because it would be investing them with a Power to do whatever they pleased which would in the End be of more pernicious Consequences than the worst Ravages the whole Army could commit in the Company's Bounds during their stay here, which probably could be but short as the Country is incapable of maintaining so large a Force any Considerable Time

Thirdly the Board are of Opinion that the best Method to guard against the Effects of a Refusal to acknowledge Salabat Jung, would be to lay in now that Grain we shall

Fort St George February 1754.

& cheap, at least 12 M.ds Provision in each of the Forts for a large Garrison, & that when it comes to the Point, such of the Forts as may not be judged tenable against the Enemy's Force be immediately evacuated & the others strongly reinforcd & that our whole Army approach our Bounds to protect them or Act as Occasion may Require

Fourthly the Board are of Opinion that without any Infraction of the Treaty of Peace between England & France the Prisoners at Discretion may be confind in our Settlements as they are not ours but the Nabob's Prisoners the Parole the Officers have given him acknowledge it, & it is not material to us of what Nation his Prisoners may happen to be it seems to be equally warrantable to confine them in our Forts being Allies to the Circar, as to attack him in the Field. & it has not been doubted but that he may do so as Auxiliaries, besides M.r Dupleix's seizing & detaining our Detachment of Sepoys will Justify it; The Board are further of Opinion that by keeping good Garrisons in our Settlements they may be confind more without Danger. As to the Expediency of removing them, the Board think the obtaining their Release would certainly be the first Point the French would aim at & therefore to frustrate it, they advise the Escorting them from the Forts where they are confind into our Settlement on the first News of Salabat Jings approach towards the Frontiers

Agreed that Major Lawrence & the Sr. be desird to give their Opinions on the foregoing Particulars

The President lays before the Board the Country Correspondence Viz.t

Letter from the Nabob containing a Power to negociate with the French, which in the Opinion of the Board not being properly worded, the Secretary lays before them agreable to order of last Consultation a Draught of a full Power for that Purpose from the Nabob to the Governor in Council

Fort St George February 1761.

which is read & approved & order'd to be Translated into the Persian Language to be sent him

Four Letters from Abdul Kob Cawn Advising that Ballazeroms Vackeel had sent a party of Horse towards Tripaty & gives out that his Master has authority for it from the Mogull. That with the Assistance of the Body sent him he should collect Money & pay a part to the Company & remit to the Nabob, at present he sends us an Order upon Mahomed Cawn Amaldar of Tripatore Circar for a Lack of Rupees That he is desirous of Accomodateing Affairs with Mootoo Alley Cawn on the same terms he enjoyd in his Fathers Time but cannot agree to it. That the Nabob has wrote to him for a Reinforcement but as the Bay of his Army is Eight Months in Arrear he refuse to go. That he expects Mauphuz Cawn to join him shortly with two Thousand Horse with which he will march against the Pollygars and supply the Nabob with what Money he may collect & pay his Troops whom he will send to the Nabob.

Ordered that the Commissary demand the Sack of Rupees, by Virtue of Abdul Kob Cawns Order of the Amuldar of Tripatore Circar & report his Proceedings to the Board

Letter from Mootoo Alley Cawn enclosing a form of an Agreement or Letter of Indulgence which he desires may be signed by the Governour & Council with Hostilities affixd. which with some Alterations is agreed to be sent.

Ensign Baccard writes from Tripatore that he had joind Abdul Kob Cawn & that they were in pursuit of a Party of Morattoes who have been plundering towards Chingapatnam

Letters to the Nabob. King of Tanjore &c.a which are approved.

Tho.s Saunders
Geo.e Pigot
Henry Lowry
Wm. Wilkes
John Smith
Geo.e Stratton

Fort St George February 1754.

and Chingalapuet We have joind a Party to abdul Bob Cawn
this may in some Degree keep them at a Distance but not
totally prevent their Incursions as the French have Attempara
& Singee Places convenientley situated for their Retreat &
as Magazines for Stores

The Nabob's Elder Brother Mahaupthez
Cawn is arrivd at Velore with 1000 Horse

The Conference at Sadras is broke up
Mr Dupleix being deaf to all reasonable Proposals &
insisting on his unlawfull rights to the whole Country
Mr Starke will enclose you Copy of the last Letter to
the French Deputys which is a recapitulation of the
whole

The Measures we think most proper
are

That as this is the Season of Harvest,
Grain is cheapest & plentiest, a Store for a year at least
should be laid into, Trichenopoly by which Means shou'd
it be necessary the Army may move & if Salabad Jing
should come into the Province &, influenced by French
Councils, have any Design on it, it may be the easier
frustrated, as it is a Doubt whether his Army could
be supported a Year in the Province

We concurr with you in your Opinion
-on of attacking the Enemy before they can be joind
by their Aurungabad Force, & receive Recruits from Europe,
The President has wrote to Abdul Bob Cawn to Join some
Horse to the 1000 that came with Mahaupthez Cawn
& send them to the Nabob, We shall supply your with
all we can possibly Spare reserves are now preparing
of the Several Garrisons & in a few Days We shall be able
to advise you what number of Men can be sent you

the

Fort St. George February 1754.

19. Sent General Letter to Major Lawrence as follows

To Stringer Lawrence Esq.r

We have recievd your Letter of the 4th Instant with one to the President which he communicated to us

By a Majority of the Council Mr Charles Hopkins is appointed to Succeed David Hunter Esqr as Mr Negrais

By 5 Deserters from the Enemys Camp to Arcot who are since sent hither, We are informd that one reinforcement of 50 Men being sent from Condicherry to Tyruingham a Detachment was at Night sent out to Join them that their Number might seem the greater that the whole Force of the French, Topiakes & Coffreys included is about 600 amongst which are many Seamen & Boys that their Treatment is Bad & Provisions scarce which occasions frequent Desertion that they do not seem to have any Design to act offensively but wait an attack from the Nabobs Army

It is rumourd Salabad Jung intends coming to this Province though not certain it seems reasonable to conclude that the French will try all means to persuade him to it. The Nabob thinks he will not, he supports his Opinion, by urging the Contents of his Cash that he will not be able to satisfie his Troops & that Mischief would be more further than Golconda an Insurrection at Aurungabad would be the Consequence; These Reasons are of Force, but considering the Interest the French have with him & that that will strongly inforce it.

The Marattoes have lately a
-dering and distroying in the Neighbourhood

Fort S.t George February 1754.

be at pleasie to prese him to send it soon & let it be as pate as possible.

Fort S.t George
19.th Febry 1754.

Enclosd are Copies of Letters to the Kings of Tanjore

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

Thomas Saunders
Charles Boddam
Henry Bonney
Alex.r Wynch
John Smith
Charles Bourchier

At a Consultation Present

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Gov.r President
Charles Boddam, Henry Bonney
Alex.r Wynch, John Smith
Charles Bourchier

Wednesday
the 20.th

The President acquaints this Board that the Occasion of his calling them together is to communicate to them a General Letter from M.r Hopkins at Deve Cotah / & the same is accordingly read / expressing that he shall retain a gratefull Sense of the Favour done him in the Appointment of him to the management of the Company's Affairs at the Negapatn but as he has for a considerable time past & still Labours under a very bad state of Health which renders him unequal to so weighty an Undertaking as succeeding M.r Hunter in the Government of that Settlement he therfore Requests to be excusd & to be Continued in his present Employ.

Fort St. George February 1754.

As the Negrais is represented to be a very unhealthy place the Board are of Opinion that it will be of no Service to send a Gentleman there who already labours under a bad State of Health & several concurrent Testimony's being produced that Mr. Hopkins is really in the Condition he represents Agreed that he be excused & continued in the Chief ship of Dove Cotah

The Board then proceeded to the choice of another Gentleman & William Perceval being proposed is appointed to succeed Mr. Hunter in the Management of the Honble Compy's Affairs at the Negrais, Ordered that the Secretary Signifie the same to him.

Tho. Saunders.
Chas. Boddam
Henry Bourchier
Wm. Smith
John Smith
C. Bourchier

At a Consultation Present

Friday the 22d

The. Saunders Esq. Governour President
Charles Boddam. Henry Bourchier
Alex.r Wynch John Smith
Charles Bourchier

The President acquainted the Board that he had given call'd them together in relation to the appointment of a Person to proceed to the Negrais in the room of Mr. Hunter as no time was to be lost & Mr. Perceval whom the Board had pitched upon for that purpose last Wednesday desired to be excused for the Reasons contain'd in a Letter now read as follows

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r President
& Governour &c.a Council of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I this Day receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Secretary
Du Pré to acquaint me that you had yesterday appointed

Fort St George February 8th 1754.

me to succeed David Haddock Esqr in the management
of the Honble Companys affairs at the Negrais
The great Regard I have for the Honble
Companys Interest and the Duty I owe to Honord to your
Orders, are sufficient Motives to induce me to Comply
therewith did not my Age and Infirmities prevent
me which I believe upon Honour &c. are in some
Measure visible of, in these Circumstances I hope
you will excuse me from undertaking such an Expedition
being well convinc'd I cannot render our Honble Masters
those Services, which the Nature of it requires

I am
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedient
Humble Servant
William Perceval.

Fort St George
21st Febry 1754.

The same Reasons being alledg'd by Mr
Perceval as by Mr Hopkins against undertaking
Expedition which it must be allowed requires more
Activity, the Board admit of his Excuse and Mr Hopkins
Shuttle being propos'd is appointed in his Stead to
proceed to the Negrais & take Charge of the Honble
Affairs, which the Secretary is directed to acquaint
him with

(General Letter from Major
Lawrence read as follows.
To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr President
& Governour &c. Council of Fort St George
No. 31.
Honble Sir & Sirs
Acknowledg the Receipt of
your

Fort St George February 1753.

1

yours of the 31st in mine of the 10th & inclosd sent the Instrument you desird from the Nabob, for full Powers to treat & conclude of a Peace.

Inclosd with this goes Copies of all his Saneds, attested as you desire by the Gaudee. He has also receivd Letters from Ballazeroor, assuring him of his Assistance; & the Kistnar reports that the Forces were on their march when he set out. How much we may depend on this is far from Certain therefore nothing at the present should be omitted that can be done for expectation of what may happen.

In Answer to the Letter from Bengal (the Counterpart of which I receivd also from those Gentlemen) I send you enclosd my Answer to them. I think the Remonstrance of their Officers very Just. I only wait for your Orders to comply with their Request, which Order if you please should be given at all our Places where we have any Troops.

They approve of none of the Appointments made on this Coast for their Gentlemen: & seem to think they are solely made by me. I beg you will inform them right in that particular by letting them know the Method I follow. Which is only appointing for the Time being, when Service requires, & waiting for your Orders to confirm, or reject as you please. I also acquainted the Gentlemen of that Presidency of the Appointments made by me & ratified by you, for their Officers: as I told you in a letter of mine last Nov^r As to the Bengal Promotions, I write to the Governour of that Settlement recommending: & them waiting for his Approbation.

The Affair of the Negrais on which you demand my Sentiments. I cannot so easily give it. I have read over of my Papers by me to refresh my Memory. Nor can I

Fort St. George February 1754.

recollect the Reasons & Opinions I gave you before we
of that new Settlement One Thing I remember very well, And
you I thought it was an undertakeing at a Time, when the
Circumstances of Affairs were not so favourable as one could
wish; For the prosecution of a Scheme that required being
well & firmly established at first; In order to maintain it
self afterwards. we could not then well spare Troops; Nor
do I think care we now. The Gentlemen think the Place were
pitched on for the Settlement will not Answer. The Difficul-
ties seem to be very great. They are Doubtfull of the Sincerity
of the Regues, & for that Reason decline their Invitation to
Persaim; where certainly it would be wrong to send them
without a Force strong enough to protect them from any
Insult. could they maintain themselves when they are left
the Arrival of the Europe Ships, which perhaps may bring
us a much wanted Peace. Then you may be able to pursue the
Project with Vigour & Advantage, either by removeing to
you are, Or removing to Persaim.

I do not give this Gentlemen as my Opinion
only my Thoughts. You will act for the best. I am persuaded
& I wish you Success.

There are no Troops yet from Tanjore, nor
any Thing from that Court that seems to Promise much in
our Favour. If my last Proposal cannot be agreed with I
think with you we must draw down there Necessary Stock
please to consider that the Minute we leave the Fort, not
one of the Naiobs People will stay in it. For he has no
Money to leave with them for their Support, & only keeps
them now by Promises & borrowing little Sums from every
Body that will trust him. When they go If I leave a Force
sufficient for our own People to guard that large Place I

Fort St George February 1754.

I should leave myself without any Troops Were I to spare to him
on the Subject. He declares his Necessity; & that all he can ex-
-pect is from Arcot, which has been often promised, but never
sent. You should press his Brother to send him some Money.
It shall be taken care of by us, & only laid out to pay his Sea-
-poys, who will gladly stay when they find Provision
made for them. Give Security for it

The Affair of Provisions grows every Day
more Troublesome, being obligd to live from Hand to Mouth,
& continual Parties sending out to Escort it which fatigues
& harasses our Men greatly. I beg you may come to a speedy
Resolution, for Affairs cannot remain long as they are. We
have reports that the King of Tanjore is in Treaty with
the Mysoreans, & indeed his way of Proceeding does not sum
unlike it. Sondiman is continually wanting a Party
in his Country, which I cannot spare him for the Time
he wants them; & Supplys us but very Scantily

I have had some Conversations with
Bannah Naigue. I wish even I cannot find he parts out
himself any Use he can be of to us; nor can I myself look
on him as of any Service, but a great Expence. If you will
please to shew me how I can employ him, I shall imme-
-diately do it.

My Officers begin to fall sick. Capt.
D'Allens, & three more obligd to go in the Fort, Capt. Nelson
with my Leave goes down to St. Davids for his Health

Our Congress will prove but a tedious
Affair I believe, & produce Nothing. I am not certain if
Mr. H'Leans ought not to have been objected to as one of
the Deputys He is still Prisoner to the Nabob, & as such
without his Leave; I do not think he can Act in such an
Affair, or what is equal to it his acting not acting Vakeel
actually

Fort St. George February 1754.

probably a Piece of French Politicks to make the Moors Themselves, & if not taken Notice of by us to serve them as Occasion may offer.

The King of Tanjore has just given us a Proof of his well meaning. One of our out Forts which is the Hight road from him to us, & for all our Supplys, which he had hitherto kept with his Forces, this Day he has recalled, & the Place abandoned by them, without any Reason assigned for such Behaviour. The Place is called Coutapara.

Camp —
13th Febry 1754.

I am, Gentlemen
Your most obedient & most humble Servt
Stringer Lawrence.

A Return being now laid before the Board of the Forces in this Garrison & dependencys, Dated 8th Instant & Agreed that one Hundred & twenty Men be Imployed to reinforce the Army under the Command of Major Lawrence & that the Recovery Snow now in the Road be hired to transport them to Dove Cotah where they are to wait for the Major Orders that he be advised thereof and acquainted that if Lieut Naigue can be of Service in Camp as an Interpreter he may be kept there otherwise sent to St. David, & in regard to the Bengal Recruits that they are incorporated in that Detachment.

Jno. Saunders
Chas Boddam
Henry Egerton
Wm Watts
John Smith
Ed Saunderson

Fort S.t George February y.e 15.th 1751.

21 General Letter to Major Lawrence signd & sent dated this Day, as follows

To Stringer Lawrence Esq.r Commander in Chief of the Company's Forces in India

Sir

We have receivd your Letter of the 13.th with Copy of one without Date the Original is not come to hand our Last p.r was the 19.th Instant

'Tis a year since the Recruits design'd for Bengall have been incorporated in that Detachment what Recruits we receive are as soon as Disciplind sent to Camp the only Method to regulate that affair is that those who come out in future be disposd of in the same Manner as to conforming exactly to the List sent up 'tis impossible the Commandant of the Garrison always had Orders to acquaint you with every thing thereto relating

The Disapproval of the Appointments of the Bengal Officers here we conceive Does not proceed from any want of Respect to us or You but that there are other Officers at Bengal who by Rank are Intitled to such Vacancy's. We shall recommend to the Gentlemen at Bengal not to supercede any Officers appointed here & acquaint them with the Method of Appointing them Lieutenant Godwin was by Mr. Robbins.s Request granted a Commission on that Establishment we are informd he has not his Rank if so 'twould be better to continue him on ours

The Letters We sent you Contain the whole Information we have receivd of the Negroes We shall conduct the Expedition in the best manner we can though We are convinc'd it will never answer the Expectation conceivd of it.

Fort St George February 1751.

The Sarvis are received our last Advices say Ballazeroon continues at Coonah & that Salabat Jing had hoisted his Standard for Marching having taken his two Brothers out of Boudatabad Fort. Shakeldoo Lascar Cawn had resigned & Shawnavoonscawn acted as Dear Mons.r Bussy is preparing for Salabad Jings March to the Carnatick the Coonah & Ballazeroon appear ill

The King of Tanjore continues his too Cautious Manner of acting Mr Palk will shortly set out for his Court & We hope will be able to convince him of the necessity of exerting himself.

We are continually praying Abdul Wahab Cawn to send his Troops & remit some Money to the Nabob, the President has wrote to him to join 500 Horse to the 1000 of Mauphis Cawns & detach them immediately & We are Draughting Men from Arcot Chingalpat & our own Garrisons who We hope will Embark in a few Days on the Recovery Brigantine for Devi Cotah under the Command of Capt.n Lin when you'll please to send Orders for him.

Mr Starke informs us he has received 12000 Rup.s we have sent you Bills for 15000 & shall send others for 15000 more.

If Ramah Naigue can be of Service to You as an Interpreter in Camp. please to keep him, if not, please to return him to Fort David.

The King of Mysore is sensible how to overcome the King of Tanjore's junction is to the Nabob in disappointing his views on Trichenopoly & will Endeavour to gain him but as the former knows nothing will satisfie Him but the giving up that place. We can hardly think he will accede to it if he does We cannot conduct it the Enemy pro-

Fort St George February 1754.

they will deliver it to the Mysoreans & get Salabat Jings
Confirmation, & We believe if the Nabobs Affairs don't mend
we must be glad of these Terms at last

The Papers transmitted will inform
you of the Issue of the Congress; as they were only empowerd
to Confer & not to ratifie Mons.r Bussians being a Deputy could
not be of any Prejudice.

The March of Salabat Jing into this Pro-
-vince, & the Measures to be taken came under our Considerati-
-on when the following Points were Debated on which We
should be glad of your Opinion

First: Whether on his Approach at the Head
of a numerous & powerfull Army, it would be advisable for us
& the Nabob to Endeavour to make our Peace with him by ack-
-nowledging his Title as Prince of the Decan & consequently
his Orders; Or deeming him an unlawfull Usurper, oppose him
with all our Force; Or avoiding both Extreams send a Deputa-
-tion to him to propose an Accomodation & to join & support him
with our whole Force conditionally that Mahamed Ally be
continued in the Government of the Carnatteck Lower Jaguers of
Trevendeporum Bonemalee & St. Thomé confirmd to us with a
Liberty of free Trade

Secondly. In case Salabat Jing is pleased to Accept
of the French should refuse to treat with us untill we
withdraw our Garrisons from the several Forts we are in Pos-
-session of, whether we should comply, or by refusing make them
our declard Enemy which must be the Consequence.

Thirdly. If it be thought most advisable not
to comply, what are the properest Measures to be pursued
to preserve the Forts & oppose the Enemy.

Fourthly. as the first grand Aim of the French
should they bring Salabad Jing into this Province, would

Fort St George February 1754.

probably be to regain the Liberty of above 600 French Prisoners who are kept in the Forts where We have Garrisons which would give them a vast Superiority & enable them to carry on their pernicious Schemes into Execution Therefore it may be reasonably supposed the first Step would be to attempt the Reduction of those Forts by Force. Whether upon these Considerations it would be adviseable to trust the Prisoners there, or whether without infringing the Treaty of Peace subsisting between the English & French Nations they may be brought into our Settlements as they are the Nabobs Prisoners at Discretion & not on the Terms of the Prisoners at St. David who capitulated to be sent there, & whether this can be done consistently with the Safety of these Settlements

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

Thos. Saunders

Charles Boddam

Henry Powney

Alex.r Wynch

John Smith

Charles Bourchier

Fort St George
24. Febry 1754.

At a Consultation Present

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Gov.r President

Monday the 25.th

Charles Boddam, Henry Powney

Alex.r Wynch, John Smith

Charles Bourchier

Two General Letters from Major Lawrence

Read as follow

Fort St. George February 1751.

N.o 32

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council of
Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I wrote to you Yesterday, & am sorry for the Occasion that obliges me to write again to Day. The Danger of sending out Parties which I too well foresaw & too often told you of appeard but too plainly to day.

I had sent a party to Trickinopoly, to escort Provisions, Money, & what Stores were there, as We had been obligd often to do this, I thought proper for fear the Enemy might be tempted to endeavour opposing them some time or other, to make this Party stronger than any I had sent.

The Enemy were enough luy in wait for them having marchd in the Night, attackd them by break of Day, with a Superiour Force, a great Number of Horse, Surrounded & have taken them almost all Prisoners, very few escaping & those Wounded. What gives me the greatest Concern in the affair is, that I believe their Ill success was owing to Misconduct. Capt.n Grenville commanded the party.

Inclosd is the Return of what We have lost, besides 6 Pieces of Cannon, Ammunition &c.a Stores, Provisions of all kinds. We have at Report the Money is safe. I hope it may prove true.

On hearing the Firing I immediately marchd from Camp with as strong a Body, but could not come time enough to prevent the Accident.

I shall write you to morrow my Sirs more at large on the Subject

Fort St. George February 1754.

wish for an opportunity to repair this Slip of their Country-
-men

Camp the
14 February 1754.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient humble Servant
Stringer Lawrence.

(N.o 33.
To the Honble Tho.s Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I wrote you on the 15.th with an Account of our Loss. We have since heard from Seringham. They have 138 Prisoners with them out of which, 100 are in the Hospitall. so but 38 out of the whole Number escaped without Death or Wounds. out of the 8 Officers 4 are killed Capt.n Grant, Revel. Kemp & Dapshor. 3 Wounded Capt.n Granville who is in a dangerous way. the Doctor & Ensign Vouge only escaping the general Massacre. you see Gentle-men what the bravest Men can do against Numbers to be sure if Capt.n Granville had not unfortunately divided his Men the Accident might not have happened. but have often have I told you that we were those Disputes, & Mons.r Law told you how we were distressed for Provisions, & the Danger we run in bringing them in, what could be the use of so many Remonstrances, & repeated ones; sure you could not have imagind it was for the Pleasure of worrying them or giving you uneasiness; was it not to point out to you our Situation, which you must see we could not hold long without more Forces to assist us, or to send us Provisions to move from this I was obligd to tell you what I thought should be done, which you should have Brought of. & done

Engd

Fort St George Febrauary 1754.

long ago. you flatter yourselves perhaps to protract the War
till the Arrival of the Europe Ships. In hopes they may settle
a Peace. In the Mean time it would I think be worth your
Consideration, the safety of so many brave Men, that may
perish for want of being supported. & think suppose these
Europe Ships do not bring a Peace, or Troops equal to those
the Enemy may have over. think of your Condition; & what
Terms, if you sue for a Peace you are likely to get. It
would be proper 69, 70, 68, 98, 99, to 73, 88, 114, 51, 40. in 01
(to March) (pa Inward) St David a mistake for you
far, that we may 158, 152, 154, 196, 195. where 69, 68, 70, 201.
(get provisions) (We march)
from A3, 40, A1. & have 106, 107, 108, 109 sufficient there. There
(Tuckenopoly) (Forces)
will not 66, 67, 70, 68 with me A b c s f z l o n p z left excee-
(March) (400)
-ding all kinds. In 40, A1, A3, 109, 100, will be f g r o c z k. &
(Tuckenopoly) (300)
(in the Hospital) (150) (Seapoys)
180, 181, 188, about p t l m e z, 118, 119, 131, 132 there x z z c m n
(800)
d. & with me p z f l m g m n z d c z m z that is the whole gua
(this must be a Mistake 10000)
(want of Money)
71, 72, 73, 74. pray dont neglect that — Send me you Orders
Gentlemen I insist on & beg it of you. you can Judge, I have
told you my Opinion, my Situation you know are
Friends, then Judge what is proper to be done. The
Money is all gone 1000 R. 9000 P. The French have pro
-paid an Exchange of Prisoners the Nabob has agreed to
it — I beg there may be no Delays in answering of this.
I wait with impatience for an Answer to ensure of the
2. & A.d Inst.r if that comes agreeable to what I've asked
we still may do very well. If not (unless I can have ver
good Reasons to the Contrary) I wash my Hands of the Affairs
I will do every thing in my Power but must think it hard
to be drove to such Necessities. Capt.r Pascall not longer
able to bear the Field & has my Leave to return Capt.r Pitt
continues very Ill I am afraid some Letters have misca-
-ried my last Except the Account of the Shoals
the 13.th (31) Instant. & your last to me on the

Fort St George February 1751.

Sam.

Gentlemen

Your Obedient humble Servant

Stringer Lawrence.

General Letter from Capt.n Kilpatrick at Tschinapoly advising that the Difficulty of getting Provisions is now so great & likely to encrease since the late Defeat that the Consequences are to be dreaded should they be obligd to encroach on the Magazine & advises that the only Effectual Way to apply a Remedy is to unite our whole Force & attempt something against the Enemy.

The Board having Considerd of what Measures are proper to be taken on this unfortunate Occasion It is agreed in the first place that the Army be reinforcd with every Man that can possibly be spard & thereupon the Return of all the Forces in their Garrison & Dependencies Arcot Chingalapuet &c.a being again Considerd Agreed that besides what Ordered to be drawn from the several Garrisons in last Consultation thirty more be draughted from Arcot Conjeveram & Chingalapuet that 30 Coffreys from this Garrison be also added, that Capt.n Pigou at Arcot be ordrd to deliver over the Command of that Fort to Lieutenant Hodges Breston & conduct the Party here as Expeditiously as possible in order to proceed to Camp.a that Lieutenant Batteson be also ordrd to take the Field, that as soon as the whole Detachment can be collected together they be embarkd on the Recovery Sloop for Devi Cotah with Orders to touch at Fort St. David & that Mr. Starke be desird to Exchange the Coffreys for Europeans if it can possibly be done with Safety to the Garrison, as the Coffreys are of very little use in Camp.a That in regard to

to the present Operations of the Army wherein the Major writes pressingly for Orders to be advised of the intented reinforcement that as the King of Tanjore's behaviour gives us Reason to be alarmd We think the whole Army should move towards him if it can be done with Safety to Trichenopoly, which may at once facilitate the getting of Provisions & the Junction of the Reinforcement from Deve Cotah. That as we suppose the Enemy are elated at the late Success We do not think this a proper Time to treat: That the King of Tanjore should be told plainly if he will not immediately Join his Forces to the Nabobs & act with Vigour he shall be under an absolute Necessity of delivering up Trichenopoly to the Duttchey & indeed if he should still decline Joining it appears to be the most Eligible Step as his Forces are absolutely necessary to oppose the Enemy, & it is agreed that Mr Call be desired to proceed with the above Detachment to Tanjore with Instructions to assure the King of our Resolution with regard to the King of Mysore & Trichenopoly.

Agreed that a General Letter be wrote by Pattamaar to Bombay to request they will if possible spare a reinforcement of Men

The President lays before the Board Extract of a Letter from Ensign Blachire at Chellumbrum, where he is now a Prisoner, giving an Account that he was attacked before Mannor Coil, which Place he was besieging, by a Party of the Enemy from Chellumbrum and that the Engagement lasted some time & Victory inclind to them when a part of Serpoys whom he had disposd in his Rear to cover it ran away & left him exposd upon which the besieged immediately made a Sally, he defended himself however for some time but being overpowerd by Numbers was obligd to surrender with one Serjeant one Corporal & nine Europeans

Fort St George February 1754.

Sam

Gentlemen

Your Obedient humble Servant

Stringer Lawrence.

General Letter from Capt.n Kilpatrick at Tschinopoly advising that the Difficulty of getting Provisions is now so great & likely to encrease since the late Defeat that the Consequences are to be dreaded should they be obligd to encroach on the Magazine & advises that the only Effectual Way to apply a Remedy is to make our whole Force & attempt something against the Enemy.

The Board having Considerd of what Measures are proper to be taken on this unfortunate Occasion It is agreed in the first place that the Army be reinforcd with every Man that can possibly be spard & thereupon the Return of all the Forces in this Garrison & Dependencies at Arcot, Chingalapuet &c.a being again Considerd Agreed that besides what Ordered to be drawn from the several Garrisons in last Consultation thirty more be draughted from Arcot Conjeveram & Chingalapuet that 30 Coffreys from this Garrison be also added, that Capt.n Pigou at Arcot be orderd to deliver over the Command of that Fort to Lieutenant Dalrymples Breadon & conduct the Party here as Expeditiously as possible in order to proceed to Camp, that Lieutenant Patterson be also orderd to take the Field, that as soon as the whole Detachment can be collected together they be embarkd on the Recovery Sloop for Devicotah with Orders to touch at Fort St David & that Mr Starke be desird to Exchange the Coffreys for Europeans if it can possibly be done with Safety to the Garrison, as the Coffreys are of very little use in Camp. That in regard to

Fort St George February 1754.

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-ment lasted some time & Victory inclind to them when a part
of Seapoys whom he had disposd on his Rear to cover it ran
away & left him exposd upon which the besieged immedi
-ately made a Sally, he defended himself however for som
time but being overpowerd by Numbers was obligd to surre
der with one Serjeant one Corporal & nine Europeans

Fort St George February 1754.

Continues who were all conducted to Mr Dumbrume.

Letter read from Nabob Annaverde Cawn enclosing attested Copies under the Cauds & Seal of the Several Sarenads from the Mogul, Nazir Jung, Gauridey Cawn, Salabad Jung, Shahabedey Cawn & Hafsebut Hucaun from Jawed Cawn, by Virtue of which he claims the Government of the Carnateek. Ordered that the same be translated & carefully examind & if they appear consistent & without Defect Agreed that a Letter be then wrote to Mr Dupleix that We are ready to produce attested Copies of the Nabobs Sarenads to whomsoever he shall appoint to inspect them

A Letter from Mr Jehan Smith who was last Consultation appointed to the Chiefship of the Negrais is now read as follows.

To The Honble Thos Saunders Esqr
President & Governour &c Council
Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

You were pleasd on Friday last the 22d Instant to order your Secretary to acquaint me that I was appointed to go Chief to the Negrais. after acknowledging the great Honour you designd me I begg'd Leave for a little Time to consider of it, as the Consequence I was then in prevented me from thinking maturely upon it. Time for considering this Affair being thought very reasonable, was readily granted me, the Use I have made of it has been to view it, in all the different Lights I possibly could; the Result of which is that is very humble & real Opinion, that I am not qualified for so important an Undertaking not only as I am not experienced in Affairs of this Nature but having never been employd in any thing like

Fort St George February 1754.

it, but as I am so far advanced in Years; that Spirit &
Resolution, which will be necessary to execute many
Things which may probably happen in a new Settlement,
cannot be expected from Me: & the Consequences that may
follow this one Circumstance Viz.t the want of proper
Spirits, may be such as cannot be easily remedied. Add
to this that I have not been without my Share of mis-
-fortunes in Life the Struggling with which has so
much depressed & indeed in a great Measure worn out
my Health & Spirits, that it has rendered me very badly
able to bear the great Inconveniences as to my Health,
caused by the Change from a Cold Northern Climate to this
that is so extreemly different from it; For these several
Reasons I with the strictest Sincerity Once more beg
leave to assure you that I think Myself very incapable
of forwarding the Design I am appointed to be sent upon.
After this it may be thought unnecessary to mention
that I have been frequently Ill since my Arrival here,
& was very lately again so attacked (of which if it be thought
proper I could produce sufficient Testimony) that I have
not yet properly recovered my Health for I am indeed
at present far from being well. But if after this Repre-
-sentation of my Case, You are still pleased to Order me
to the Negrais, I will endeavour to do my Duty there,
in the best manner in my Power, tho' I could much
rather wish to have a more able Person sent on an
Affair that I am so little fit for Executing either to
your Satisfaction or my own.

I am with all due Respect
Hon.ble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obl.d & Obed.t humb.l Servant
John Smith.

Fort St George
5.th Febr.y 1754.

Fort St George February 1754.

Continued who were all conducted to Collondrauny

Letter read from Rabob Annavarde Cavoo
enclosing attested Copies under the Cauzys Seal of the Several
Phirmeds from the Mogul, Nazir Jung, Gauzeday Cavoo, Salabad
Jung, Shahebdey Cavoo & Mapchebut Raccoon from Sarcid
Cavoo, by Virtue of which Ludaunis the Government of the
Carnateck. Ordered that the same be translated & carefully
examind & if they appear consistent & without Defect
Agreed that a Letter be then wrote to Mr. Dupleix that
We are ready to produce attested Copies of the Nabobs Sa-
neds to whomsoever he shall appoint to inspect them

A Letter from Mr. Johnston Smith who
was last Consultation appointed to the Chiefship of the
Negrais is now read as follows.

To the Honble Thos Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

You were pleasd. on Friday last the
22d. Instant to order your Secretary to acquaint me
that I was appointed to go Chief to the Negrais. after
acknowledging the great Honour you designd me I
beggd Leave for a little Time to consider of it, as the Con-
fusion I was then in prevented me from thinking
maturely upon it. Time for considering this Affair
being thought very reasonable, was readily granted
me, the Use I have made of it has been to view it, in all
the different Lights I possibly could; the Result of
which is that is my humble & real Opinion that I
am not qualified for so important an Undertaking
not only as I am not experienced in Affairs of this Nature
but having never been employd in any thing like

Fort St George February 1754.

it, but as I am so far advanc'd in Years; that Spirit & Resolution, which will be necessary to execute many Things which may probably happen in a new Settlement cannot be expected from Me; & the Consequences that may follow this one Circumstance Viz.t the want of proper Spirits, may be such as cannot be easily remedied. Add to this that I have not been without my Share of Mis-fortunes in Life the Struggling with which has so much depress'd & indeed in a great Measure worn out my Health & Spirits, that it has render'd me very badly able to bear the great Inconveniences as to my Health, caused by the Change from a Cold Northern Climate to this that is so extreemly different from it; For these several Reasons I with the strictest Sincerity Once more beg leave to assure you that I think Myself very incapable of forwarding the Design I am appointed to be sent upon. After this it may be thought unnecessary to mention that I have been frequently Ill since my Arrival here & was very lately again so attack'd (of which if it be thought proper I could produce sufficient Testimony) that I have not yet properly recovered my Health for I am indeed at present far from being well. But if after this Repre-=sentation of my Case, You are still pleas'd to Order me to the Negrais, I will endeavour to do my Duty there, in the best manner in my Power, tho' I could much rather wish to have a more able Person sent on an Affair that I am so little fit for Executing either to your Satisfaction or my own.

I am with all due Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obligd & Obedient humd Servant
Johan Smith

Fort St George
5th Febry 1754.

Fort St. George February 1751.

As Mr. Smith so earnestly presses to be excused & thinks that he has not Health or Spirits sufficient for such an Undertaking the Board do not insist on this proceading and it is agreed that Mr. Henry Brooke, who agreeable to his Orders took Charge of the Expedition on Mr. Hunters Death, be continued for the present in the management & Direction of the Settlement & Affairs at the Negrais Tho in case of his Death, that Mr. Thomas Taylor (who in Consultation the 18 of February was Appointed Resident at Syriam in the Room of Mr. Westgarth) succeed him untill further Orders.

Thos. Saunders
Geo. Bradshaw
Henry Lowry
Wm. Smith
John Smith
Edm. Monckton

Fort St George February 1754.

25 General Letter to Major Lawrence sent as follows.

To Stringer Lawrence Esq.
Commander in Chief of the
Compys Forces in India

Sir

We have received your Letters of the 13th and one without Date No 33 giving an Account of the ill Success of a Party detached for escorting Provisions which we are heartily sorry for.

We are concerned that your Situation should be such that absolute necessity obliged you to send out Detachments but We dont see how it could be remedied, if the Enemy's marching on the Night succeeded & overpowered one of the parties it must be deemed the fortune of War for neither can nor We can insure Success to the best Concerted Plans. What is in our Power We do. You will have been advised of the Reinforcement we were draughting agreeable to what you intimated this done tis with Difficulty the Garrison Duty can be performed, We have made your Remittances & shall continue to do this & every other Thing that may promote the good of the Service, not only your Inclinations but our utmost Endeavours have been for this Year past to conclude a Peace which from the Conference at Sadras and with the Mysore Vackeel is very evident, slight as are our Hopes of any Benefit that can come from the Negociations with the French Directors at home for how can they make any conclusions on what is fluctuating & they have no Knowledge of but in General Terms. The Execution of which must be trusted to Commissarys & these in all probability will be influenced by Dupleix; and accept or Reject as suits their Interest

Fort St George February 1754.

on a Reinforcement by our expected Ships have We more Dependance by Experience convinced that their Recruits are in Number greatly superiour to ours & consequently We shall be in a worse rather than a better Situation and when to this We add that there is a probability of Salabad Jung's coming to the Province we think it necessary to come to a determinate Resolution. Mr Dupleix's Essors We are all acquainted with We know also that the Mysore Dallowayes Demand is for the King of Tanjores Jeterad there is no doubt of. To give up Tritchenopoly he cannot thus of; should not be there assist in its defence the Marabbs Difficulties are obvious & you will be best able to Judge of the weight of the Reinforcement we are sending which will be to the utmost of our Power, thus the Terms of Peace, the Strength to continue the War are known it remains to fix on one or the other, please to give us your Opinion

No Endeavours shall be wanting to prevail on Abdul Bob Cawn to send the Horse one of the great Difficultys the Nabob labours under is the Incapacity & ill conduct of his Relations.

In the Exchange of Prisoners if Mr Astruck could be avoided it would be of Service as he is the most experienced Officer they have.

We feel very sensibly your Situation Cornish for Nothing more ardently than to be able to apply a Remedy & put it in your Power to strike a Stroke for the Publick Good the utmost We can do shall be put in Execution expeditiously the Reinforcement we are in great hopes will be ready to embark in four or five Days & will wait your Orders at Devecotah. You give us your Opinion

Fort St George February 1754.

Opinion 69. 70. 68. 98. 99. /to march/ to 73. 82. 114. 51. 40. /St. David/ /Tanjore/ We imagine 114. /St. David/ a Mistake & that you mean 51 /Tanjore/ upon the whole you desire & insist on our Orders, We are persuaded you do not Mean any other Orders than such as must still be Subject to whatever Variation you may think necessary from the Interven-tion of particular Circumstances as Affairs appear to be at present, your Advice 104. 83. 22. 68. 51. 67 /to march to Tanjore/ has our Sanction if it can be done & 94. 109. 12. 43. 86. 132 /Trichinopoly in no Danger/ which may at once facilitate 152. 145 /Provision/ &, 81. 91. 57. /The Junction of the Tanjoreans/ &, 106. 103. 173. /the Party from Deve Cotah./ 46. 47. 44. (Mysore King Morarow & Dupleix /is in no humour at present to admit 210. 139. 206. /Treaty/ in the same Form as before We therefore do not think it prudent to make the attempt instantly tho' 116. 123. 21. 51. (King of Tanjore /should be whisper'd that unless 75. 99. 81. 214. /he will Join/ we are resolv'd 38. 22. 120. 43. 80. /Trichinopoly/ &, 60. 74. 46. 91. (King of Mysore /shall shake Hands we may make a Merit of this with the Latter lest it should not be in our Power to prevent it. We wrote you yesterday & advis'd that We had remitted you 15,000 Pagodas & should send 15000 more this shall be done shortly & further Sums shall follow as fast as Possible to enable you to 152. 134. 43. 145. /Provi-sion Trichinopoly/ for p. a. c. 9. 199. 209. 185. (12 Months/ this is the grand Point & if it were once effected We might be at Liberty to give greater Scope to our Actions. Mr. Pal[illegible] will soon proceed. what We have above hinted will be a principal part of his Commission. We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servts

Thos. Sd[illegible]

St George
Febry 1754.

Fort St George March 8th 1751.

At a Consultation Present

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Gov.r & President
Charles Boddam, Henry Bonney
Alex.r Wynch, John Smith
Charles Bouchier

Monday the 8th

General Letter from Major Lawrence

No 34

read as follows.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

Annexed to this I send you a Copy of the Le-
-tter two of our Gentlemen Prisoners have given, on Condit-
-ion of leave to return to our Settlements Mr Dupleix has de-
-sired two more might be kept, one Capt.n & one Lieutenant
and till We gave two Officers of theirs at Chingalapaut the same
same leave. Mr Basse & another; for Capt.n Grenville &
Lieutenant Smyth. If you think proper it should appear by
the Nabob for it may send me Word.

I have appointed Mess.rs Clark & Glory to
do duty as Ensigns, untill your Pleasure is known.

I have yet no Answer to my Letters
of the 2.d & 4.th Instant I cannot imagine the Reason
afraid the Packet may have fallen in the Enemys hands
or I am sure I should have had an Answer long ago
I have wrote since on the 13.th 14.th & 18.th Instants

Affairs are just as I told you the Eng-
expect a Reinforcement of Europeans. you may know
it be true or not.

I am Gentlemen

Fort St George March 1754.

Copy of the Parole Signd by Lieut. Gurtler & Ensign Veraja

Nous Soussignés Officiers Anglois Prisoniers du Nabob Salabajunge donnons notre Parole d'Honneur, qu'en cas que le dit Nabab veuille nous permettre de nous rendre au Fort St. David: ou a Madraß jusqu'au Tems de notre echange. de remplir les Conditions Suivantes.

1.mo ... De nous rendre Incessamment auprés de luy, ou de son Lieutenants Commandans en sa place: en cas qu'il nous ait a propos de revoquer la dite Permission. Sans que le dit Nabab ou ses Lieutenents, soit tenu de nous faire expliquer les Raisons de ce changement.

2.do .... De ne faire aucun Service Militaire de quelque Espece qu'il puisse etre, pendant que durera la presente Guerre, ou Jusqu'a le change.

3.o .... De ne point nous Eloigner de St. David ou de Madraß, Sousquelque pretexte que ce puisse etre; A moins que pour repasser en Europe. ceux de nous qui y repasseront. et qui reviendrons dans ce Pays icy s'obligerons à se Soumettre aux Conditions Sy dessus.

General Letter from Mess.rs Stratton & Cooke

read as follows.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq
Gov.r & Governour &c.a Council
Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

The President in a Letter to us Mentions having desir'd our Opinion on the late Advices receivd from the Negrais, & what Measures We think Adviseable to be pursued. In Obedience thereto We take leave to say from the Accounts before Us there appears too many difficulties & Inconveniences attending the Establishing of a Settlement

Fort St George March 1751.

that Island to reap any real Advantages for many
forrower as We are quite ignorant of our Honble
Views in fixing on this Spot, We think Nothing
erased of that Building till their further Pleasure is
In the Interim as the Island of Bonacca is recommend
by Mr Hunter as a proper Situation for an Entrep
ment in that Country, & being generally allowed
healthy & Profitable Soil, We think the Erecting a
tion at that Place the first Material, & as there is
to hope from the Help that may be procured amo
Inhabitants that a Work there may be easily cont
We may thereby be speedily possessed of a more Fav
being once fixed here great Assistance may be g
thence to any further Works at the Negrais should
Masters see Occasion to direct it; besides the Bon
that We have no doubt must accrue from it in a
the Way which We hope will shortly answer the
We are with Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient Humble
Richd Stanley
Thos Cooke.

Fort St George
the 7th Febry 1751.

Ordered that Erasmus Commissioner
out for the two Volunteers Clark & Story recommended by
Lawrence, that he be advised thereof & acquainted the
We have no Objection to the releasing of the two French Of
at Chingalapaut if the Nabobs is so enclined.

Dupleix will not
Acts of War in defiance
French & English
Force in Pondichery

Experience has shown us that
scruple to commit the most enor
of the Treaty of Peace between
Nations & as there is a Ship or two
Road it is justifiable to

Fort St. George March 1754.

might be made to seize the Detachment intended to be sent to Deve Cotah if there were a probability of Success which at this Time would be of the most dangerous Consequences as, even with this reinforcement we shall not be able to do more than act on the Defensive, to prevent such an Accident it is therefore Agreed that the Detachment be embarked on the Recovery Snow & Cuddalore Sloop that the Purrying-=ton Convoy them safe into Fort St. David Road & there make the best of her way on her intended Voyage to Bengal.

Ordered that fifteen Days Provision be put on board the Recovery & Cuddalore for the Men to be embarkd on each & that whatever is not expended in the Voyage be delivered at Fort St. David or Deve Cotah.

An Account of the Expences of Messrs. Palk & Vansittart, Commissioners for Treating with the French at Sadras being laid before the Board amounting to four Hundred & Sixty Rupees [Rs. 460] & two Hundred & thirty one Pagodas Thirty Fanams & twenty Cash [231.30.20] Ordered that the Commissary pay the same on Account of Nabob Mahomed Alley Cawn

The President lays before the Board the Country &c. Correspondence.

Capt. Rigou advises that he detained the Party he was order'd for this Place the 24 Ultimo, that Mr. Smith who was Prisoner at Velloor was released & arrived at Arcot.

Capt. Campbell at Chingalapaut writes that he had detached Lieut. Moss hither according to Order that the Killedar is at present Absent he desires therefore to be inform'd in what manner he is to collect the Contributions from the People whether on Account of Payment by the Company or the Nabob, he also advises that five of the

Fort St George March 1751

French Topasses & one European Portuguese had enlisted.

Agreed that Capt. Campbell be acquai-
-d the Grain is to be collected on the Nabob Account.

By a Letter from the King of Tanjore it
plainly appears that his Intentions are to Bring the
Nabob till after the Harvest

Mauphaux Canow writes that he had
joind Abdul Bob Canow & as Soon as they had collected 100 000
to pay his Troops he would march to Joine the Nabob

Abdul Bob Canow Advises in Like
Manner & desires that the Detachment of our Men with
him may be Orderd to follow his Direction as it is necc-
-sary to march into the Privatore Country to settle it
& the Officer refuses to go beyond Conjeveram

Agreed that Abdull Bob Canow be
-quainted that the most material Point at present
to reinforce the Nabob which We insist on his do
-out Delay & the Settling the Districts he speaks
may be done afterwards.

Mr Saunders
Mr Boddam
Henry Lawrell
Mr Smith
Mr Smith
Mr Brooke

Fort St George March 1751.

9 The Detachment mentiond in the Minutes of last Con-
sultation being embarkd on the Cuddalore Sloop & Reco-
very Snow, Instructions to Capt Benjamin Pigou &c Se-
veral Letter to Major Lawrence are now signd as follow.

Capn Benjamin Pigou

Sir

We have sent on board the Recovery
Snow lying in the Road a Detachment of one Hundred
& 12 Men including Officers agreeable to a List enclosed
on receipt of this you will also embark & take the Co
Command of them, the Commander of the Snow has
our Directions to proceed in Company with the
Purrington & Cuddalore Sloop as far as Fort St. David
Road & from thence to make the best of his way to
Deve Cotah where on his Arrival Mr Hopkins the
Chief will order the said Detachment to be landed, We
have also embarked on the Cuddalore Sloop another
Detachment of Sixty one Men as p. Margin & Order
the Commander to touch at Fort St. David where
Coffreys & six of the Topasses are (if possible) to be ex
-changed for Europeans & as soon as that is done, his im
-mediately to proceed to Deve Cotah where the whole De
-tachment is also to be landed & joind to that sent on
the Recovery the whole being intended to reinforce
the Army under the Command of Major Lawrence whom
Orders you are to obey in all things & until you receive
there you are to follow such as shall be given you by
Richard Hawke Esq. Deputy Governour of Fort St. David
or Mr Charles Hopkins Chief of Deve Cotah

We are Sir

Your Affectionate Friends

Tho.s Saunders &c. Council

St George
March 1751

Fort St George March 1

To Stringer Lawrence Esq. Commander in
Chief of all the Companys Forces in India

Sir

We wrote to you the 28th Febry & co
a Duplicate which contains our Sentiments so f
we need only refer to it. We shall however as mor
hurry of the Warrington's Dispatch is over co
what may further occur in the mean Time the
advise you that We have sent on the Recovery
Dove Cutter a Detachment of m. c. g. p. d. f. p.
including Captains Pigott & Lin Lieutenant Lowe
have also sent on the Cuddalore Sloop for Fort David
Detachment of a. g. c. d. f. p. m. 61 including
Patterson of which f. gg m. 2. c. a. 27 are Topasses
m. 2. d. 30 are Coffrays. all the latter & m. f. m. g. a.
former We have desird the Gentlemen there to direct
Europeans, & immediately dispatch the Sloop to Fo
on her, & the Recovery's Arrival there. As Hopet
our Directions to land the M en, forward this Let
You, & observe your Directions

We are
Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
Tho. Saunders
Charles Boddam
Henry Bonney
Alex. Wynch
John Smith
Charles Bourchier.

Fort St. George
12 March 1754.

Fort St. George March 1751.

At a Consultation Present

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Govern.r President
Charles Boddam. Henry Ponney
Alex.r Wynch. John Smith
Charles Bouchier

Wednesday the 13.th

Two General Letters from Major Lawrence

read as follow Viz.t

No. 35.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

The Dolloway some Days ago sent a Message to me by Letter concerning the Bill drawn on him which he still refuses & says he cannot think it reasonable to pay the Bill of a Man detain'd by force he further desir'd in his Letter that I might send Poniapah to him for he wanted to talk with him, having Consulted with the Nabob We agreed to let him go, he had an Audience, in which Nandoraze told him he was willing to treat & propos'd the following Conditions that for 60 Lacks ready Money to withdraw his Troops & make a Peace that the Expence of the War had been to him 120 Lacks, that he would not, nor could not Accept of Country's for Security because the Nabob might be turn'd out & then his Successor might not approve of such Agreements. The other Condition was that if We would give up the Fort he would repay us the Expence we had been at in maintaining the War about Trichenopoly, but no where else. There Gentlemen are his Terms you will see what is proper to be done, the Money I know cannot be got but could

Fort St George March 1751.

he be perswaded to accept of Tarravelly & Madura Countrys & be put in possession of them till the Payment of the Sum the Nabob should agree to that. The other Condition you often have with so cannot be at a Loss whether to accept or refuse he also told Coniapah that the King of Tanjore had joind him We are in hopes that that may be more to create a Jealousy between us than really so. Tho We are certain that they have been dealing together & money offerd on one side & Promises made by the other, to prevent any Mistrust that our seeming to treat might create in the King of Tanjore on hearing We had a Conference I wrote him Word when they desird it, & also the Substance of the Discourse when Coniapah came back & desird his Opinion on the Terms offerd this upon my acting appears to me safer than answering that created. I have not heard from you since the 31st January, We have certain Assurances of Mauphis Troops Marching & Added Bob Lawrie having Joind his Troops in Order to move this way, it would be proper I should know the Road they intend taking that if a Junction was necessary before their Arrival here it might be made. I hope you have recaind mine of the 18th Instt. for Want of the 22d & 24th Instt. most despair of however shall wait a little & then send you Copies. Capt.n Bascall & Gardiner are both obligd to leave me on Account of their Health Capt.n Bascall is arrivd before this at St David & Capt.n Gardiner sets out to night. Capt.n Williams & Ensign Conderieux Ill in the Hort & three Officers besides. I am

P.S. Pray for the future order your Secretary to Numbering Letters

Gentlemen.

Your most Obedient Humble Servant

Stringer Lawrence.

Fort St George March 1754.

No 36

To the Honble Thos Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sirs & Sirs

I wrote you the 2d Instant & have receivd no Letters since the 31.st January, if you will Consider my Situation Gentlemen you ought to think of my unreasonable This Day the Nabob receivd Letters from his Vacqueel & the Buxy at Tanjore they confirm what I before hinted that of fairs are made up between the Mysore & Tanjore King for 9 Lack Rupees whether it only extends to a neutrality or open Hostility we cannot tell. Tondimans Vacqueel from thence is also gone to treat for his Masters. Provisions are hard to be got these three Days we have been obligd to live on the Fort if proper Measures are not taken, and as soon as resolvd put in Execution; the Consequence is clear — I am ashamd to mention Mr. Palk again I have so often done it, but to no purpose that it is but exposing my Advice to propose it again but let your Opinions be what they th'y will, I still inclination to those I am employd by think myself bound to tell you whatever my Advice may be thought of, that perhaps you have done as by not sending him more Force than you will have it in your Power to make us amends for & that it is yet the only Method you have to pursue.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient humble Servt
Stringer Lawrence.

Camp at the
5.th March 1754.

P.S. I omitted numbering my last, it ought to have been 35. this. No 36.

The Board are of Opinion that the King of Tanjore's Interest is so opposite to that of the Enemy that it is very improbable he should enter into any offensive Alliance with him but that it is to be feard he

Fort St George March 1751.

his late Behaviour the Threats of Mr Lapleia & Maravadoo
prevaild with him to agree to a Neutrality, should this
be the Case the Enemy must in the End gain their Ends
as the Difficulty of getting Provisions even for the sub-
sistence of the Army will be greatly encreas'd & the Hav-
ing a twelve Months Store into Trichinopoly wonder-
impracticable, & without such a quantity that place
must inevitably fall to the Enemy should our Army
march from thence or the Enemy receive any Consider-
-ble Reinforcements. The Board are therefore of Opinion
that the Measures to be pursued are to desire Mr Call
will proceed to Tanjore as soon as possible to negociate
with the King of Tanjore & that he be particularly In-
structed to acquaint the King that our Affairs & the Na-
Nabobs are so circumstanc'd that however desirous he may
be of protecting his Country & supporting the Circar
his Behaviour will very shortly put it out of Power
& that as the Difficultys are daily encreasing by his
inactivity we must be obliged to treat with the Bal-
-lonay for the Surrender of Trichinopoly unless he will
heartily Join the Nabob & Assist in defending it. The
Board are further of Opinion that unless the King of
Tanjore will upon this Demand declare East openly &
vigorously for the Nabob there is no other Measure
to be pursued but to agree with the Ballonay for the
Delivery of Trichinopoly on the Terms formerly pro-
pos'd which the President acquaints the Board Gover-
-nour the Moyore Vackeel has agreed from but Mr Stra-
is still ready to comply with Agreed that Major Lawr
Mess.rs Starke & Cooke be accordingly Commission & Ins
Opinions Desired.

On considering the Letter

Fort St. George March 1754.

by two of our Officers Prisoners at Syringaxarre as menti-
-oned in the Major's Letter of the 25.th Febry ——— Con-
-sid in the Minutes of these Occurrences of 4.th Instant, the Board are of
Opinion that it is improper as they thereby acknowledge
themselves to be Prisoners to Salabat Jung which is a
Confession that we are in Arms against him, & the promise
of surrendring themselves upon Demand to his Lieutenant
is either uncertain or means some Person We do not
acknowledge as such, the Nabob Anawerde Cawn being
the only Lieutenant to the Prince of Decan that he is now
of in this Province, that as they were taken fighting
against the Mysoreans the Parole should be given to
them & the Board are further of Opinion that the said
Officers should revoke that Parole by surrendering them-
-selves to the Enemy they were Prisoners with, on which
it is agreed to consult the Major.

Agreed that Ten Thousand Pagodas
Pagodas be remitted by Bill to Tanjore for the use of
the Army.

General Letter from Mr. Robert
Westgarth read as follows

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I hope you have receivd my last by the
Neptune & Moor's Snow, & now send you my Account
for last Months with account of what I have disbursed
for the new Vessell on the Stocks, & have taken the Liber-
-ty to draw on you for the amount thereof which be
pleasd to pay to Nicholas Morse Esq.r or Order at the Cus-
tomary Rate of forty Pagodas [illegible] Seven

Fort St George March 1751.

Since the Death of Governour Saunder

I have been at the Court of Pegu to Advise of his Death &c
desire they would put the finishing Stroke to the Articles
of Treaty signd & Ratified by Mr Saunders. They told me
they could not for they wanted to make some alteration
in the Second & Third Articles. They asked me if I had a
Power to do it, which I told them I had not, as Affairs
now at a Stand, & cannot be finish'd till somebody come
here with full Power to treat with them, as for me I
not give them Assurances of any thing more than a
Stipulated by that Treaty wherein they say we secure t
want every thing for the Company & give them Nothing
& they cannot perceive any Visible Time how the King of
Pegu can be a gainer by these Articles, they want to have
something at present to fill his Insatiate Greedy Eye but
Don't look forfuturity & the well being of their Kingdom which
in several Parts of their new Conquest is in a open Revolt
against them, the King of Pegu has lost the City of Ava
& the upper Rajah is now on his way to go against Ava
Ameraa, the present head of the Burmahs, with an Army
said to consist of 200,000 Men which I believe the Burmat
will stand but a poor Chance to encounter.

Yesterday the upper Rajah with his
Army left this Place with whom I had a great deal of
discourse in regard to Bassora, & that Governments usage
to Mr Taylor who has made several Complaints about
them, & have obtaind strict Orders from the Rajah, that
that Government must behave in a different Manner
otherwise he will make them suffer for their Disobe-
dience, & the Rajah will be with a Days Journey of
Bassaim where he has Ordered the Governour of that
Place, & Mr Taylor to wait on him where he will give

Fort St. George March 1751.

what Mr. Taylor desires

Encloss'd is the Rajah's Letter to your Honour &c.ª wherein he applys to you for Forces &c.ª & desires me to tell you to send any part of them, or Ammunition by the first Conveyance, as they are at present greatly want=ed. Mr. Decouse brings you the Duplicate of their Letter, who will inform you of the King & Rajah's Intentions: but notwithstanding all Mr. Decouse's fair outward Appearan=ces I can hardly yet think him quite sincere to our Inte=rest; I believe his Preceptor here the Italian Priest who is one of the Agents, infuses strange notions into his head in regard to us. & the french have some grand Project in Veiw in Regard to this Place, & if they can raise Forces, by what Intelligence I have will very soon pay us a Visit: here I shall not fail of giving you all the early Intelligence I can by all Conveyances.

I remain with great Respect
Honble Sirs & Sirs
Your most Obedient humble Servant
Robert Westgarth.

Syrian
16th Febry 1754.

The Bill of Exchange drawn by Mr Westgarth as advis'd in the foregoing Letter being now presented for acceptance the Board refuse the same his Accounts being irregular & extravagant

Tho: Saunders
Henry Lawrell
W Brown
Wm Smith
G Bouchier

Fort St George March 1751.

18th The following General Letter No. 1. to Major Lawrence signd & sent

To Stringer Lawrence Esq.r Commander in Chief of all the Companys Forces in India

No. 1.

Sir

Our last to you was the 5th Instant & there we have to acknowledge the Receipt of one of the 25th Febry. N.o 35. without Date & of the 5th Instant N.o 36. We are con-cerned none of ours have reach'd you since the 31. Jan.y & is the more particular as none from you have miscar-ried. & the Nabob has received one; his Packet arrive here the 18th Ultimo. Inclosd are Duplicates of our Generals re-ceipt one of the 25th a Duplicate of which went with our Let-

The Cartle the Governor have given seems to have been employd on them entirely unacquainted with the Nature of the Country Government for it implies that they were Natives in Arms acting against Salabad Jung & obliges them to be Subservient to the will of his Deputys. It is not mentiond who these Deputys are: but Mr. Dupleix Affairs he is & consequently should The Cartle be accepted it will be an Acknowledgement of the Legality of his Government & at the same Time Confession that We were acting against Salabad Jung whereas we know Mr. Dupleix only as the Governour of Pondicherry & have really been fighting for the Cause against the Mysore King & his Allies to Him The Cartle We conceive should be given & that these Officers do not give the other

We approve of your Appointment of Majr. Clarke & Elliroy & as there are Vacancys for Commissions will be sent them

Sir

Fort St George March 1754.

no dependance on them the late ill Success requiring you being speedily reinforced & as great Expeditions was so to prevent Accidents We embarked them on the Cuddalore Sloop & Recovery Snows who were Convoyd to St David by the Warrington Have proceeded to Devicotah Where they will wait your Orders & We hope to hear of a happy Success - The President has dispos'd the Bull Bob Crow & Hampshire Cowne to send their Boat to Devicotah from whence they might proceed with Ease; but so dilatory & uncertain are their Motions that We cannot depend on them

Inclosd is a Bill on Lingo Chitty People for Pagodas 19760.

Though Salabad Sons is said to have march'd from Aurungabad we dont hear of his near approach.

If the Contractor Mr Alexander Wynch should be in want of Money Pagos can of him without distressing yourself please to With this you will receive Copys of the Letters of the Nabob & King of Tanjore

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

Thomas Saunders.

Charles Boddam. Henry Brooke.

Alex.r Wynch. John Smith. Chas. Pybus

To The Honble Tho.s Saunders Esq.r

Gov.r & Governor &c.a Council

Fort St George

Madrass 1st March

20 Rec.d the following General Letters N.o 37 & 38 from

Major Lawrence Vizt.

Fort St George March 1753.

I have receivd your Favours of the 19th 21st & 25th Febry and Copies of the 6th The Original of which fell into the Enemy's Hands

When I askd you for Orders Gentlemen, It could not be imagind that I requird any on the Milit-ary Operations for the Field; of which only the Commander & the Officers on the Spot can be most competent Judges of. The Direction there is prudently left to our improved Judgement in our Professions; & according to that & the Enemy's motions We act. But what I meant to ex Or-ders in Consequence of the General Plan you must have laid down; knowing how Things were Situated. You Gentlemen are my Superiours, a Majority of Voices in your Council fixes your Determinations; Which if Practicable, are to be put in Execution by me, or at-tempted: For in this critical Juncture when you know I cannot attack the Enemy; when my staying here may be attended with the worst of Consequences, such as being obligd to yield for want of Provisions; When the Capte round us are so fluctuating that my marching is at-tended with a great Risque; would You have me then at such a Time when any one of those Steps may ruin what We have been striving for this long Time; would you have me then I say act without Orders, & take the Wte wrote Blame (which must fall on me, should I miscarry) It is your Duty to give me Instructi-ons Your Orders are a Sanction from Blame on either side, You must direct & I execute.

You ask me my Advice Gentlemen impartially Gentlemen with what Colour can you ask me for that you have so often refusd to take when offerd

Fort St George March 1754.

Gentlemen. I what still must heard me more, never gave me Reasons why rejected. I would have submitted to every but was not thought even worth that. Notice, for my Man may Err in Opinion, but when it proceeds from a true Principle, the Publick Good, I think the least that can be done Men is to point out to him where he Errs, by making your Objections. In all dispute this Subject, I am sorry I have been obliged to touch on it. In every thing within me shall give away to our common Interest. Receive my Opinions, or Advice which you will or what you have asked

1st Whether or no Salabajinga marches we should acknowledge him, & Obey his Orders or Oppose him Vigorously. Or chuse a Medium

The Medium in my Opinion is the best, a Deputation may be sent him. & as it is very plain that Mr Dupleix whome is the Government of the Country for himself, & all those People his employ only as Tools & Agents to his grand Design this endeavor to be made clear him. That if he is willing to hinder the attempt of are Ambitious Man that wants to overturn the form of a whole Country, its Religion & Laws, & to allow the Nabob his Right, we will Joyn with him; We will Joyn with him & oppose with all our Force such Measures as tend to Destroy the Peace & Quiet of a whole Country. Next all the Rights that we demand or any Europeans might to have, are a few Settlements with a little Country for their Bounds allotted to them, & liberty for a free Trade. That if any Man of our Nation pre- -tended to more, & turn Pyrate, Rebel &c for a gain in that Case shall not protect

Forgeries) such a Man can have no other Design but
to Enslave the Country; & ought to be oppos'd & pre-
-vented by every Man in it. I must observe to you
It would not be improper to send People to the Nabob's
& Pallygars, as far as we could conveniently; to Acquaint
them with this Affair of the Saunders. Show them plainly
the French Scheme, Stir up the whole Country to the
Defence of their Laws & Liberties & Religion the Ends of
which must be the case should they Succeed.

Nor would it do us any Harm if
the Dutch were acquainted with the Affair of the
Congress, & a Copy of that Letter from Mr. Saunders to
the Deputies sent to their head Settlement on this Coast.

2.dly If Salabajung will not treat
whether to abandon or maintain the Forts. Destroy
the Ammunition in them, carry off what Guns We
could, & the others made useless; & blow up the Forti-
-fications in my Opinion is the only way. Then
let the Armies in the Field decide the Affair.

3.dly I think it impossible to pre-serve
the Forts, & oppose the Enemy.

4.thly Without any Infringement
of the Peace subsisting between the two Nations in
Europe, We may at the Nabob's Request move the
Prisoners to our Settlements. That can be warranted
Just as well as their Violent Proceedings which you
have so strongly represented to the Deputies

When Money Arrives sufficient
to leave in the Fort, I intend marching towards
Tanjore; & to meet the Party which I wish could
be contrived to march with Manajahis Cavalry rein-
-forcements however before this happens; or Wade

be-

Fort St. George March 1754.

Sendiman he may be of Service there.

There are some few Paragraphs more which I shall answer to morrow some Business having occurd which obliges me to conclude. I am Gentlemen your most Obedient most humble Servant Stringer Lawrence.

Camp the 7th March 1754.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr President & Governour &c.a Council of Fort St. George

N.o 38.

Honble Sir & Sirs

In the hurry last Night of Dispatching my Letters, In order to send them by a safe oppertunity my Secretary omitted to enclose the Nabobs Order as I did you of; which I send you now

The Complaint of the French Officer (as he is called) was unjust, & groundless. He was never acknowledgd as such by any of their Gentlemen with whom he is mentiond, he was in the Hospital of which always the greatest care has been taken by Doctor Willson, for which indeed he has been but indifferently paid.

When the French sent Subsistence for their People Mr Willson said he would maintain them in the Hospital, & transmit his Accounts Monthly to Mr Dupleix, not in the least doubting Raymond Schmoulin it was impossible for sick Men, to have the necessary Conveniencies, upon the same small allowance the other Prisoners had of 6 Rupees a Month, he charge them at about the same Subsistence — We allow our Soldiers Mr Dupleix will neither pay the Charge he has order'd nor allow them the same as the other Men, Most Gentlemen I have very rightly given up the Charge of Subsisting them, & leaves them to provide as well as they can out of their small Allowance The Inhabitants of every

Fort St George March 1754.

Affairs will not allow us to give the other Prisoners the Indult-gences we could wish: but for every Convenience that we can with safety; they have; of which Capt.n Kilpatrick takes the greatest Care.

You have mention'd Gentlemen Mr. Godwin: there is now a Vacancy by Mr. Revells Death of a first Lieutenancy which you may give him; as also the Quarter Masters Post. I think him Worthy & capable of both. having always behaved as an Active, brisk & good Officer I shall wait your Orders, If you think proper to appoint him.

I beg leave to recommend another Person to you Gentlemen for your Notice. tis our Command-er of Sea Byes by Name Mahomed Yoof: Besides his Intelligence, & Capacity, I cannot too much praise his Zeal & Alacrity for the Service. He always prevents my asking by offering himself for every thing; & Executes what he goes about as well & as briskly as he attempts it. some mark of your Regard by a Letter, & some little Reward would keep up that usefull Spirit, besides recommending Merit.

I have received as I acquainted you yesterday Copies of those Letters dated the 6.th with the Dollonays, K. of Tanjore, & Nabobs enclosed. I have had the Copies Translated, & sent to the King of Tanjore & the one for the Dollonay, I ordered sending Boniapah with. If the French have not returned him the Ori-ginal. that proceeding & the Purport of the Letter on my part cause a Jealousy.

In the Exchange of Prisoners Mr. Astruc is not to be thought of he is of no great Conse-quence M. Basco at Chingalapud is the most Intelligent

Fort St. George March 1754.

Officer they have.

The Enemy talk of Coming on Wee
Camp the 2d. March 1754
I wish they would. we may see them what is to be da
I am Gentlemen, your most Obedient & most humbl
Servant
Stringer Lawrence

21. The following General Letter No 2 to Major Lawrence
Kent
to Stringer Lawrence Esqr. Commander in Chief
of all the Companys Forces in India
No 2.

Sir

Since ours of the 12th We have recvd your
of the 7th & 8th Instant, we concurr entirely with you in
what you write that the Opinion of the Board forms &
you Execute such Plans as may be for the good of the Ser-
vice & when We ask your Opinion it is as one of the Coun-
cil this We digest with our own & after a mature Con-
sideration of whatever may be the Subject of Debate
the Majority fixes the Determination. Councils form
of different Men cannot always be unanimous but no
Exception is taken to a Difference in Opinion & if the pos-
sue any Measures contrary to your Opinion given you
are Indemnified & are responsible for the Event. We shall
in all Cases give you our Orders, but as many are the
Accidents that may happen between our Receipt of
yours & your Letters that a Discretional Power
must be left to you to act as such Circumstances may
have varied the Situation at the present Juncture when
you describe that we staying you may be obliged to
surrender for want of Provisions & that marching may
be attended with a great Risque. We think that before
to Extremity for want of Provisions the Risk of a

Fort St. George March 1754.

March is to be preferrd to a certain Surrender. We hope wellers of these will be the case & if it should We rest Satisfied that you would ack for the best.

Your Sentiments in regard to Tanjore Jung are pretty much the same as ours. Inclosed is Copy of a Letter wrote to Seyde Lascar Caron, some Months past which very plainly points out the Enemy's Intentions. The sending the Copy of the Letter to the Dubashcaun be of no Disservice. but if the Loss of a Factory of so much Consequence as that of Metchlepatam will not secure Moonwhan will.

There is no appearance of Mansoor Caun's moving he is gone against Bomeraz the Polligar & Abdul Bob Caun is at Trivatore. We shall press them to march but really believe they cannot till they have raised Money. We have some time past ordered the Officers at Arcot & Chingalapaut to put paddy into the Fort as no dependance can be plac'd in Abdul Bob Caun.

Salabad Jungs coming is Doubtfull

If the King of Tanjore should not Join we are sensible you are not able to Contest the Point & his standing Neuter he must know gives the Enemy the Forts the Cash is the only Alternative Resolve to be find that we are resolvd on it he will certainly make his own Terms & we possibly may be disappointed in Venkatarow's Proposals to the President Mr. Pitt who sets out as soon as Possible will communicate to you

The Nabob's Order is received with your Letter of the 8.th

Advices say 120 of our Prisoners are arrivd at Pondichery from Caraculs as Mr. Dupleix thinks he has Authority to keep English Prisoners at his Pleasure

surely We may do it, in our Settlements. I suppose you will not be asked for their Subsistence if they demand it they must pay for the Prisoners at St. David & Chingalapet We shall advise Mr. Duplaix that if he does not enlarge his allowance to his People they must Starve.

We approve of your appointments of Lieutenants & quarter Master to the Seapoys & shall take Notice of Mahomed Yousuff the Commander of Seapoys as you desire

We are glad that our Letters which were pretty particular have escaped the Enemys hands

Your Opinion concerning the Parole imposd on our Officers will be acceptable to us Pascaud & another are purposd to be exchangd as he is their best Officer ours going on Parole would be the most proper, the Parole of ours ought we think to be to the Dalloway.

The King of Tanjore in a Letter just receivd from him mentions what you wrote concerning the Dalloways Proposals & says his Reply was that you should communicate it to the Presidents that he was ready to stand by what he might determine, alledging that he & the Nabob depended on us. We cannot think by any Means likes the last Article. We are Sir, your most Obedient Servants, Thomas Saunders, Charles Boddam, Henry Powney, Alex.r Wynch, John Smith, Chas. Bourchier.

Fort St. George
21st March 1754.

Fort St. George March 1754.

At a Consultation Present

Thomas Saunders Esq. Govern: President

Charles Boddam, Henry Bonney

Alex.r Wynch, John Smith

Charles Bourchier

Monday the 25.th

The Reverend Mr. Palk having wrote to the Reverend Father Lavaur at Pondicherry to obtain Mr. Dupleix's Passport in Order to proceed to Fort St. David received this Day for Answer that Mr. Dupleix will readily grant such a Pass provided he will engage his word not to proceed any further than St. David.

Whereupon it is order'd that the Company's Sloop Dragon now lying in this Road be sent under Mr. Palk's Direction to carry him to Fort St. David or Deve Cotah as he shall find most Convenient for his Proceeding to Tanjore.

The President lays before the Board a Translation of a Letter from the Head & Second Dalleway to Vencatrow the Mysore Vackeel empowering him to treat with the President on the Subject of their Demand on Trichinopoly, also a Memorial from the Vackeel containing Proposals for an Accomodation with them Vizt. 1st, the most material Articles of which are that the Fort of Trichinopoly is within a limited Time to be deliverd up to the King of Mysore in Consideration whereof he is to pay off the Nabobs Debt to the Company & Abish the Nabob against his Enemys.

The Board having maturely consid-ered the said proposals & the Situation of our Affairs

are of opinion that no Time should be lost in termina-
ting this Dispute with the Mysoreans that as no-
thing will satisfie them but the Fort, it is more Desi-
able to consent to it than run the evident hazard of
losing it without gaining any sort of Equivalent which
would probably be the case should Salabat Jung come
into this Province or the French receive more Power-
full Succours from Europe than We it is therefore
Agreed that Major Lawrence be empowerd to Treat
& Conclude with Mr Dalloway even tho' the King
of Tanjore should join the Nabob with his Forces
& that in case Mr Calk should proceed to Trichino-
poly he be also empowerd to act jointly with the
Major.

Major Lawrence having recom-
mended Mahomed Issof a Commander of Sepoys
as a very deserving Officer & indimated that some
Mark of Favour should be shewn him as an encou-
agement for his Behaviour

Agreed a Commission be drawn out
for him as Commander of all the Company's Sea-
poys & that he be presented at the same Time with
a gold Medal.

There being several Vacancys in the
Military Agreed that the following Promotions dep
made Viz.t

Captain Lieutenant	John Innis	to be Captains
Lieutenant	Joseph Smith	
Lieutenant	James Grant	Captain Lieutenant
Ensigns	John Clerk	
	Daniel Campbell	Lieutenants
Volunteers	John Fraser	
	John Clark	Ensigns
	George Airey	

Ord

Fort St George March 1754.

And that Lieutenant Benjamin Godwin of the Bengal Detachmt. have Commissions as first Lieutenant of the second Company of Artillery on this Establishment Gunner Master of Artillery which will leaves Vacancys for three Ensigns of which Major Lawrence is to be advisd that in Case there should be any proper Persons in Camp he may recommend them.

Agreable to the foregoing Resolutions a general Letter to Major Lawrence & Instructions to Mr Dalby are ordered to be prepard.

Agreed that Ten Thousand Rupees & five Thousand Pagodas lost in the last Action be charged to the Account of Nabob Mahomed Alley.

Letter from the Reverend Father Lavaur, Messrs De Baufset & De Kerjean is now read & entered in the Proceedings at the Conference at Sadras № 23 being in Answer to the Presidents Letter to them entered with the said Proceedings № 22, on which no more Subject arises, the Arguments they use being only a Repetition of what they have already urgd.

Agreed that 30,000 Rupees be sent to the Negrais on the Cuddalore for the use of that Settlemt & Syrian Residency.

General Letters to Mr Henry Brooke Chief of the Negrais, Mr Thomas Taylor Resident at Negrais & Mr Robert Weitgarth are now signed as follows Viz.

To Mr Henry Brooke
Chief of the Negrais

Sir

By the Cuddalore Coss which arrivd here the 20th January We received your Letter of the 11th of that Month with the Severals Duplicate Letters & Accounts, viz

Fort S.t George March 1754.

We were concernd to find observe the Death of Mr. David Hunter
at a Juncture when the King of Pegue had sent one of his
Ministers to conclude the Treaty with him.

The Time you have resided at Pegue
must we suppose have given you a tolerable knowledge
of the Country & the Customs of the People & by being connec-
-tekly under Mr. Hunter you cannot but be acquainted
with his Plans of the Expedition, what Steps he has taken
at the Court of Pegue & how they have been received, We
therefore depending on your prudent Conduct & circum-
-spection, appoint you as Chief of the Island of Negrais
& its Dependancies & do give you Power & Authority to
treat, conclude & Ratifie any Treaty with the King of
Pegue for obtaining a Grant for the Island Negrais &c.
Further Liberties & Advantages of Commerce in that King-
-dom for your Government herein you will observe the
Instructions given to David Hunter Esq.r & what from the
Accounts We have received of your Situation We shall now
further point out to you

The King of Pegue as might reason-
ably be expected is not well pleas'd with our first Address
& there asking his Leave for the Negrais &c. as
from hence that our Intentions towards him are not
the most Friendly - 'tis your Business to fortifie the Place
in such a Manner as to prevent any attempt from the
Natives & at the same Time to use your utmost Endeavour
to evince that the Sole of our Design is to secure a Place
for the Repair of our Ships of large Burthen & to
carry on a Trade beneficial to his Country & to maintain
a perfect Friendship & Alliance with him We now
enclose you Letters to the King & Ellypa Rajah with
Translates of them in these We have signified that
having received Advice of the Death of Mr. Hunter
We

Fort St George March 1754.

We have given you full and ample Power to manage our Affairs, to negociate, conclude & ratifie any Treaty with him on behalf of the Company & that We shall regard the same as done by ourselves, you will therefore on receipt of this notifie the same to the King & Desire he will send one of his Ministers to conclude this Affair with you or if you find it more convenient, proceed, yourself to Pegu

We have sent over for his Majesty a Rich Palinquin [illegible]ed & for the Uppa Rajah one of Silver these you will present when the most proper Occasion offers & as we are informd the Uppa Rajah has a great Influence you may in our Name promise that in case he gets this Business expeditiously dispatchd We will send him to the amount of Seven or Eight Thousand Rupees or such Curiositys as he may write for the Revolt of the Burmors may probably make them more inclinable to preserve a Friendship with us. By Mr Hunters Diary We observe that the several Articles of Alliance were settled & probably had he liv'd would have been ratified We have not heard from you lately the several Vessells have imported here from Syrian. Mr Westgarth writes that the King objects to the 2d & 3d Article in the Coolum-narris at Syrian & have sent fair from the Negrais differ being in one of them blended with the 6th so that it is very obscure How can only surmise by Mr Westgarths Letter that the King objects to our having a Liberty of Trade free of all Customs & Taxes especially in the inland Parts & that English Ships only shall be exempted from Customs importing at the [illegible] settlements. To these you may Answer that this [illegible]ty is no more than what is granted to us on [illegible] Coast by the Moguel who is sensible that by this Indulgence We have been [illegible]

* Orig. reflecting the Letter from Mr Hunter Recd here the 2d Inst.

Fort St George March 1751.

Induced to carry on a very extensive Trade by which his Country has been very much enriched infinitely more than by his carrying extensive Customs on our Trade. you may urge further that if we desire this Liberty in his Kingdoms We give it also to him in all our Settlements that his Ships imported here last year Customs free, should they still persist in these Sentiments you may alter these Articles by stipulating that a Custom of 6p C.t be paid on all Goods imported but no More. We remark Mr Hodgers has generally ended his Visit to the King or Prince with the Expence of a Present the first Visit has generally been attended with one but none afterwards instead of promoting it only hurts the Negociations you must therefore avoid as much as Poss-ible this Custom.

The unhealthy situation of the Negro-
tto the Representation of Mr Hunter that the Ground
the most proper place for the Capital Settlement has in-
duced us to decline carrying on the Fortifications in the
extensive manner he design'd. We direct you peruse Mr
Knapton's Plan of fortifying the Bier till We are or
are a greater Certainty the Draught of Mr Hunter is only
the Fortifications that of Mr Knapton has a Rough
Sketch of a part of the Island. Mr Taylor takes in
the whole Island with the Bay to the North West & the So
-thernity of the great Negroes in that Point but still his
very imperfect as We are
South East & the Land that forms it. you will therefore
order a compleat Draught of the Island & Bay with the
Land that forms it from the Eastermity of the Point
at Low Water round to that at North West with the
Depth Soundings adjoining & Rep. Sides the cannon proved
at this Distance Positively to set aside Mr Hunter's Opinion
but

Fort S.t George March 1754.

but must remark that the place he has pitched upon is by the information we have receivd in a Marsh & by its Situation does not defend the Entrances of the Bay whereas a Battery on the South East & another on the North West Point would command the only two Channells. & by what We can learn the North West is as Healthy the South East a rising Ground & both probably more healthy as they lay open to the Sea Wind Whereas at present it comes to you Through the Wood & over the Marsh which very likely occasions the Sickliness of your People. the Reason he assigns was the Convenience of Water if We are not misinformd he has been in that Mistaken for tis reported to us that your Water is a Stream that comes from the Woods & probably may be impregnated with their unwholsome Qualitys which confirms us in this is that the Peguers resorting to the Island never Drink it but digg Wells on the North W.t Point & do not find themselves affected with Agues Seasons you will therefore make a Trial both at the North West & South East parts & further, let some of your People reside a Month or two on these Parts by which Means you will have proof in let the River also be Sounded & if Cession is granted District of 5 or 6 Miles round it will be Necessary

Till affairs are concluded We think it would be imprudent to erect any Buildings at Cen.e as you will therefore only accomodate yourselves with a slight Bankesall which will serve the present Purpose

The accounts sent us over by Mr Westgarth are extreamly irregular & what he calls a Cash-d for is lumpd in such a Manner that We cannot

distinguish whether the Company has been fairly used but must suspect the Contrary till they are cleard up the expences are exorbitant much beyond our Intention We inclose you the Accounts of Sundrys sent him with our Committees Report on his, you will make a strict Scrutiny into them inform us whether they are just & transmit us your observations thereon. he has drawn upon us for several Sums at 2½ Scal p Pagoda an Exchange so exorbitant that We have not accepted his Bill whenever you draw let it be for Rupees Mr Westgarth's Conduct herein appears so Culpable that We have dismiss'd him from his Employment & order'd him over to the Coast to give us a proper Satisfaction let him come on the first Vessell

In Mr Westgarth's Room We have appointed Mr Thomas Taylor, Resident at Tyricoil under your Direction. We have fixd his Allowance at 50 Pagodas p Month to defray all expences whatsoever at that Factory. in case of your being at any Time obliged to go from the Negrais to Syriam or any where else he must take the Charge of the Island as We have order'd him to succeed you in Case of Accident you will appoint such Person as you think proper under your Direction to be at Negrais We cannot supply you with a Writing Assistant till the Ships Arrive from Europe. Inclos'd are Letters to Messrs Taylor & Westgarth the acquainting them with our Orders. also Mr Knaptons Plan for fortifying the Pier.

We observe Mr Hunter has omitted to give you Pay at 20 p Mo for your Extraordinary Expences which you will charge us from the Receipt of this We allow you Pagodas 30 p Month for your Table & Servants

Fort St George March 1754.

Receive of Mr Thomas Taylor his Ac-
=counts & transmick them to us by which We shall be
able to Judge what to allow him for the Time he has
been on Service

Agreeable to our Request the Gentle-
=men at Bengall advise that they have stationd the
Egmont to relieve the Colchester & on her sent you
such Stores Provisions & Artificers as were Requested
We hope she is safe arrivd with you Capt.n Tolson has
Orders to follow your Directions

We dispatchd the Porto Bello to you
on the 1.st Nov.r she last her Passage & fell in with
Vizagapatam she has since proceeded to you.

On the Cuddalore We have loaded
Sundrys as p.r Invoice & Bill of Lading she proceeds to
Vizagapatam to take in Provisions & from thence
will be dispatchd to you 'tis not in our Power to send
you Artificers from hence nor can We supply you with
Provisions so well as the Gentlemen in Bengall
therefore if your Occasions require you may send
the Cuddalore Capt.n Hammond there in August
she may easily return to you in September by her
write us fully of your Affairs & Recommend your
Letter to the Governour &c.a Council to be forwarded to us
by first Opportunity.

Mr William Perceval acquainting
us that Mr Hunter left Money in Dollars which is
under your Charge & requesting Bills on Bengall you
will receive the same into the Company's Cash at
Arcot Rupees 254. p.r 100 Ounces of Dollar Silver, & draw
Bills on the Governour & Council of Fort William pay
-able to Messrs Manningham & Frankland for the

Contra

amount, & credit this Presidency for it.

You acquaint us Colonel Scott had wrote for a large Quantity of Timber & Plank by each of the Companys Vessells as return there and what they can take in, & let it be a general Rule that you do the same on all Vessells bound to the Coast if Teak is not procureable send what the Negrais Produces

You must Discharge all Arrears due to the Military & Traine as well as to the Arcot Snow & Fortune Sloop; the Cuddalore We have paid here

Just as this Sloop was on Dispatch We received a Letter from Upper Bajah advising that he had sent the Kings Proposals By Coja Necoosha We expect here by this we imagine you will not be able to conclude any thing till We See what they are We can only say that We think it would be better you do not proceed to Syriam but Correspond by Letters & if the King intimates any thing to you concerning the Pallanquin procrastinate the sending them till you hear further from us acquainting his Majesty its your Intention to wait on him with them yourself

You will keep a Diary of Occurrences from the Time Mr Hunter's Ends & constantly with your accounts transmit it to us by the Conveyances that may offer.

As several other Conveyances will offer for Pegue we shall by them write you what may be necessary.

We consign you on this Sloop Thirty thousand Rupees out of which you are to supply Mr Say-lor with what may be Requisite for his Expences, your Allowance of Fifty Pagodas p Month as well as his are to

A

Fort St George March 1754.

to accounted for at the Present Exchange of 3/8 Arcot Rup-
=pees for 100 Pagodas. We are Sir Your Affectionate Friends

Fort St George Tho.s Saunders. Charles Boddam. Henry Bonney.
25th March 1754. Alex.r Wynch. John Smith. Charles Bourchier.

To Mr Thomas Taylor

Sir

Mr Robert Westgarth's Accounts appearing to
us very irregular & his Charges far beyond what we ever intend-
-ed we have found it Necessary to remove him & do now
appoint you as Resident of Syriam in his Stead. Subordi-
-nate to the Orders of Mr Henry Brooke whom We have
nominated Chief of the Negrais & in Case of any Accident
to him you will take upon you the Charge of that Go-
-vernment & appoint such Person at Syriam as you
may think most proper till our Pleasure be known
We have Wrote Mr Brooke fully concerning our Affairs
& he will pay a Strict Regard to such Orders and
Directions you Receive from him As we are resolved to
have our Expences on a settled footing We allow you
250 F.r Month for all Expences you must conform
your manner of living thereto as to Presents Idle Charg-
-es of Visits to the Prince &c.a &c.a they never were
known till introduced by Mr Westgarth & can by no
means be allowed. We are for your Affectionate Friends

Fort St George Tho.s Saunders. Charles Boddam. Henry Bonney.
the 25th March 1754. Alex.r Wynch. John Smith. Charles Bourchier.

P.S. Send us a particular Account of the
Casks Hoes &c.a that were sent under
your Charge from hence.

To Mr Robert Westgarth at Syriam.

Sir

On looking into your Accounts

Fort S.t George March 1752.

appear extreamly irregular the Charges exorbitant & many Articles stamped are such a manner that they are not intelligible which makes it highly necessary they should undergo a Strict Scrutiny on which he shall be pleased to send you clear up several Particulars that at present We are not at all satisfyd with. on receipt of this you will therefore deliver over to Mr. Thomas Taylor or the Person Mr. Brooke may appoint Honble Company's Factory & Effects under your Care & take the first Opportunity to repair hither to Adjust your Accounts with the Company in the meantime if Mr. Brooke should desire of you any Explanation of any Articles in those Accounts We expect you will not hesitate to give him all the Light he may desire. We are for your affectionate Friends Tho.s Saunders. Chd. Boddam. Henry Bourne. Alex.r Wynch. John Smith. Charles Bourchier.

Fort S.t George
25 March 1754.

Letters from the President to the King of Pegue & Cuppra Rajah are also read & approvd as entered in the Country Correspondence.

The President lays before the Board the Country Correspondence.

Captain Campbell at Chingalapeth writes that the Country People are very backward in furnishing Bullocks for the Store of the Fort & pretend they have already sold their Grain & received the Value. that the Chief & Second of Tondo are also buying up Grain in that District wherever he directs directions as the permitting them to carry any Quantity away will render it more Difficult for him to get a Sufficiency for the Fort.

In answer whereto the President wrote

Fort St. George March 1754.

him to seize all the Grain he can find without paying any Regard to the Pretensions of the Dutch or others as the Fort must be Supplyd & it is the Nabobs positive Order.

Ensign Paccard advises of a skir-mish he had near Trivatore with a party of Enemy who were obligd to retreat into a Fort leaving Twenty Men Dead in the Field & many Wounded but not one European hurt except himself, being slightly Wound-ed in the Hand, that on hearing of a Reinforcement from Gingee coming to the Enemys Assistance he thought proper to Retreat to Conjeveram.

Ibrahim Ally Cawn Son of Jaffer Ally Cawn late Nabob of Rajahmundrum writes very pres-singly of the Distresses of his Family occasiond by the deceit-full Behaviour of Vizziaram Mauze which has reduced them so low that they can Scarce support themselves requesting therefore the Companys Protection & Assist-ance he also advises that before the Misfortunes which have of late befallen his Family they sent a Ship hither Loded with Grain which he desires the President will dispose of & remit him the Produce.

The Board are of Opinion that as Jaffer Ally Cawn when in Power shewd a great Many Favours to the English his Family should be accomodated as well as possible at Vizagapatam where they now are, without putting the Company to any extraordinary Expence, & in regard to the Ship & Grain, that they be sold & the Produce remitted as Desird.

Nabob Anawerde Cawn encloses a Bond or Writing whereby he acknowledges that the Sircar is to make Good to the Company whatever they have alrea-dy

Amo

advanced or may hereafter expend in Assisting to settle him in his Government. he writes very perplexingly for the Troops with Mahaneptroa. & Abdul Rob Cawry & desires that the Detachment we intend sending may Join them & march together

The King of Tanjore writes that the 6th Instant he receivd Advices from Balazarow that he was resolvd to come into this Country with all possible Speed & that the Morcars say he was set out from Poonah & was advanced twenty Country Leagues this way with an Army of Sixty Thousand Horse & Forty Thousand Seapoys, he also writes that Major Lawrence had acquainted him that the Gallo- way had proposd an Accomodation on the following Terms either that the Nabob should pay him back of Rupees in ready Money for his Charges or that the Fort should be delivered to him in which case he would pay whatever had been expended on that: upon which he the King of Tanjore, wrote the Major that he left the Decision of this Affair entirely to the President

Letter from Mahaneptroa Comn & Ab- dal Rob Cawn in Answer to Letters from the President proffering them to March to the Nabobs Assistance, urging the former Ples that the Arrears due to their Troops prevent their Marching but that as soon as they have Collected a sufficiency from the Polligars or if We will lend them half a Lack of Rupees they will proceed

Tho: Saunders
Chas Boddam
Henry Egerly

Fort St. George March 1754.

Agreeable to Resolutions of Consultation the following Letters to Major Lawrence & Mr. Call are signed Secret &c.

To Stringer Lawrence Esq.r Commander in Chief of all the Companys Forces in India

Sir

We have not any Letters from you since ours last was Dated the 21.st Instant Affairs seem to be drawing so near to a Crisis with Circumstances that promise nothing favourable to our Cause, that however disagreeable an Accomodation with the Ballaway may be to us on the Terms often insisted on by him, it yet appears to us absolutely preferable to the evident Risque of losing the Fort, & ruining the Army to imminent Danger which We think would be the Case should Salabat Jing come into the Province of which there is great probability. We have formd Advices since we wrote you that he is already on his March & advanced 5 Days on this Side Aurungabad & tis beyond all Doubt the French will leave no means untryd to bring him on, the King of Tanjore advises that Ballazeroo will also come but this is contradicted, it is said Salabat Jing may be here in a Month & half. As no Time is therefore to be lost, We have come to a Resolution to close with the Ballaway on the Terms offerd by his Vackeel with a few alterations which he gives us Reason to believe his Master will rather grant than break off the Treaty We send you in this Packet for your Information Copy of a Letter from the Head & Second Ballaway to Vencatrow & a Representation from Vencatrow to the President containing his Proposals, also an Abstract of the Terms on which We formerly Engagerd Mr. Cooke to Treat, compard with the

Fort St George March 1754.

Agree Pachaells proposals & the Difference between the two pointed out that you may have at once a Clear View of the Terms collected from both & are which we are willing to conclude We digest them into distinct Articles

1st That the King of Mysore shall renounce his Alliance with the French Enter into an Alliance with Nabob Anawerdeen to settle him in his Government of the Carnateck

2d That he draw off Morarow from the French & engage him to enter into an Alliance with the Nabob to settle him in his Government

3d That as well this be effected the King of Mysore shall defray at his own Expence the whole Charge of the Mysore & Morattoe Troops

4th That the King of Mysore shall secure to the Company the whole Debt due to them by Nabob Anawerdeen & cause to be paid by the Seapoys on the draft on delivery of the Fort of Trichinopoly at the Time hereinafter stipulated

5th That on delivery of the said Fort to the King of Mysore he shall also pay to the Nabob Ten Lacks of Rupees & assign him such a District of the Mysore Country with a Fort in the same as shall produce Annually two Lacks of Rupees.

6th That the Kings of Mysore shall grant to the English the Sole & Exclusive Priviledge of trading in his Country & no other Europeans whatsoever shall be permitted to partake of it

7th In Consideration of all which Articles to be done & performed by the Kings of Mysore the Fort of Trichinopoly shall be delivered over to him within Twelve Months from the Conclusions of this Agreement &

Fort St George March 1784.

that on signing the same for within such reasonable Time as the Parties shall agree on / all the Forces & Effects of the Nabob Anaverdee Cawn / provision not included which is to remain there for the Benefit of the King of Tanjore / shall be withdrawn & the said Fort shall be & remain Garrisoned by English Troops only untill the Time stipulated for the delivery thereof

8.th That a due proportion according to former Agreement of all the Cannon & Warlike Stores taken at Seringham shall be delivered to the King of Mysore at the same Time as the Fort

9.th That the English will guarantee to the King of Mysore the peaceable Possession of the said Fort

10.th That the King of Tanjore if he chuses it shall be admitted into this Alliance & the peaceable Possession of his Dominions shall be guaranteed to him by all the Parties

11.th Lastly that this Treaty may be the more beneficial to all the Parties Viz.t the English the Nabob, King of Mysore & King of Tanjore they do mutually agree to defend each others Possessions against the Attacks and attempts of any Enemy who may ever make the same

It is possible objections may be started to several Particulars in the foregoing Articles but that the Treaty may not on that Account be protracted for want of sufficient Instructions we shall now give you our Thoughts on such as seem the most liable to Difficultys

1.st It is probable the Dallowy may object to the 3.d Article, in that Case as the Nabob is sincere

Circumstances will not admit of his Defraying the Charge of the Mysore Troops we see no other way of settling this Article than by Stipulating that when the Rajas of Mysore shall be in Possession of the Trichenopoly Country he shall retain the Tribute due from that Country to the Arcot Subahship until the Debt be paid.

2d The Payment of the Nabobs whole Debt to the Company will we are afraid occasion some Difficulties as Noncatrow proposes only to pay what has been expended on Account of the Affairs of Trichinopoly indeed last year he offerd to pay the whole but then it did not amount to above 26 Lacks & by the Time this Treaty may be concluded it will be full 35. This is so material an Object to us that it must be insisted on & rather than break off the Treaty some Equivolent may be thought of perhaps if the two Lacks worth of Country proposed to be assigned the Nabob were given up it might reconcile the Difference.

3d The limited Terms of one Year for the Surrender of the Fort we believe will be admitted Noncatrow has intimated as much to the President tho he has not inserted it in his Memorial, if it should be very strenuously objected to perhaps the agreeing to admit a Small party of Mysoreans into the Fort may obviate the Difficulty & we think cannot be any Prejudice

These, Sir, are the points that occur to us at present, others may arise, but if they should not be very Essential, such We mean as may Affect the General Plan, We desire you will not wait for your further Orders but conclude on upon such Judgment Whereby empower you to do so, & when all the Articles

Fort St. George March 17 5/6 A.

are fully agreed on the Treaty must be ratify'd by us under the Companys Seal, & by the Nabob, King of Mysore & King of Tanjore under their Respective Chops.

Mr. Call is now setting out for Tanjore & is charg'd with this Letter to send it to you by the first safe Conveyance the Chief of his Instructions are to press the King of Tanjore to Join, tho he should succeed in this (which We doubt) yet we are of Opinion We have no Choice but the Accomodation with the Dalleway must take place. in Case Mr. Call should proceed to the Army from Tanjore as he will be then able to disburthen you of a good part of the Trouble of this Negociation We have in that Case empower'd him to Act Jointly with you.

The Resignation of Capt.r Dalton & the late Deaths having Occasion'd several Vacancys We have made the following Promotions

Capt Lieut.t John Innis — } to be Captains
Lieut.t Joseph Smith — }

Lieut.t Jaines Spears — Capt.t Lieutenant

Ensigns John North
Daniel Campbell — } Lieutenants
John Fraser — }

Volunt.r John Clark — } Ensigns
George Airey — }

There remain three Vacancys for Ensigns We have already told you that Mr. Godwin is provided for as you Desire & some time ago we acquainted you of an Ensign's Commission given to Francis Flaction

We are always for Encouraging Valiant & to brave Men publick Marks of Honour are much greater Rewards than Pecuniary Gifts. We look on Mahomed Ali

Fort St George March 1751

in this Light from the Commendations you bestow on him & have agreed to give him a Commission as Commander in Chief of all the Company's Troops, this perhaps may not be a proper Title but something equivalent to it is what We mean & should be glad you would settle right, at the same Time We propose to present him with a gold Medal. We are Sir Your most Obed.t Serv.ts

Fort St George
25.th March 1751.

Tho.s Saunders Charles Boddam Henry Lawrey
Alex.r Wynch Isaac Smith Charles Bourchier

To the Reverend Mr Robert Palk

Sir

Circumstances of Affairs rendering it necessary that we should send a Person whom We can confide in to the Tanjorean Court We have pitched upon you for that purpose

You are not I presume ignorant that the King of Tanjore is in Alliance with us & that his Army has Acted jointly with that of the Nabob till a Party of Morattoes entered his Country & plundered some Villages, when he drew off his Forces & has ever since by Excuses Delayed repairing & by some 'tis reported acceded to a Neutrality the Latter there is no Certainty of however the Incursions of the Morattoes the Threats & Promises alternately of the French it is very evident have had such Effect as to render him extreamly timid & cautious, & to make him continue to affect specious pretences for his not acting in Conjunction with the Nabob, which must in Time be fatal to his Affairs & thus he remains irresolute endeavouring to keep fair with both, the Situation of Affairs requires that We be upon a Certainty in regard to his Measures for supposing his Intentions to be in the Nabobs Interest yet by such Protractions the Enemy must gain their

their Point.

We have therefore addressd the Nawaub on this Subject copy of which Letter is deliverd you; acquainting him that we now send you to negociate our Affairs with him on your being admitted to an Audience you will endeavour on your hearing understand the Defence of Trichinopoly mostly on his declaring that in Case it was Lost his Country would be ruind: That We have continued firm in our Resolutions & have the Pleasure to see the Enemy at this time disappointed that he must be sensible his preserving it depends on procuring a Sufficient Quantity of Provisions into it, & with our Joint Forces attacking the Enemy now they are Weak that if he continues to delay the Consequence will be that We cannot depend it any Considerable time but must give it up & therefore We hope he will immediately send his Forces to Nabob this you will urge to him in the strongest Terms & demand his final Resolution which you will immediately acquaint us & Major Lawrence with & we will then send you our Ultimate Orders. We are Sir your Affectionate Friends Tho.s Saunders Charles Boddam Henry Powney Alex.r Wynch John Smith Charles Bourchier.

Fort S.t George
25 March 1754.

April — 1. Recd the following General Letter from Major Lawrence

To the Honble Tho.s Saunders Esq.r President
& Governour &c.a Council of Fort S.t George

N.o 39.

Honble Sirs &c.a

I have receivd your Favour of the
9.th & hope long before this you have receivd mine of the 7.th
& 8.th Instant with my Opinions on the State of Affairs
I refer you to mine of the 5.th concerning
M.r Balk; who I dont hear is yet set out. I have sent my

Fort St George April 1754.

upon that Subject to have made my Sentiments very
clear. The King of Tanjore writes as our Friend; Says
his Troops are ready when he receives from Accot enough
It is therefore Gentlemen your great Interest to forge Mar-
-thus Cawrs March, with all Speed for every Day's Delay
is of the greatest Consequence to us, I intend leaving the City
at Deve Cotah till I can hear of his approach; nigh e-
-nough for their Junction, for without, they come together
they can be of no Service to one. But this I leave for
your Approbation. The Detachment at Deve Cotah may
be employ'd with Prudence to distress the Enemy, in the
mean Time, by driving in their Cattle & Burning their
Grain.

The Enemys Ships are still on the Coast
but send such large Detachments with their Provisions, that We get no Intelligence
A Letter of Decr from Mr Brooke
informs me, that there is a Reinforcement coming to
the French of 150 Men & 200 Seapoys, on whose Arrival
perhaps they will come out & encamp on the Plain
How necessary then the Speedy Arrival of your whole
Force. For such a Motion from the Enemy will add Dif-
-crease the Scarcity of Provisions. If we look out the
Camp
20th March
1754.
Humble Servant &c
Stringer Lawrence.

P.S. Capt.n Dillons was obligd to go to St. Davids for the
Recovery of his Health. The Officers are arrived from
Tanjore.

To Stringer Lawrence Esq.r Commander in Chief
of all the Company's Forces in India

N.o 1.

We have received your Letter of the 16th
Since the 9th wrote you under Date the 12th & 22d Inst.

Fort St. George April 1751.

The Reverend Mr. Robert Lisle is entertain'd as a Chaplain to this Presidency so far as Regards his Function he is under our Direction but to compell him to what may be disagreeable to him in other Affairs our Authority extends not he has obligd us in going to Tanjore & out the 27th

By our former Letters you will perceive the President had Wrote Abdul Bob Cawn We would Join our Detachment with his Horse his Reply was that he was in arrears to his Troops who would not move till paid that he must Raise Money, & that the Major Part of his Force was for that Purpose gone against the Colligars, they continue there & he has wrote to borrow of us P. 30,000. We must Repeat that We think they cannot be depended on especially as you write that if they are not paid they will be of ill consequence rather than service.

A Detachment of upwards of 200 Men went with Stores from Pondicherry, near Verda=chilum they divided into three Parts one of which proceeded to Syringham this is the Advice we have received & nothing else Particular has occurred. We are Sir your most Obedient Servants. Thos. Saunders Charles Boddam Henry Bonney Alex.r Wynch John Smith Charles Bourchier

Fort St. George 2. April 1751.

At a Consultation Present

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Governr & President

Charles Boddam Henry Bonney

Monday the 8.th Alex.r Wynch John Smith

Charles Bourchier

Fort St. George April 1751.

General Letter from Major Lawrence

read as follows.

To the Honble Thos. Saunders Esq.r President
& Governour &c.a Council of Fort St. George

N.o 40

Honble Sir & Sirs

I wrote you on the 21.st N.o 39. in Answer
to your Favour of the 9.th Instant.

The Enemy out number us greatly in
Seapoys & ours decrease every Day without being recruited.
Tho' I would most willingly avoid every needless expence
yet that which is necessary, if neglected makes the whole
of no use. You will please then to think on means of ha-
ving me recruited in that Article, & speedily. We have no
spare Arms here at all. There must be some sent us &
if you think proper to send me as many stand as will
Arm the Number of Additional Seapoys you chuse to giv
me: I can find Men enough here.

The Surgeon of the Fort Mr. Wilson has
represented to me; that notwithstanding his having ma-
Indents a considerable time ago for Medecines of which
now he is in great want; he can get no Accounts that his
Demands are compelyd with; I beg Gentlemen you will make
this your Care; & not let us Suffer for wants of such necessary
things

Please to Endeavour at an Exchange of
Prisoners or we shall lose half of our Men. Propose it
to Mr. Dupleix I think it the best Method at present.

The Nabob has wrote to Day very pres-
singly to Murtiz Cawn to joyn our Party at Bore Ghat;
whom as I Requainted you I have Orderd to stay till his
Arrival.

We buried yesterday Lieut.t Hayden of the

Fort St. George April 1754.

Camp the 23d March 1754.

Vacancy will be filld up by the Swiss Gentlemen as their Agreement directs I am Gentlemen your most Obedient & most humble Servant Stringer Lawrence.

Agreed that all the Seapoys at Fort Calish over & above three hundred, which are askeed sufficient for the Defence of that Settlement, be ordered to Join the Major with Captain Gigous Detachment, that the Major have leave to raise what further Number he may think the Service requires & that four hundred Stand of Buckaneer & Fire-ding Guns be sent him by the first Opportunity.

Colonel Scott in a Letter read this Day advising that he intended to proceed hither in a few Days in the Tyger Sloop to relieve Major Lawrence in the Command of the Army, the Board are of Opinion that as all Reports from Bengal at this Season of the year are obligd to make the Land to the Southward of this Place it is probable Coll. Scott may touch at Fort St. David in which it would be saving much Time if instead of Coming hither he were to proceed immediately to Camp & it is ordered that a Gen-=neral Letter to him to that Effect be prepard accordingly & that Major Lawrence & the Gentlemen at Fort St. David be ad-=vis'd thereof.

The President lays before the Board the Military & Country Correspondence.

Ensign Packard at Conjeveram writes that he is informd the Enemy are Assembling a large Force at Gingy but that he cannot learn their Intentions, he adds that should he be ordered to march out with the Mar-=ratta Camp to Trichinopoly which Abdul Rob Cawn informs him is intended, he thinks his Force sufficient

Capt.n Campbell at Chingala

Fort St. George April 1754.

writes that four of the french Prisoners had undermined the Place of their Confinement & were making their Escape but were pursued by the Patrol who killed one, wounded another & took the other two. That Nine of the Prisoners had desired to enlist in our Service on which he desired Directions.

To which the President wrote him in Answer that they could by no means be admitted.

Mahaujahoor Cawn & Abdul Bob gave advise that they had settled Affairs with Bamoraujo the Pollygar & that Mahaujahoor Cawn was now ready to proceed to Trichinopaly but hearing that the Enemy had sent a Party of their Forces to oppose his March he Desired that a Detachment of Europeans & Artillery may be sent with him.

As the Major says great Stress on the Junction of these Forces with our Detachment at Dove Cotah to reinforce the Army the Board are of Opinion that to prevent any further Delay Ensign Lucas with the Party under his Command be ordered to Accompany Mahaujahoor Cawn as far as Dove Cotah & that the Pollygar be directed on their Arrival there to return that Detachment to us immediately by Sea on the Dragon Sloop & that the Major be advised of this Disposition.

Letter from Murtuza Ally Cawn at Vellour giving fresh Assurances of his Desire to live on Friendly Terms with Nabob Mahomed Ally Cawn & requesting that the President will write to Mahaujahoor Cawn & Abdul Bob Cawn not to molest his Districts, which the President complied with the A.t Instant.

Fort St George April 1754.

As Major Lawrence has frequently represented the Necessity of having somebody constantly at Tarjore with the Board Judge it proper to avoid any Delays in case Mr Palk should be obligd to quit that place either to proceed to Camp or return hither that a proper Person succeed him, & Mr Andrew Newton at Port St David is now appointed for that purpose.

Two General Letters from Mr Henry Brooke all the Negrais read as follow Viz.t

To the Honble Tho.s Saunders Esq.r President & Governour &c.a Council of Fort St George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have the Honour to acquaint you that the Egmont Capt.n Tolson arrivd here the 26.th February last, being appointed by the President & Council of Fort William to relieve the Colchester Capt.n Mainwaring by this Ship We have received two Hundred & fifty seven Artificers, with Sundry Stores & Provisions; this has been a great Relief to us as We by this Means are enabled to go on with the Works on the Place which Mr Hewitt has begun with much more Expedition, which before went on but slowly on Account of the Small number of Hands & a lingering Sickness which has raged among us.

I take the Liberty to send your Honours the Several Papers as p List enclosed, but I have not been able to bring up the Occurrences and Transactions from the 20.th September to the Death of Mr Hewitt, but as there are no original Papers concerning the same to be found relating thereto, which, together with a Diary kept by Mr Hewitt, rendered it impossible for me to give your Honours a satisfactory

Fort St George April 1755.

Account during that Interval & Hope I shall stand as faultless in the opinion of your Honours for this Appearance of Neglect which now lies against me, as I shall be found blameless for not being born at the Burthing of Babel.

I have faithfully & simply related every minute circumstance in the Diary relating to the Honourable Company's Affairs at this Place since the Death of Mr Hunter; by which your Honours will be Judges of our present Situation, the little Certainty we have of being supply'd with Provisions for some Time to come in this disturbed Country & how the Government thereof stands affected towards us. Since

Since the 24th December We cut down the Woods to the South West of the Fort 200 Yards in Breadth, & on Length to the Foot of the Hill 300. We have compleated a Wall of 5 foot high & four foot broad round the Fort being Apprehensive of its sinking, some time ago, but now We think it Secure to bear the Weight of our Guns, we have raised embrasures all round it. We have Built 24 Butts of Stone for a Granary to stand on, & have the Timbers almost squared ready to be erected, we have sunk a large Well and built it with stone which now affords plenty of Excellent good Water, & happily compleated it before the Arrival of the Bengallers, & which otherwise we could not have found it impossible to have supplyed them with Water.

Mr Hunter having wrote your Honours fully of our Work at this Place, Dupliccate whereof I have sent Your Hon.rs by the Cuddalore Boat, I have nothing further to add on that Head, except that We are in great Want of a few Smiths

&c.

Fort St George April 1754.

The Ballance of the Honble Companys
Cash for last Month being 9933,138 Rupees nine Thou-
-sand nine Hundred & thirty three, one Quarter &
thirty eight Bais will sufficiently demonstrate to your
Hon.rs how soon it will be out of our Power to pay the Military
& Artificers & their monthly Wages unless your Honours
will please to supply us immediately with Cash.

The Gentlemen of the Military &
Doctor having represented to us that Benjamin
Billocks & Thomas Welsh both Centinels, have been
for some Time past render'd incapable of Duty by
sickness we have taken the Liberty to transmit
them to your Honours; We have also sent by this
Conveyance Seignor Arotonia Linguister & Seignor
Martino both Prisoners for Stealing Cam[illegible]
the Honble Companys Arrack this Last being em-
-ployd in the Storehouse found means to Convey it to
the Former House, where it was found & the fact
being proved against them both, we have sent them
to your Honours to receive a Punishment propor
-tionable to their Crimes.

The President & Council of Fort
William having acquainted us that they intend
relieving the Egmont provided We think the attend
-ance of an Europe Ship necessary we have there
-fore Acquainted them, that as the Affairs of our
Honble Masters are yet unsettled with the
Country Government, & We by no Means in a Stat
of Defence should We be attacked by an Enemy, We
do think the attendance of a Europe Ship indispen
-bly necessary at this Place till these Affairs are
Adjusted, you will be pleas'd therefore to Acquie

Fort St. George April 1754.

Gentlemen of Fort William with what Military Cattoo Stores you will send to this Establishment, that they may proportion those they send here accordingly: but whatever Military Force you will please to send we cannot be able effectually to establish our selves on the Plan which Mr. Hunter has laid down before the next dry Monsoons.

The several Indents for Stores & Provisions I hope your Honours will please to comply with

Sograis
6th March 1754.

I am Gentle Sirs & Sirs your most obedient humble Servant

Henry Brooke.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr President & Governour &c. & Council of Fort St. George.

Honble Sirs & Sirs

I have now the Honour to Advise you that the Porto Bello Sloop arrived here a few Hours after I had made up the Packet for the Colchester, & had sent Capt. Maxwaring his Sailing Order to proceed to Fort St. George Presidency; but on reading your Honours Letter to Mr Hunter, wherein you desire the Ship Colchester immediately to proceed to Bengal on her being relieved by a Ship from thence I wrote to recall the Sailing Orders. Know therewith you the several Papers by which I was prevailed on to alter those Sailing Orders to continue, & must more entirely submit myself to your Clemency, either to stand condemned or be acquitted for my Conduct.

By the Porto Bello We have received the sundry Papers as per List, of the Packet, some Provisions & 28 Military those last will greatly contribute to the well being of this new Establishment, & hope by this Reinforcement of healthy Europeans We shall

be able to make a stout Resistance should We be attacked by a Country Enemy

The several Directions which you have pleased to lay Down for Mr Hunters Conduct shall be punctually observed, till the Arrival of the Cuddalore which We now hourly expect with your more particular Instructions for our Conduct. I am Honble Sir &c. Your most Obedient humble Servant Hen.y Brooke.

Negrais 2 March 1754.

The following Letter from Mr West-garth is also read.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r President & Governour &c.a Council of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

This waits on you by Senhor Nicoose & Joppelo, the King of Pegue's Ambassadors which latter is sent as a Spy on the Actions of the Former but by what I can learn neither of them have Sufficient Powers to treat with you, any further than what is Verbal from the King & Rajah their Master here is nothing material happened since my last to you by the Sloop Fortune & Ship Eagle, I remain with great Respect Honble Sir & Sirs your most Obedient humble Servant Robt Westgarth &c.

Syrian Febry 1754.

The President Acquaints the Board that Coja Nicoose and Joppelo the Person mentioned in Mr Westgarths Letter had been with him & communicated what they were Commissioned by the King of Pegu to offer in Regard to the Island of Negrais & a Treaty with the Company the Substance of which is that the King is willing to grant that Island to the English in Consideration of an Annual Present the value of which is not mentioned & that he is willing also to Grant a free Trade to the

Fort St George April 1754.

the Company in the Ports of Syriam, Martaban, Prom, Bgue, Tangoore, Jon Ratey but not to private Merchants &
that he will agree to protect & Defend the Company against
his own Subjects but not Foreigners

In regard to the Annual Present which
the King of Pegue demands the Board are of Opinion
that if he will be satisfied with a Silver or gold Flower
as an Acknowledgement it would be advisable to comply
with it: but as it is more probable something of more
is expected, that this Article will be objected to & that
a free Trade for all the Subjects of the King of England
to the said Ports be insisted on.

Letter from Mr Dupleix dated 31 Mar
N.o 5 & one from Madame Dupleix dated 1 April N.o 6.
both to the President are now read & entered in the foreg
Correspondence.

Thos Saunders Esq
President
Henry Bonny
Wynch
John Smith
Edward Ives

Fort St. George April 1751.

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8 The following General Letter sent to Major Lawrence agreeable to
Resolution of Consultation this Day

To Stringer Lawrence Esq.r Commander in Chief
of all the Companys Forces in India

N.o 5

Sir

Our last was dated the 2.d Instant we have
since receivd your Letter of the 23.d March N.o 20.

As you acquaint us you are in want of
Seapoys to replace those whom you have lost We very readily
Consent to your raising what Number you may think ne-
cessary for the Service, We think three hundred Seapoys are
Sufficient for the Protection of Deve Cotah & its District
there are now in that Garrison about 800 We shall therefore
order all above the 300 to Join Captain Pigots party to re-
force you and by the first opportunity We shall send you
about five hundred Shard of Buckaroes & trading Guns be-
sides these We have but a very few left, but We hope shortly
to receive a Supply from Europe.

Mr. Wilsons Indent for Medicines
has been fully complyd with some time ago

An Exchange of Prisoners has also
been proposed before the Receipt of your Letter to Mr.
Dupleix through the Means of Captain Schaub his
Answer was that he would see what could be done We are of
your Opinion that it would be a Right Measure for us
to appear, & We shall use our Endeavours to bring it about
if We were to seem anxious in this Affair it might be a
sufficient Reason with Mr. Dupleix not to acquiesce to
shall Shortly have Occasion to write to him & that
may be a proper opportunity to offer some Proposal.

After repeated Letters wrote in the most
pressing & even more than pressing Terms Mahomedcon

Fort St. George April 1754.

Caven has at last consented to march on Condition that a Party of Europeans be sent with him as he thinks it too hazardous to cross the Country without that help for so many Evasions have been made use of to avoid this march that we can scarcely think him sincere now, however that he may have no Excuse we have ordered Ensign Record with his Detachment (who are now with Abdul Bob Caven at Conjeveram) to attend Mahmuptoor Caven to Dove Cotah, & We have directed Mr Hopkins on their Arrival there to return our Party by us immediately by Sea as We are too bare of Military to spare them from these Parts

We have entertained Messrs Brogan Scattergy and Simon Hard, as Volunteers the former has acted to general Satisfaction as Serjeant Major of Fort St David the latter on the same Station at Calcutta & is recommended by the President there besides these two or three other Gentlemen are hear arrived in Vessells which have put in at Negore from Bengal to engage in the same Quality as soon as We have their Names We shall Advise you

Coll Scott in a Letter received this Morning dated 9 March acquaints us that in Consequence of our Request he intended to proceed hither as soon as a Ship could be got ready which might then be in eight or ten Days, to relieve us of the Command so that We may be in daily expectation of his Arrival which will give us great pleasure as we have long wish'd to have it in our Power to give you some Respite from a very fatigueing Campaigne. As it is probable the Ship may touch at S. David We have sent a Letter thither for the Coll to request he will proceed from thence to Europe without coming hither which would retard his joining &c

Fort St. George April 1754.

the Army for a considerable Time.

We have directed Mr. Hopkins to take all opportunitys of advising Mahaupshoo Cauan of any Motions the Enemy may make to oppose his March & Design Pucard has Orders to acquaint you & Mr. Hopkins from time to time of his Rout by this Means to put it the more in your Power to facilitate the Junction. We are Sir your most obedient Servants Thomas Saunders, Charles Boddam, Henry Ponney, Alex.r Wynch, John Smith, Chas.s Bourchier.

Fort St. George
8.th April 1754.

At a Consultation Present

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Govern.r President
Charles Boddam Henry Ponney
Alex.r Wynch John Smith
Charles Bourchier

Tuesday the 16.th

Colon.l Caroline Frederick Scott who arrived here yesterday from Bengal in the Hon.ble Company's Sloop Tyger being indisposed and not attending Consultation It is agreed that the Colonel be desired to proceed to Camp as soon as Convenient to relieve Major Lawrence in the Command of the Army & that the Tyger Sloop be detained here to carry him to Fort St. David or Devi Cotah.

The President acquaints the Board that he had conversd further with the King of Tanjore's Agent who seemd to Hearken the Kings Offer in Demanding an Annual Present for the Negrais was not so much on Account of the Value as the Acknowledgement to be Signifyd by it that we possess the Negrais by Virtue of his Grant. The President then acquainted them that the Negrais being chiefly intended as a Harbour for Shipping but not very Convenient

Fort St. George April 1754.

situated for Trade the Company were desirous of having some Place that would Answer that Intent, but as Bassaine was represented to be proper for the Purpose if the King would grant it to the Company with a sufficient Tract of Land round about for the Convenience & support of the Inhabitants it might be a great Means of encouraging a Trade that would probably prove very Beneficial both to the King & Company to which they replied that if this Place were granted to the Company it might greatly prejudice the King in his Revenues by drawing thither the Trade which is now carried to Tyrian & which pays a considerable Custom, they added that if the Company could assist the King at present with a Party of Men & Artillery they did not doubt, but such a Testimony of Friendship & the Advantages the King might reap from it, would be a great Inducement for complying with their Request & they even did not doubt but it would be granted, to which the President Replyd that he would very readily assist the King if the Companys Affairs could admit of it & as a Proof of these friendly Intentions of the Ships this Season from Europe should bring the Reinforcements we have Reason to expect, a Detachment shall be sent over for the Kings Service, with which they seem satisfyd.

Ordered that the Draught of a Treaty with the King of Pegue agreeable to the Minutes of the last & this Consultation be prepaid to be laid before the Kings Agents.

The President lays before the Board the Country & Military Correspondence

Ensign Record writes that Mauha-
pheer Canoo Rabdul Bob Canoo were gone to Arcot to settle

Fort St. George April 1754.

[illegible] their Troops not choosing to march to join the Nabob as he still keeps from us each hope he also advises that he is informed by Abdul Rassoul Mansoor Raymond Morse has Thousand Sepoys & three hundred Europeans with four Pieces of Cannon were detached from Syringham with 3 different Routes with an Intention to oppose Major Lawrence Marches

Serjeant Belton who commands at Tripassore Had Orders to receive of the Hillodars a Lack of Pagodas which Abdul Bob Cawn had assigned the Payment of out that District writes that the Hillodars promises to pay Ten Thousand Pagodas in Novr. Fifteen Thousand three Hundred Pagodas in December Twenty Thousand Pagodas in June & fifteen Thousand three Hundred Pagodas in August

Nabob Anawar de Cawn writes that one Mahomed Abdulla Mufty of Mocha who has long possessed the favour of Gov.r and Cons.rs of Fort St. George as an Envoy or free Gift which he pleased with Cattle has informed him that the said Horses are now taken from him As this & several other Reasons are Excepted in that Phirmaund for Fort St. George Ordered that the Bearer restore the same.

A Letter from Abdul Bob Cawn complaining of Capt Campbell &c. for seizing all the Paddy in that District & Company's part of which his Troops were to have been paid.

As there is an absolute Necessity that the Garrisons should be well stored with Provisions which the Nabob's People have neglected tho frequently press'd & told of the Necessity of laying in against a Siege, the Board are of Opinion no Notice should be taken of this Complaint but that Captain Campbell proceed in collecting all the Paddy he can get.

Murtaz Ally Cawn writes that Abdul Bob Cawn has seized upon certain Districts belonging to his Jaguier & as he is resolved to maintain a strict Friendship with Anawar Cawn he desires the President to write to Abdul Bob Cawn to restore those Districts & leave them unmolested which the President has already complied with.

A Letter from Capt.n Donald Campbell at Fort St. David desiring leave to come up to the Presidency, which the Board do not think proper to comply with but that he proceed to Camp with Col.o Lawrence.

Tho.s Saunders
Geo. Pigot
Henry Lawes
W.m Lynch
John Smith
Ed.d Boscawen

Fort St George April 1765.

At a Consultation held

Tho.s Saunders Esq.r Gov.r Pres.t &c.

Monday the 22.d

Charles Boddam Hen.y Strachey

Max.n Wynch John Smith

Charles Bourchier

The President acquaints the Board that he had discoursed with Coll.l Scott about proceeding to but that he seem'd averse to it and intimated to he came here from Bengal thinking the Major Illness rendered him incapable of the Command but as he finds that is not the Case he makes chuses to decline it. That he does not appreh himself to be under our Orders in that respect but left to his own Discretion.

The Company's Orders re-lating to Colonel Scott being thereupon referred to it appears by the Fourth Paragraph of his Instructions that he is left to his Discretion to repeal to any of the Company's Settlements in case they should be threatened with an Attack and is thereby to be admit-ted into Council whenever any Military Proceedings are consider'd of and in the 17.th Paragraph of the General

Fort S.t George April 1754.

Letter dated 15 December 1752. it is said in Case any Acci-
dent should happen to Major Lawrence Col. Scott is to
have the Command

As Major Lawrence is not by any Acci-
dent actually at present incapable of the Command,
tho' from his Age, long fatigues & frequent Returns of
Illness there is great Reason to apprehend it will not
be long in his Power to Remain in the Field, & as the
Sense of the above recited Paragraph seems to be that the
Col.t even in case of a real Accident to the Major is neither
left at his Liberty to take the Command than obliged to do it
the Board are of Opinion that the Col.t is not Subject to
their Orders & that the most they can do is to represent
the dangerous Consequences to the Company's Affairs
should the Major be obligd to quit the Field, & how material a
Service the Col.e may render the Company by taking the
Command & thereby giving Major Lawrence some Respit
which may enable him to recover it;

The Secretary acquaints the Board
that having by the Presidents Direction sent a Letter
from Major Lawrence & other Papers to Col.e Scott for his
Perusal the Col.t returnd them with the following
Answer Viz.t

Sir Saturday 20 April

I am much obligd to the Governour
for ordering these Papers for my Perusal But as I doubt
dare Myself a Member of the Council I must desire to
be excusd from meddling with the Papers or presuming
to sign any Letters of this Horrible Governour & Council
I am &c

Cor. Fred.k Scott.

The following General Letters from
Major Lawrence are read Viz.t

Fort St George April 1754.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.
President & Govr &c.a Council of Fort St George

N.o 41.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have received both your Letters of March 8.th 82.
in Answer to all my Letters from the 25 February to the
8.th of March. It is very proper my Opinion should be
asked as one of the Council: But it would be mighty odd
if I could imagine that only my opinions were to follow'd.
No Gentlemen, you cannot think me so Weak, or so
unreasonable. But since I cannot have the Honour
to assist at those Councils, & to hear the respective
Reasons given for or against any things I may have pro-
pos'd; or to know the final Determination of the Majority
Is it not reasonable to expect that in general I might be
inform'd of the Reasons for such Resolutions, If it were only
for Instruction sake it would be right. But for a more
Important Reason, which I have often given, that by know-
ing the result of those Debates I might be so Instructed in the
State of Affairs & that by my perfect Knowledge of them I might
be enabled to act in Conjunction with your resolves for
however determin'd I have been not to blend the Military
& Political Business, I find they are so Intricately mix'd together
that it is unavoidable. Therefore all the Lights necessary
should be given to assist me. I am sorry (as I take up some
of your Time & my own with these (as it were) preliminary
discourses. But I was willing Gentlemen to make my meaning
as clear as possible. To show you the Necessity I think of your
being more full & explicit, In your Orders & Instructions
to me, According to the Result of your Councils I should
have been sorry you might have imagin'd my Remonstran-
ces the Effects of Dissatisfaction at thinking I was neglected

Since

Fort St George. April 1754.

Private Pique I scorn. because I dare speak my Mind.
& I hope I have a Spirit above ill usage. Besides where the publick
is concerned every thing gives way with me to that where Im-
portant concerns let me beg you will take this Gentlemen as
it is meant, let the same Spirit Actuate us & if upon please
let us drop this Subject for good let our Time be employd in
making our Actions Unanimously prove how much we have
the good & Honour of our Masters at Heart, & with how much
Zeal & Disinterestedness we are willing to serve them. If the
Officers have given a wrong Parole or one that is not agreed
of, it should be recalld, & the Gentlemen releasd themselves Prisoners.
They signd it themselves & I sent it to you for your Opinion
to be sure if Salabajungs Legality is not disputed by us, they
ought to give their Parole to the King of Mysore seeing as
War as you say against the Circar whom We defend. As to his Objec-
tion of not serving against his Lieut.t I think cannot make any
thing in favour of M.r Dupleix. We cannot suppose him as such as
We have all along denied it. so he is not acknowledgd by us, as
a Lieutenant of Salabajungs untill he gives such Proofs as will
make us no longer dispute his Legality. I am very much afraid
our Junction will be greatly retarded, for I do not think they
will get more Money than will Just maintain them where
they are much less as soon necessary to support them here
M.r Lally on his Arrival at Tanjore will feed the Kings with the
best reasonable Excuse that on the March of the Northern Forces
he will Join his Troops. If they Come, & he is as Good as his Word
something may be done; but if not you are come to a fine Resso-
lution but are afraid as soon as the King sees we are resolvd, that
he will endeavour to make terms for himself. I believe he will,
& perhaps such that to get the best conditions for himself as will
make him come into their Measures & refuse us more than to
his Country; & compell us to do by Force what we would by

Fort St George April 1754.

by Treaty. To prevent which consider would it not be proper when we first Move must come to that Extremity to order us to march & then make the Proposals for should he take such a Step not only the Fort but We must fall. We will leave the Place Garrison'd sufficient against an Attack & while Provisions last we may be treating better at the worse lose them in the Fort than the whole by staying I hear no more of Salabajungs approach but some of Ballazeroms are about Gooty in the Mysore Country. to which they have sent a Detachment their Numbers are not decreas'd by it. for the Day it was made they were reinforced by a Party of Morattas. Several inconveniences in letting the French pay our Peons which is their Desertion they have that advantage of us they will entertain our People & we will not their. besides they send them to the Enemy, whom they are of great use & must be faithfull them Necessity: not having means for their Escape. I am sorry to acquaint you that by the last Dooks the Nabob had Sydos Caseas Cawd was removd from Salabajungs Councils. I am Gentlemen your most Humble Servants

Stringer Lawrence.

Copy pd the 2d April 1754.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr President Governour &c. Council of Fort St George

No 42.

Honble Sir & Sirs

to your Favours of the 18 & 21 March. There are now two Vacancys, by the Resignation of Capt Dalton & Death of Capt Grant, pr cannot but be sensible how much Officers are necessary & wanted I desire you will be pleasd to let them Comps be filled up as soon as Possible. & the other Officers in their Respective Ranks, there are two Volunteers for the Ensigns Commissions Capt Dalton has applyd to

Fort St. George April 1754.

on Account of his Officer Prisoner at Springhaard representing the Expence he is at, & desiring a Continuance of his Pasport I have order'd it for this Month & shall wait your Orders to continue it, or not, as also to Capt.n Granville. The Difficulty's I have represented to you in all my preceding Letters still Continue, nor can they be removed nor the Company our Situation till M.r Call's Arrival at Tanjore I flatter myself to have heard of his being there before now. I am Gentlemen, your most Obedient humble Servant

Stringer Lawrence.

Camp at the y.e of April 1754.

The Major being of the same Sentiments with the Board in Relation to the Proposals given by the English Officers who were Prisoners at Serringham Agreed that M.r Dupleix be wrote to, that We Disapprove it, & that if their Parole to the Kyfore King will not be accepted they shall return to Serringham.

Vide Major's Letter dat.d 31.st Instt. Recvd the 4.th March

The Question proposed by the Major being Debated whether it were better for the Army to march towards Tanjour before the Proposals are made to the Dallaway, by Reason means to keep the Rajah of Tanjore from entering into any Measures that might break our Scheme: or continue under the Walls of Trichinopoly. The Board are of Opinion that the Army should move towards Tanjour if the Major should think it may be done without giving the Enemy such an Advantage of Ground as might put it in their Power to invest the Town & prevent the return of our Army to its Relief, but if the March of our Forces should leave it in the Enemy's Power to take this Advantage, in that Case the Board are of Opinion our Army should not move, but make the Proposals to the Dallaway first

Fort St. George April 1754

Their present encampment & should those Propo-
sals be rejected & even the worst happen that the
Major Suggests, it is not unreasonable to imagine
that the Recruits shortly expected from Europe may
put it in our Power to secure a Retreat to Devi Cotah

Agreed that the following Military
Promotions be made to supply the Vacancys occasioned
by the Death of Captain Conyngham at Vizagapatam
Viz.t

Captain Lieut.t James Spears to be made a Captain
Lieutenant ——— John Harrison ——— Captain Lieutenant
Ensign ——— Andrew Greig ——— Lieutenant
Volunteers ——— Simon Hart
Bryan Scottney } ——— Ensigns

Ordered that Ensign Simon Hart
proceed to Vizagapatam with Captain Saunders, that
Lieutenant John Fraser now at Devi Cotah accompa-
-ny Captain Pigou's Party to Carnp & that Ensign
Bryan Scottney supply the Place of Lieutenant
Fraser at Devi Cotah.

Several Letter from Mr Robert Westgarth
to Governor read as follows
To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council of
Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

Since my last Advices nothing mate-
-rial has happened here, only since the Rajah left this
Place with his Army the King with his younger Bro-
-ther & two Dalla are fortifying their Fortifications
at Pegu & its reported here the King of Ava is Elleven
Dus Towns on the East of Pegu, the King of Avas title

Fort St George April 1754.

remains in Confinement, & his Hge Majesty gives him
Little or no Sustenance

I have receivd no Advices from the Coast
since April last, & the Neptune Snow not yet arriving
lays me under the utmost Necessity for want of Money
to carry on the Honble Companys Service here, their
Sloop on the Stocks now stands still for want of it, &
I can have no Supplys from the Negrais of any kind
though most of my wants are chiefly for the Service
of that Island.

Enclosd I send you my Account
for last Month & Remain with great Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient humble Servt
Robert Westgarth.

Syrian
5th March 1754.

PS. The Rajah whom here desird I would lend him the three
European Soldiers I had, to be his Body Guard, which
I granted him.

In Mr Westgarths Account of Disburse-
ments for the Month of February received with the forego-
ing Letter he charges for his House Expences & Servants Wages
no less than three Hundred & Fifty Nine Pcals, a most
unreasonable Sum & what the Board will by no means
allow but as Mr Westgarth is ordrd to come hither & there
is a Ballance due from the Company to him the Adjusting
of these Accounts is deferrd untill his Arrival

The President laye before the Honble
the Camps & Country Correspondence &c.

Letter from Mr Wilson Surgeon
at Trichenopoly representing that at the Time the
Nabob left off maintaining the French Prisoners he
had a great many of them Sick & wounded under his
Care who had not the means of supplying themselves

Fort St George April 1750.

with necessarys & their Officers would not interfere in it nevertheless relying on Mr Dupleix's Honour he continued to supply them as before but on Application to Mr Dupleix he refuses to reimburse the Charge he has been at he therefore submits his Case to the Board & Requests to be repaid what he has expended on this Account amounting to fifteen Hundred & Ninety Seven Rupees.

As Mr Wilson could have no other View than Compassion in supplying those unhappy Prisoners it would be hard he should suffer Agreed therefore that the Major be advised that if Mr Dupleix will not pay these Disbursements the Nabob should & if he is unable the Company will advance it & charge it to his Account.

Letter from Capt Kilpatrick at Trichinopoly & one from Maxwell at Camp enclosing their Accounts for March.

Letter from Captain Campbell at Chingalapaut advising that a Party of the Enemy from Ellanoparvoy had plundered some Villages between that place & Sadras.

Letter from Lieutenant Preston at Arcot advising that Abdul Rob Cawn refuses to give the least Assistance for the Benefit of that Garrison which is in Ruined Places is in great Want of Repair & even affords a little Encouragement for furnishing a Battery he also refuses to pay the usual Picket Money to the Troops at Conjeveram

The President is desired to write to the Nabob & Abdul Rob Cawn that all due Assistance may be given for the Advantage of their Forts.

Ensign Packard writes that he had

Sent

Fort St George April 1754.

Joind Abdul Bob Cawn & Mauppan Cawn at Arcot but when he prest them to march they still pleaded the want of Money & desird he would write to the President to prevail on the Merchants at Madrass to lend them three Lacks of Rupees on Security to pay Head Sum in three Months without which Assistance they cannot pretend to move.

The Merchants here being unwilling to advance any Money on so precarious a Security Agreed that the Major be acquainted of the improbability of those Troops marching to join the Forces

Letter from Abdul Bob Cawn enclosing a Note or Bond of Wally Mahomed Cawn Amuldar of Trepasore for the Payment of a Lack of Rupees payable in five Rists the last Payment to be made in September.

The said Note or Bond is now delivered to the Commissioners to be sent to the Serjeant commanding at Trepasore with Directions to receive the Amount at the respective Times of Payment.

Letter from Nabob Anaverdecawn enclosing from his Vackeels at Salabad Jungs Camp advising that Ballazeroon Minister had proposd to Shamnaps Cawn Salabad Jungs Duan to settle affairs in His Province by giving him Anaverdecawn Trichenopoly & that Shamnaps Cawn replied the French were willing but that the English would not consent.

Tho: Saunders

Geo: Bodam

Henry Brown

Jno. Braddyll

Jno. Smith

Wm Bourchier

Fort S.t George April 1754.

26. Letter from the President to M.r Dupleix agreeable to Resolution
of last Consultation No and one to Madam Dupleix
No both Dated this Day as entered in the French
Correspondence.

At a Consultation Present

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Govern.r President
Monday Charles Boddam Henry Penney
the 29.th Alex.r Wynch John Smith
Charles Bourchier
Caroline Frederick Scott Esq.r is now admitted
to a Seat at the Board.

General Letter from Major Lawrence
read as follows.

To the Hon.ble
President & Governour &c.a Council
of Fort S.t George

S.r A.o

Hon.ble Sir &c. Sirs

I have receivd your two Letters of the
2.d and 8 Instant A.o 1756, But that of the 26.th Ultimo 7.ber
is not yet come to hand since mine of the 23.d of March
which you acknowledge the Receipt of I have wrote
two more No. 11 and 12 of the 3.d and 7.th Instant which I
hope ere this are Receivd

Our Situation seems much to
improve and if Mauspheus Cavore joins us & the King of
Tanjore enters heartily in our Cause We have room to flatter
ourselves with the Hopes of Success

I am glad to hear of M.r Bath's Arrival
the Hopes of Colonel Lock coming gives me a great deal of
Satisfaction

Fort S.t George April 1754.

satisfaction for I want Rest as much as you are willing to procure it to me.

Every thing here Remains as before the Enemy yesterday had a large Magazine blown up which has done a good deal of Damage. We hear above two Thousand People have perished by it. Those mostly Merchants & Gentlemen People as the Accident happened near that Place. In my next I shall be able to send you a more particular Account

Camp the 8.th April 1754.

I am Gentlemen your most Obedient & most Humble Serv.t

Stringer Lawrence.

The President then acquainted Col.l Scott of the frequent Returns of Illness the Major has had, & his Repeated Letters acquainting us of his Apprehensions that it will not be long in his Power to continue in the Field; laid before him the Precarious Situation of Affairs at Carrapt & the bad Consequences that might ensue should the Major be obligd to resign the Command as We have no Officer equally capable to succeed him in so weighty a Charge at this Crisis. To which the Col.l replied that he does not think himself obligd by the Company's Instructions to him to take the Command even if Major Lawrence were to dye; that in Case any of the Company's Settlements should be threatned with an Attack he should be very ready to give his Assistance but as Affairs are now Circumstanced he is in Doubt whether as being one of the Kings Officers he may be justifyd in appearing in Arms against the French, for which Reasons he declines taking the Command of the Company's Forces.

The Board then proceeding on other Business the Col.l desired to withdraw & took his leave

The President lays before the Board a Correspondence

Fort St George April 17

Letter from the Recorder

as follows

To the Hon.ble Thomas Saunders Esq.r

Hon.ble Sir

Yesterday immediately upo
I solliciled for an Audience, & was promis
to Day. I am not very Sanguine in my
of Success, for, by all I can learn, the Kings
Politics are to keep well with every Body
receives from Nandy Bays, & Proceeds he
gers from Pondicherry; he has sent word
welcome me, with many Assurances of
& I dare say I shall be a better Judge as my
I have spent four Hou
& to very little Purpose. He complains
the Enemy is very rich & very formidable
lately received a Reinforcement of 4000
him to Join by every Argument I could
him that every other Scheme is full of
confesses that he is not ignorant of
unless a greater Force appears, than
to have. It is
however to consider of it He may possibly
Sentiments, but I very much doubt it.

I delivered your Present &
Snuff Box into the Bargain, bought at
at the Recommendation of Mr Cotes for
50 Pagodas. In Return I received an Ordinary
which will be accompanied with a Pardan
Water, but that part of the Harangue was laid
The Major acquainted me
he should be obliged
for want of Provisions

could not, on Account of its Bulk, forward your general Letter of the the 25th March, I have told Him in a manner Less Liable to Accidents, what it chiefly contained, because our Affairs seem to me very perplexing, & I fear Nandi Rao knowing as he certainly must, the Disposition of this King, will only trifle with the Major, in order to save Money & gain Time, These are my Fears, you will for-give me for mentioning them, I wish they may be Groundless.

The Morawar & Tondamans are at War which hurts us in regard to Provisions & the Enemy have lately burnt Sherinoar & plundered 200 Gunnies of Paddy going to Trichinopoly, which I believe obliges the Major to march sooner than he intended.

Four Hundred Morattas past Vilcondah three Days ago, they gave out for Bundi-cherry, but I rather believe with an Intent to Join those at Chellumbrum, & look out for Macajahs Corps

Agreeable to your Directions I shall wait for your ultimate Orders should my going to Trichinopoly be proposed, I beg you will not think of it, I have already acquainted you with my Resolution I am with the greatest Respect Honble Sir your most humble Servant.

Sam.l Barker

Tanjore the 8th April 1754.

Letters from Mr Thomas Maxwell Commanding General Master of all the Forces in Camp

Captain Campbell at Coiringalipoo writes that the whole Quantity of Paddy he has had it not been able to get into the Fort does not exceed Three Hundred & thirty three (333) Garce.

Ensign Dacres writes from Tondamans that he has provided the Vahols to march as soon as they can

Fort St. George April 1754.

promise to do in Eight Days if their Troops will go but that seems very improbable as they have no Money to pay the Arrears & provide proper Necessarys & they have moreover received intelligence that the Enemy have posted Troops in the three Passes there which they must inevitably go Viz.t between Tirinomale & Gingee 1500 Horse 2000 Seapoys 50 Europeans & three Pieces of Cannon by Venkatanaypettah 1000 Seapoys 500 Horse 1 Gun & 500 Mahratta Horse between Devenatam & Chellumbrum 600 Seapoys 200 Horse 50 Europeans 1 Gun & 600 Mahratta Horse.

The President acquaints the Board that he has not received any Intelligence of these Forces whence it seems to be an invention of Abdul Wah Cans to delay his March.

The Commissary lays before the Board a Letter from Sergeant Bolton at Tripassore dated that the Dresser having without his Knowledge sent twenty thousand Rupees for Madrass six months ago; ment of the Bill on him, it was seized by a Party of Polligars belonging to Sybaddore.

As the Dresser never had any Orders to send the Money hither he must be answerable for the Loss as it should have been paid there to Sergeant Bolton who had Orders to send it hither with a proper Guard.

The President acquaints the Board that Lamanna chery the Tripaty Renter (who by Order of the Board has for some Months been in Confine- ment to compel him to settle his Accounts with the Company) for the Rents of Tripaty which the Dubash has assigned towards payment of his Debts, has at length

Ajusted

adjusted those Accounts by which he stood indebted to the Company the Sum of thirty five Hundred three Hundred & Eighty two Pagodas twenty Six Fanams and thirty Cash for two Kists due in September and December last for payment whereof several responsible Shroffs in this Place are Security one half of to be paid the twenty fifth of May & the other half the twenty fifth of June next the Shroffs Bonds for which are now delivered to the Accomptant to receive the amount when the same becomes due & carry it to the Credit of Nabob Mahomed Alley Cawns Account.

† A Letter from Nabob Omacondee (a new enclosing two said to come from his Vackeels in Salabad Tinga Camp acquainting him of a Proposals made by Ballaseroms Agent for settling this Province by giving Trichinopoly, Madura & Tinnavelly to the Nabob & by appointing some other Person (but not Mr. Dupleix) to the Great Government to which Saladad Tinga and Mr. Bussy consented. The Nabob himself in his Letter says he is willing to accept these Terms if We will Consent.

It has been more than once observed during the Course of this War that whenever any thing material has been in the Carpet the Nabob has always received or pretended to receive such Letters from Court as might either divert us from our Views if disagreeable to him or encourage us to pursue it if it suited his Purpose. That he is averse to the delivering up of Trichinopoly to the Mysoreans is very certain & therefore the Board are inclined to think the above Letters said to come from his Vackeels are invented by himself to prevent our pursuing the Negociations with the Mysore Ballaseroy on foot

Mure

Fort St George April 1754.

Have wrote Major Lawrence in our Letter of the 25th Ultimo. The Board are therefore of Opinion that the Major should be Acquainted with what the Nabob has wrote & desired to Discourse with Him on the Subject but by no means to be diverted from the Plan of Accomodation with the Ballonay, which, even if what the Nabob writes should be real, is more Advantageous to the Company than that Chimerical Scheme as the whole Debt to the Company will be paid at once, but if the Accomodation with the Ballonay should not take place & We should not be powerfully supported from Europe the Board are of Opinion it will be Advisable in that case to try the Nabobs Plans.

A Letter from the Heirs of Tanjore setting forth the distress of this Country thro the Ravages of Morarow & Threats of reondering it Depopulate the People to make their escape & have deserted their Habitations; he says that he has no Account of Salabad Singe coming into this Province but that Ballonarow is marching this way & that some of his Troops are actually ravaging the Mysore Country. he adds that he shall be very glad to see Mr. Call whom he looks upon to be a Wise Man & will hearken to what he may say.

Thos Saunders

Thos Hallett Cole

Henry Bowyer

W Wynch

Jno Smith

Ed Boscawen

Fort St. George April 1754.

30 The following general Letter to Major Lawrence signed and Sealed

Tho.s Stringer Lawrence Esq.r Commander in Chief

of all the Company's Forces in India

N.o 6. Sir

Since We wrote you the 8.th Instant We have received yours of the 3.d & 7.th & 20.th

What We mentiond in regard to the Opinions of the Members of the Board Separate & collected was only to lay before you the Method prescribed for us for the manage-ment of the Company's Affairs We have & shall constantly advise you of the material Occurrences as We before advisd it might be liable to fall into the Enemys Hands & could answer no purpose as the Subject of our Letters is an abstract of such Proceedings but if you desire it, it shall be done, tis our general Maxim to promote the strictest harmony & we shall always adhere to it, as We are convinced nothing can tend more than unanimity to the benefit of our Honble Masters Affairs.

M.r Dupleix has been advisd of your Objection to the Officers Carrying to Salabad Sing against whom they were not in Arms. That if he is not satisfied with the being given to the Mysore Ballonay by whose Troops they were taken We should return them.

We wrote you of Col.o Scotts intention to proceed further & our having lodgd Directions should he touch at St. David to go to Camp he arrived here the 16.th Inst.t & informs the President he has wrote you he is of Opinion that his Commission does not extend to taking the Command but upon absolute Necessity; & says that on his arrival here he finds [illegible] well & as the Affairs in Bengal

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upon his presence he declines the Command & thinks of returning on examining what the Company wrote us concerning him of which you have now Copy. We find he is not absolutely under our Directions but left to his own Discretion. We have acquainted him with the precariousness of your Health but he persists, whatever may be done in this Affair after he has recd your Letter We shall advise you of, if any of any Reasons you can offer will induce him to take the Command, we shall support them but if he remains determind We know no other Resource but waiting the Arrival of a Major from Europe which cannot be long.

We dont find Salabad Jing has moved far from Aurungabad tis the general Opinion the Season is too far advanced for his coming & yet they say the French will if possible prevail upon him to attempt it or that this remains uncertain We think there is a probability rather of the former. The Accounts now give us of the Marattas not having entered the Mysore Province is not confirmd here on the Contrary tis talkd that the King of Mysore has commission'd his Vackeel to offer 40 Lack, and 10,000 Hs p.r Day to Ballajee Row to put him in Possession of Tritchinopoly.

You have been advis'd of the French having received an Order from Salabad Jing on the Circars of Rajamundrum & Chickacull for their Revenues, Visiapore Rajah who had at that Time defeated the Nabob of those Provinces upon this News thought proper to accomodate Affairs with him but on the French offering him the management of those Countrys he flew off from his engagements and accepted their Proposals obliging himself to pay up Arrears, The Nabob Mirasid & Imposted quitted the Province leaving his Family at Vizagapatam he wrote the President he would engage the [illegible]

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Vizagapatam mentions they had entered the Country towards the Rajah's Capital of Vizenagaram & Bimlipatam a Seaport where the Dutch had a Factory they had only Time to escape in their Shirts & their Loss is very considerable this will change the face of Affairs to the Northward our Investment will probably be detrimented by it and the French disappointed in their 19 Lack.

We are glad to hear Mr Calk is arrived at Tanjore the King writes in the old Strain pleads Poverty introduces the Enemys Designs on his Country, the Time of Harvest & exaggerates the Enemys Force he repeats several Terms of punishing the Wicked but says Nothing of his Function I hope We shall soon know his Resolution

Ensign Record with a Detachment has joind Mahaupher Cawn who promised to march back to our Surprise now writes that he shall want 5 Lacks to pay his People & desires the Loan of two, by this you will perceive his Measures are not greatly to be depended on.

The Nabob has inclosd the President a Letter said to come from his Vackeel in Salabad Sings Camp advising that an Accomodation had been proposd by which the Nabob should have Teichingpoly & a new Phoundar be sent to the Great Province that Salabad Sing had mentiond it to Morar Pundy who acceded to it he says that this Proposal may be accepted if guaranteed by Ballaziroa, that he shall act agreeable to our Advice & desires the President will write him his Sentiments.

Upon a slight review of what has passd and our present Situation We find that though the Losses of the Enemy have been very Considerable & their Defeat frequent, yet they still persevere & their force is encreased the Dalloway extreemly Rich still supports the War & to all

Fort St George April 1754.

I doubt the March of Salabad Boys and Ballamcoss though uncertain yet may be, the First is evidently levied to this Cause the Latter may easily be purchased & the Troops will shortly be reinforced by their Ships on the Malabar coast from the beginning he has acted very faithfully many & great have been his Successes which instead of establishing him in his Government have only prevented his ruin his Distress is such that he can raise no Force Makes[illegible] Cause whether through pretended or real want is unable to join him & the King of Tanjore esteems it his best policy to stand Neuter so that the whole Troops of Lapeer & Force is on the English through our Troops have behaved with Bravery yet unforeseen difficulties cannot be expected nor can We support the Expence nor Men are so composed to the Enemys our Resources [illegible] Colors they have restrained seems hardly to Effect them which a Common Accident renders us incapable of acting on the Offensive this is our present Situation & when we come seriously consider the above Circumstances We have Reason to imagine it would be worse instead of better which confirms us in the Resolution we have so long taken of procuring Peace if possible & the sooner the better as the more time the worse will be the Terms We may Expect We have wrote you fully in Regard to the Proceedings with the Rajah of Tanjore that Friendship ought to be given up but the Cries of the Enemy, the Distress of the Nabob Threats & Promises of the French &c. make him irresolute he cannot bear the Thoughts of Delivering it & wants some to take the Measures to prevent it & in his wavering disposition would be glad to stand Neuter if he refuses to join or by specious Pretences still procrastinates with the Intent

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Reason it may be told him that if Negotiations Measures are not taken the Fort must inevitably fall into the Enemys Hands & he may be desird to explain himself as to the Plan he judges necessary. The Nabob by his Letter & that said to come from his Vackeel equally shows his Inclination to preserve the Forts & proposes an alternative which would also be agreable to the King of Tanjore but it is defective in no regard to no Provision being made for the Payment of your Debts & a great ill convenience arises in that the French would have the Command of this Province but if consider'd abstracted by that Trichinopoly should be given to the Nabob on Condition the Government of this Province be given to another & if our Jaguers are guaranteed to us & particular Districts in this Province made over to us till our Debt be discharg'd & some Country in Trichinopoly mortgag'd to the Mysoreans for theirs it might be admitted because whereas by the delivery of Trichinopoly we should only secure our Debt & draw of the Morattas & Mysore Troops & the War still continue; by this Peace would be restor'd. As you & Mr. Pitt will have an Opportunity of conferring personally with the Nabob & King of Tanjore & by that means be capable of judging the Desire you will Endeavour to acquaint us with the Grounds for the main reasons that whenever we have attempted to bring Affairs to conclusion Something has always been contrived by that Nabob or King of Tanjore to prevent it, but such is our Situation that We cannot any longer be trifled with & if We are not able to oppose certainly it will be most prudent to make Peace whilst We can get any tolerable Terms which if any Accidents should happen we can have no Reasonable to Expect.

Though We have desird you to

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with the Nabob on the subject of his abominable Letter
would not by any means have it enterfered with or obstructed
your Negociations with the Ballaway for an Accommodation
the Terms of our Letter of the 25th Instant which
had Change of its convey to you by some safe Opportunity
the Accomplishment of that Event is what We have
cipally in View, & as We foresee the King of Tanjore will
be averse to it & may probably throw many Obstacles
our way to prevent its Success We are of Opinion it would
be best for the Army to move towards Tanjore by
Proposals are made to Ballaway if you think that
this Step will not put it out of your Power to
the Enemy the Advantage of Ground, to return to the
Succour of Trichinopoly should it be in Danger for
by your March the Enemy should get between you
such Posts as might prevent your Succour
Terror the Ballaway might form however unfavo
Hopes of success as would induce him to reject
Proposals the Consequence of which in the
be more Pernicious than the worst the King of Tanjore
can do for us all Events We imagine it will be in our
Power to secure your Retreat by the help of the Peonsh
We may with Reason expect very shortly from Europe
This is a Military Operation of such a Nature
as well be determined
possible it be good to march or not as either of the
above Circumstances may weight most with you

Record Mayphis (from) promises to endeavour
but at the same time) endeavours that there are always
Parties of the Enemy to intercept them. We enclose
relative very Doubtfull but will be able

Fort St. George April 1754.

Before the Receipt of your Letter that Promotions were made to the Vacancys you recommend to be filled up as you will perceive by our Letter of the 25th since when other Vacancys have happend by the Death of Captain Compton which are supplied as follows

Capt. Lieut. Jaames Spears ——— promoted to a Company
Lieutenant John Harrison ——— Capt. Lieutenant
Ensign ——— Andrew Craig ——— Lieutenants
Volunteers ——— Bryan Scollay } ——— Ensigns
Simon Hart }

And on the Recommendations of Capt. Schaub & Laugpt. M. Claud Philip Sullen is promoted to Second Lieutenant in the Company of the latter & an Ensigns Commission is given to Mr Daniel Frieschman de Basle in Stead of the former. There are still two Vacancys for Ensigns in the European Corps, & for one Ensign in Capt. Laugpts Company which he has the Right of Recommending to, & We have two Volunteers on our List Nephs. Michael Burk & Herbert Lister lately arrived from Bengal.

Mr Wilson has lately addressed us on the Subject of his Disbursements on Account of the French in the Hospital at Pondicherry which Mr Dupleix objects to the Payment of. We have not been called upon for any Extraordinary Allowance for our Prisoners at Pondicherry & as Compassion led Mr Wilson into his Expence it would be a reproach on Humanity to let him be a Sufferer, if Mr Dupleix absolutely refuses to pay it, the Nabob must make it good or We will for him.

Capt.n Colin has wrote the Inclosed on behalf of Lieutenant Beyer Imhoff representing

Fort St George 28th April 1754.

That the half Batta allowed here at Springhead is insufficient & discouraging that to many be allowed whole Batta Our Inhabitants is to put the Civil Officers in every Respect on the same footing as the English, Lindesay Smith's had no more than half Batta all the time we were Prisoners at Velour.

We have appointed Capt. Gardiner to supply the Place of the late Capt. Dalrymple at Vizagapatam where they are in great want of Officers for which Reason We have ordered Ensign Lucas that to proceed thither also, Lieutenant Nelson Foster Lucas Directions to accompany Captain Dyson Early to Camp & Marshall give the like Order to Ensign Boyce Scattergy, & remove Lieutenant Bernard from Fort St. David to Devi Cotah.

Received an Express of the Death of the King of Tanjore & of one from Col. Scott in which he desires We will for your most Obedient Servants Tho. Saunders Charles Boddam. Henry Pomfret Thos. Wynch. John Smith Charles Bourchier.

At a Consultation Present

Monday the 6th May

Thomas Saunders Esq. Govern. President
Charles Boddam. Henry Pomfret
Thos. Wynch. John Smith
Charles Bourchier

It is the Opinion of this Board that it is of the utmost Consequence to the Company's Affairs the Army should have an able Commander as this time more especially when Confusion & Disorder is already reached to

Fort St. George 21st May 1754.

to support our Affairs at Trichinapoly which at present wear no favourable Aspect & as Coll. Scott has declin'd to take the Command tho' the Consequences have been represented to him, The Board are of Opinion that they should again be laid before him by Letter, that he may have an Opportunity of communicating his Reasons in his own Words to our Honble Masters & that We may be blameless for the Consequences, the following Letter is therefore accordingly signd & sent Vizt.

To Colonel Scott

Sir

Our Honble Masters having directed that in case of any Accident to Major Lawrence you are to have the Command of all their Forces in India, induced by the frequent Advices we receivd of his ill state of Health & the improbability of his being able to continue in the Field We addressd the Gentlemen of Bengall & you on that Subject & had the Pleasure of receiving your respective Answers that you would in a few Days proceed to take the Command of the Army this Satisfaction was greatly increased by your safe Arrival here but has since been succeeded by an equal Concern on your Declining it: it is not our Intention to dwell on the Reasons you may have for it; But by our last publick Advices the Major still continueing in an ill State of Health & a Stroke of Palsy having rendered our Situation but unfavourable unless as apprehend the Consequences will be highly detrimental to our Honble Masters Affairs should there not be an able Officer in Command which in case of an Accident to Major Lawrence must be the Case. These Circumstances considerd, tis our Duty to request you to prevent the fatal Consequences that may ensue should Major

Fort St George May 1754.

Fort St George
the 6th May 1754.

to oblige to quit the Fields, by relieving him on the Command
We are, Sir, Your most Obedient Servants.
Thomas Saunders. Charles Boddam. Henry Lewis.
Alex.r Wynch. John Smith. Charles Bourchier.

The President laid before the Board the
Camp & Country Correspondence

Ensign Baccard writes that he has at last
prevail'd on Mankapaar Cauve with his Army to move
from Arcot & they are three Miles from it but as his
Dependance is on Abdul Bob Cauve who is to furnish
him with all kinds of Necessarys & Money it is possible
he may remain there a great While.

Abdul Bob Cauve also writes Mank-
apaar Cauve began his March the 30.th Ult.o & that he
is in hopes they will soon proceed to Tricchinopoly by
another Letter he writes that he had entirely accomodated
Affairs with Mootas Ally Cauve who has signed an Agreement
whereby he acknowledges Mahomed Anawerde Cauve for Subah-
dar of the Carnatick Bagaut Land under the Vanidachiro
of Golcondah a Copy of which Agreement he encloses as
also Copy of a Letter of Indulgence from him to Mootas
Ally Cauve confirming to him the peaceable enjoyment
of all the Jaguires he possessed in the life time of old
Anawerde Cauve deceas'd

Mahomed Anawerde Cauve writes that
he has directed Abdul Bob Cauve to send the President
an Elephant & Horses together with the Necessarys
of the Musick, Rockets & Nagpar-men & that he has
sent a Sword in the Presidents Name for 1500 Pagodas
by way of Nuzzer to support the Expence of the Rockets
& leaves it to the President what Villages he may take
for that purpose either in the Tondiman or Carnamanpalam
Country

Fort St George May 1754.

As it will be most convenient to have
this Engineer contiguous to our Bounds it is agreed that
the Engineer be directed to survey Acorn & Report to the
Board what Villages are best situated for this Purpose

Geo: Fauntleroy
Edw: Boddam
Henry Lowndes
Wm. Smith
Ed: Bouchier

Fort St. George May 1754.

8th Received the following Letter from Col. Foot in Answer to that
hint he orderd in last Consultation, together with another
the Consideration whereof is deferrd till next Consultation

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President &c.a Council of Fort St. George

Gentlemen

The Honour of your Letter I receivd Yesterday
with your Request for my relieving Major Lawrence in the
Command of the Honourable Companys Forces in the Field
which is not in my Power to comply with, nor have I
Orders or Instructions on that head from the Honble Court
of Directors.

They have been pleasd to honour me
Opinion of me which induced them to apply to his M
-ty for his gracious Leave for me to repair to India, both
in their Military Works, & particularly in the Presidency
of Fort William.

They have been also pleasd to repose
very special trust in me, both in their publick Instruc
-tions & in private Orders to myself only. It is by these
Instructions & Orders I have guided Myself ever since
my Arrival in India, & it is by those very Instructions
& Orders that I now refuse relieving Major Lawrence. To the Court of
Directors, & to them only I am answerable for my Conduct
& to them I shall send a faithfull Account of this whole
Affair, when I make no Doubt but they will approve
my returning to Bengal, & attending there Interest, & that
there is more for the Real Good of the Honble Companys
Affairs, than any Use I can possibly be of to them by go
-ing to Trichinopoly.

Another thing I must beg Leave to ob
that while Major Lawrence lives I have no Right or Author
as the

Fort St. George May 1754.

whatsoever to interfere in any Military Command in any other Part of India than the Presidency of Fort William and therefore I shall not take upon me to do a thing which to I know, & from themselves too, to be contrary to the Honble Court of Directors intentions. I am Gentlemen, Your most Obedient humble Servant.

Fort St. George
1st May 1754.

Car: Fred: Scott
Engineer Generall &c.

10 The following Letter sent to Colo Scott.

To Caroline Fred: Scott Esqr

Sir

We have perusd your two Letters of the 6th & 9th Instant, to the latter, We are sorry to find you are so determind not to relieve Major Lawrence. The Particulars you recommend to us for Redress in the former We shall duely consider & apply such Remedys as are in our Power. We are Sir, Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St George
the 10th May 1754.

Thomas Saunders. Charles Boddam Henry Bonney
Alexr Wynch John Smith Charles Bourchier.

At a Consultation Present

Thomas Saunders Esqr Govern.r President

Monday
the 13th

Charles Boddam Henry Bonney
Alex.r Wynch John Smith
Charles Bourchier

Two General Letters from Major Lawrence

read as follow Viz.t

To the Honble Thos Saunders Esq.r President
& Governour &c.a Council of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

N.o 44

Mr Palk Ingeneer has acquainted you

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with the Hopes he has from his Negociation; which agree pretty much with my Sentiments, that you have told already on the Affair: that unless Mangalus Canon joyns us, the King of Tanjore will remain at least Neutral the Thing speaks of itself. The King very well knows what Force we have here, & that even joind with the Mysoreans he could afford to supply as with: the Enemy still would be much superiour. Mangalus Canons Delays have been Occasiond by want of Money he, or his Brother (which is all the same) applied to you for. If he cannot supply himself elsewhere, you have nothing in my Opinion left, but to Consider whether you can satisfy his Demand, or not. without it he cannot stir, except to our Disadvantage. If you can supply him I think it your Interest. But of that you are the best Judges. If not you may as well give the Thing over. For depend on it, the King of Tanjore will never join us unbill he sees the Troops in Question Gone for the Sake of your Handfull of Men here, I believe it would be very precarious. During the whole Course of this War Gentlemen, I have ever thought & always said it, that We have never pursued our Advantages, with such Vigour, that the Forces, as might have, rendered their Service Decisive. Detachments sent up at Different Times, have never done us the Service they might, had We received them Entire & collected in a Body. The Expence has been the same only with this sensible Difference, That by one way it is to no Purpose but by the other we might expect to give our Orders. It is a Maxim, which you must know, that Nothing is well Done, where there is any thing left to do. could you by protracting the War tire out the Enemy, it would be acting Politically & wisely: but that you are sensible is impossible: For the heaviest Purse carries in that Contest. Therefore your only Means was, to have Executed your Designs with Vigour Life

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and Spirit; & that is still more what only is left. But if by the foregoing Expence you are too much Weakened to undertake it, make up Affairs as well as you can; & do not increase the Debt to no Purpose by the former Methods. You have now Gentlemen my Opinions as fully as I can give it, with my usual Sincerity, And to the best of my Judgment. The General Letter sent by Mr Palk, I have not yet received; waiting for a safe Conveyance. Except an Extract from that Gentleman mentioning the Preferments, and Marks of Favour Bestowed. I shall consider of the Letter, & give you an Answer soon. I thank you for confirming those Gentlemen I recommended. The Vacancys of Ensigns I shall want to Recommend as I hear some more Volunteers are coming up. Capt.n Lieut.t Speers, I have ordered down to St. David to be employd in some of your Garrisons, down that way. That poor Gentleman cannot serve in the Field & in the Fort is not wanted, as a Capt.n Commands & he cannot do Subalterns Duty. I am Gentlemen Your most obedient

Fritchingsby 23. April 1754. Humble Servant S. Lawrence.

To The Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r President & Governour &c. Council of Fort St.r George

N.o 45.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have received from Mr. Palk your Letter N.o 3. which contains the Proposals you have to make; as also those made by Venkatrow, on the part of the Dolloway. There is still a wide difference between the two, where you have apprehended the greatest Objections the greater Objections might be made, you have pointed out means how to reconcile them, by some Concessions on our side. I have examind carefully your several Articles, & the Terms offerd by Venkatrow. I think some material ones have escaped your Notice, or perhaps they were left

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...ver if I could find them out. 1st There is no mention made by
the King, nor Promise of drawing off Monsieur, which
in our 2d Article We think necessary to be done. 2dly The
Difficulty in the 3d Article you are in hopes to obviate
by the Offer of giving up the Tributes: Should the Dolle-
-ray refuse to defray the Expence of the whole. Both also on
our Part, the King requires our Assistance for the Recovery
of the Madera &c Countrys: will not this be the Occasion
of a great deal of trouble on our Hands! to act with the
French, Keeping our Words with him. We may find some
Difficultys in Executing that part of the Treaty. He
also demands our Assistance even against the Mogals or
his Officers, should he or they find Fault with our Agreement.
I beg to know Gentlemen if you can pretend to sign such a
Treaty & Intend to keep to it. 3. As to the 4th Article: Inde-
-rence there is to be concilliated by giving the two last Reve-
-nue: If the King agrees to it. 4. In regard to the Seventh
where in you propose to deliver the Fort in three Term of a
Year. & till the said Delivery can be effected: the English
to Garrison it only. On Signing the Treaty the Madrass
Forces being to evacuate the Place; But if the Enemy
should make any Difficulty about the Time prescribed for
the Delivery of the Fort a small Party of Myso reans may
be left in Garrison with the English. I believe Gentlemen
you will find it a Difficult matter to persuade any Offi-
Willingly to take charge of the Fort on such Conditions.
give me leave to tell you, the Proposal is absurd & im-
-practicable. 5th If you agree in the 8th to a Proportion of the
Plunder taken in Thanjore, allowing it could be
found, it might be hard to settle what they call a Divi-
& we a proportion but besides the Guns are almost all
Wasted, the Ammunition almost all Expended, & the
Pla...

Fort St George May 17 55.

Plunder taken; sold; & the Money long ago divided amongst
the Troops &c. The ninth Article is very fair, & agrees well
with their Modest demand of our assisting them against
the Mogul or his Officers 7. & lastly as to the 10.th concern-
-ing the King of Tanjore who I must still look on as a
very necessary Person to keep well with, he is not mentioned
by them; perhaps they may have no Objections to his
being included. I hope he may have reason to like agree-
-ment. The Article relating to Trade is very advantageous
for the Company but having it Exclusive you know too well
the Country to Expect it. It is very well possible however
there is a Difficulty occurs to me that in Case the King of
Tanjore should not approve of these Measures, might be
not be an hindrance to the Investments, arising from
that Exclusive Trade which must necessarily pass thro'
his Country. These Gentlemen are the Difference of the
Offers on both Sides; some of which you have taken
Notice of. Those you have omitted are relating to Moro-
-row. The Recovery of Madura, fighting against the Mo-
-gul, & the King of Tanjore being included in the Treaty.
The three last are of Consequence & require your Consi-
-deration. As to the Part you desire me to have in this
Negociation my Health will not permit me to under-
-take it. Could you see me Gentlemen I dare say you
would not ask it of me. One of your own Body that
knows the whole Affair. The Reasons given in Council
for, & against the Proposals. Such a one is a proper
Person. Was my Inclination ever so good, I am absolute-
-ly Incapable of it. For my Part I wait in Hope every
Day of being relieved as I hear Col.o Scott is arrived to whom,
& to you I wish all manner of Success. My last Letter contain'd
my Sentiments on affairs often Given, but Heat, Time

Fort St George May 17th.

the last, for I can say no more about, therein. This Business
of Tricheinopoly, (whom once we had come to a Resolution
not to give it up after it had been promised,) should not
have been languidly followed, but pursued with Vigour
& our whole force employd. I wish now it may be attended
with the desird Effect procuring us a Peace, but I much
doubt it & rather fear it may lead us into more Trouble
& Disturbance. Perhaps it may be said; how can we procure
it? not now I believe. But that it might have been Done
at least a better Chance given us for it, is sincerely my
Opinion and I am Gentlemen your most obedient humble Servt

Tricheinopoly
22d April 1752.

My last was wrong marked 43 instead of 44

S Lawrence.

Two Letters from Mr Pitt to the Bd.

read as follow Viz.t

Honourable Sirs

My last was under Date of the 18th
From the Conferences I have had since with the King I can
draw no certain Conclusion, only I conceive, that his Troops
are not far from Tricheinopoly, that they can join at any
Time on the Shortest Warning

Without Doubt he is now Friend at that
Bottom, but his Interest at present, he seems to think, is
on the other Side of the Question: I have asked Success if he
thinks Nothing of the Tribute due to the Subahship accord-
ing to ag.t Sale, & whether the Enemy must Remain that &
a great deal more whenever they have an Opportunity
whether he is not taking the Right Method to put it in
their Power, to which he Answers that tho he is the Nabobs
Friend, I told him I never doubted it, only that he seemed
to me not to have formd a right Judgment of his Master
Situation.

Fort St George 2 May 1755.

The King says nothing of it but that Sing. has from other Hands heard that the Report of his marching this Way disconcerts him not a little, that is indeed is contradicted, how truly I know not. They say the great Arrears due to his Army, & the Want of Ways & Means to satisfy their Demands obliges him to walk much against the Will of Mons.r Bussie.

The Nizam's Troops are plundering the Mysore Country, & nothing left them a Carcase of Bullocks it seems will pacifie them, after they have finish'd there, The King says they will come this way & therefore he thinks it best to postpone every thing till the Nizam's Arrival, from whom he has great Expectations, by what he seems to Judge, the Marratta has some Thoughts of Trichinopoly.

This is the Method he takes to cadge coming to the Point, he even desires that Mr Watson -phoon Cawn may take the Cowle of Sumiaveram, fearing Morary will enter his Country & plunder it, but I hope to get the better of this, his Friendship or even his Neutrality, at this Time is so necessary, that he must be manag'd very gently, for all over Bussie -ons go from hence, a most material Article, & Ravi -ery prefers him Daily either to Join him, to suffer his Forces to take Post at Combercoonam, for which would cut off our Communications, or to forbid his Subjects sending any Supplies to Trichinopoly.

The King is much displeased at some Alterations making by Mr Hopkins, & his conforming the Hindoo Day of Weekly, which I propo -sed should be dropt, & I have taken the Liberty to write to him on the Subject desiring him to wait for a more favourable Opportunity.

Fort St George May 1754.

Inclosed is a Letter just come in from the Major, who is much indisposed. He desired me yesterday to transcribe your General Letter & send it in bitts of Wax, as a Part of it went this Morning, & the other Part shall go to morrow. I am with great Respect Honble Sir Your most Obedient Humble Servant Robt Palk.

Fort St George
26 April 1754

To the Honble Thos Saunders Esq.

Honble Sir

Since the 25. I have not been able to get an Audience, & by the many frivolous Excuses that are made, I foresee that the King will see me as seldom as possible: Whom I supply he desires me to send the Brahmins, & where he goes Succojee is sick or busy, or gone to wash & cant see him: indeed nothing I fear will be done here, unless Mahaupthoos paves the Way with a present, Time & more should the Nana or Salabad Jung continue their Marches, the utmost We can expect will be their remaining Neuter, They are Slippery Blades & require to be well looked after. Nandiraz is continually counting cont. &, Shaw it seem pretty good Hands, they had some Thoughts very lately of agreeing to his Proposals, but I hope they are of a better Way of thinking at present.

The Major is very anxious for Byrds Party coming on, should they march before the Arrival of Mahaupthoos Cavan which by his Delays, will in all likelihood be the Case, I doubt he will find some Difficulty in joining us the Pople here will object to their coming this Way more strenuously, not having the same Excuse to make to the Pallamay, that it is out of their Power to hinder us. I am with great Respect Honble Sir Your most obedient Humble Servant Robert Palk.

Fort St George
27th April 1754.

P.S. I have Letters from the Major of the 26th no more. The King has just sent to desire I will apply to You for a

repeate

Fort St. George 2d May 1755.

repeating Gold Watch & a long Gun. I think he should do something to deserve 'em first.

The President acquaints the Board that as Major Lawrence apprehends some Difficultys may arise in the Negociation with the Dallonay on Account of several Articles in Vencatrones Proposals, some of which are not clearly exprest, & some Material Points omitted in others, to obviate these Difficulties which are only the Effect of the loose & vague manner of Writing in the Eastern Languages he had conversed with Vencatrow who very readily consented to have his Proposals reduced into proper Form agreeable to the European Manner with some Alterations, which having been prepard accordingly is now laid before the Board & read as follows.

Proposals made by Vencatarow the King of Mayasore's Vackeel to the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r President & Governor of Fort St. George acting as Mediator between the said King of Mayasore & Nabob Anawendy Cawn Bahadar.

1st. The King of Mayasore proposes to draw off all his Forces & return to his own Country & not molest the Nabob on Condition that he be paid the whole Expence he has been at in paying his Army, Morattoes Troops & on account of the Nabob together with what has been paid to Tondamans, Tirrapore & Polligars in defraying the Sum laid out to draw off or disband the People in Chundas Army as also what has been paid to the French at Pondicherry & likewise the Sum laid out to entertain Forces & for Battle & Presents to be accounted from the Time the King first began to Assist the Nabob on the Receipt of his Letter to the Day of concluding this agreement, the said Sum to be paid in ready Specie or Secured by the Saracens, but the Morattoes of the Countrys will not on any Account be [illegible]

Proposal should not be accepted, in that Case, the King of Mayasore proposes the following Terms.

2.d The King of Mayasore will consent to renounce his Alliance with the French & enter into an Alliance with Nabob Anawedy Cawn Bahadar to settle him in the Arcot Government.

3.d The King of Mayasore promises that he will draw off Morarow from the French & send him away to his Country & that he shall not Joine the French Act against the Nabob.

4.th The King of Mayasore promises to defray at his own Cost & charges the Expences of his Troops that shall be employd in the Nabobs Service

5.th If the King of Tanjore will accede to the Treaty, The King of Mayasore on that Case promises to enter into a Defensive Alliance with him that is to say if the King of Tanjore will grant & order unto the King of Mayasore the peaceable Possession of Trichinopoly Fort & the Country The King of Mayasore will on his part engage to assist the King of Tanjore to the utmost of his Power in defending his Dominions against all his Enemys & will upon no Account molest his Country.

6.th The King of Mayasore promises that on delivery of the said Fort to him on his Behalf he will pay unto Nabob Anawerde Cawn Five Lacks of Rupees & engage to him in Possession of such a District in the Mayasore Country with a Fort in the same as shall produce annually Two Lacks of Rupees Clear thereout

7.th The King of Mayasore agrees to pay the English East India Company the Debt due to them by the Nabob on Account of the Expences defrayed from the Time they began to assist in the Affairs of Trichinopoly &c

Fort St George May 1768.

Time of making this Treaty, as may appear Reasonable to
me Orth or cause the same to be secured by the Sircars in
Hardraft to be paid on the delivery of the Fort of Trichi-
nopoly at the Time hereafter Stipulated.

8.th The King of Mayasore promises
to grant to the English the Sole & Exclusive Privilege of
trading in his Country & no other Europeans whatsoever
shall be permitted to partake of it.

9.th In Consideration whereof the
King of Mayasore demands that the Fort of Trichinop-
poly be delivered in his Possession within 12 Months to be
reckoned from the Day this Treaty shall be concluded by
paying the usual Tribute to the Arcot Subahship from
the Time of the Delivery of the Fort but in the mean time
if he collects any part of the Rents of Trichinopoly Country
he is to pay the said Tribute in Proportion.

10.th From the Day of the conclusion
of this Treaty until the Expiration of the said twelve
Months (unless all the Parties should consent to deliver
up the Fort sooner) the King of Mayasore will agree
that the said Fort be garrisoned by English Troops only
& all the Natives People, except one Killedar & fifteen Peons
shall immediately Evacuate the said Fort & the King
of Mayasore requires that he shall be at Liberty to leave
an Officer in the said Fort in token of his right to the
same.

11.th All Provisions Cannon, Mortars
&c.a relating to the Fort at the Expiration of the said
twelve Months shall belong to the King of Mayasore
but not the Warlike Stores Cannon, Mortars &c.a which
may belong to the Field or the English.

12. The King of Mayasore promises

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that a due Proportion of all the Cannon & Warlike Stores &c.a
taken at Syringham shall be delivered to him at the same
time as the Fort, but in case all the said Cannon, Warlike
Stores &c.a should not be then in being, in such case a Due
Proportion of what shall be in being shall be delivered
him & a Just Equivalent in Money for what shall have
been expended.

13.th The King of Mayssore demands that
the peaceable Possession of the said Fort & Country shall be
guaranteed to him by the English against all Powers
shall invade or molest the same & that the English
Mediators shall not refuse the delivering of the said
Fort on Pretence of Orders from Court he paying the
usual Tribute.

14.th The King of Mayssore also requ
that as he assists Nabob Anwerdy Cawn in settling his
in the Great Government, The English shall assist in
settling the King in the peaceable Possession of Madera
& Tenevelly Countrys he paying the Expence of the Engli
Troops which may be sent upon that Expedition
with the Cost of the Ammunition &c.a as also all other Ch
Charges of the English Garrison (which may be left on
Fort) during their Stay there together with the Cost
of the Ammunition &c.a as may be necessary for that
use.

15.th That the King of Mayssore
not molest Tondaman the said Tondamans paying to
him as accustomary under Anwerdy Cawn Subadar
will upon no Account Demand more or molest him

16.th This Agreement shall be sign
Seald & Exchanged by the contracting Parties & whenever

shall infringe this Treaty shall be deemed an Enemy by the rest who agree to assist the injured Party in giving him a just Satisfac-
-tion. The Nabob, The King of Mayasore, The Rajey of Tanjore & the English mutually agree to yield their Assistance to each other in case of an attack by the Enemy.

Memorandum

In regard to the 3d Article, Venkatarow says that the Dal-
-loway will consent so far as to send away Morarow to his Country, but if the French endeavour afterwards to send for him from his Country to Join them, he Doubts whether the Dalloway will consent to prevent him from so doing.

he is however of Opinion that if he once returns to his Country the French will not easily get him back again.

In regard to the 5th Article which mentions the Company's Debt Venkatarow is of Opinion that the Dalloway will ask the Amount of the Companys Debt but it being explained to him that it is impossible to say Exactly how much it is as the Disbursements & Charges at Fort St David, Dove Cotah & Camp for a considerable Time past have not been brought to Account here he then desired it might be guessed at within two or three Lack more or less upon which he was told it might amount to between 30 & 35 Lack, which he said he believed the Dalloway would consent to pay.

In regard to the Months Venkatarow says that the Dalloway will desire a shorter Term but being told this was the very Basis of the Treaty & could not be dispensed with & that the Dalloway might look on the Promise of the English to deliver it them as most sacred. he said he did not doubt but he could prevail on the Dalloway to consent to it.

Agreed that a Copy of the foregoing Proposals be sent to Major Lawrence & that he be desired

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to communicate the same to the Dallaways as soon as
Possible, as it is of great Consequence that this Affa
should not remain in suspence & thereby prevent a
pursuit of some other Plan be brought to a Conc
-sion or dropt without Delay

So much depends at this Time on th
Friendship of the King of Tanjore & the Assistance of his
Horse, The Boundare of Opinion that no means shou
be omitted that may procure it; Persuasions and Bon
-es have hitherto been tryd in vain, the pretended fear o
Morarow's cruel Devastations is urged as a Reason wh
prevails above all, there yet remains one powerfull
Argument which has been found of great Weight in
most Courts in the World & of particular efficacy in the
Eastern Countrys; irresistable Gold! The King is entirel
led by Succaje Naigues who is too wise not to know
that his Masters Interest is inseperable from ours &
is possible the fear of Morarow may have some shar
in determining the late Measures of that Court but it
is probable too that the Mysore Treasure properly ap
-plyd may have more to a Minister so fixd & biasd
self evident Truths appear dark & his understanding
to be enlightend by no other Aids so effectually as those
which clouded it. The Board are therefore of Opinion
that a Moderate Sum would be well placed to obtain
his Interest & the Friendship of the Tanjore Horse and
it is agreed that Mr Pitt be impowerd if he think
it may be of Service to make Succaje Naigue a
handsome Present to engage him in our Measures

The President layes before the Board
the Country Correspondence & Letters from the Officers
in Garrison & on Detachm[t] the former contain nothing

material.

Captain Charles Campbell at Chingatee-
put writes that two of the Enemys Seapoys with five
hundred match Lock Fellows & two hundred Morratta
Horse had blocked up Wrinmalore Fort or Pagoda two
upon the approach of a Party of the Nabobs Seapoys
they plundered the Pettah & retreated towards Wandewash
which is their Rendezvous

Ensign Paccard advises the same as
Capt. Campbell; with regard to the Nabob Makanpetty
& Abdul Bob Cawn he says their Behaviour & the Queens
of others give him good Grounds to think they are not
so much on their Brothers Interest, they are constan-
tally raising fresh Difficultys, & that Abdul Bob Cawn
now pretends that it is impossible for him to supply
Mahaufdoos Cawn with any Money as he says He
have receivd all his * Revenues, By a Subsequent Letter
he writes that Mahaufdoos Cawn to induce his People
to follow him forward to march as if he were going to
collect the Revenues of the Pollygars & take his Road
towards Velours Sahagere, Changama, Tiriamoody, Thea-
gore from whence by forced marches he may in a Day
or two reach Dove Cotah on which he desires Directions
whether to proceed or not.

* what he finds at the Pollygars & what he can raise from the Inhabitants of Velours Tirriamoody & Dove Cotah

The Board are of Opinion that
Ensign Paccard & his Party should by all means ac-
company Mahaufdoos Cawn that no opportunity
may be lost of drawing him towards Trichinopoly

The President acquaints the Board
that Vencatrow the Mysore Vackeel has represented
that he is reduced to great Necessity by his Residence here
as his Master denies him any Supplys

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him with any Thing, he therefore desires to be advanced
Hundred Pagodas more which if his Proposals sha
take place the Ballowaytoops will discharge as we
as the Six Hundred Pagodas already advanced him
Agreed that Five Hundred Pagodas more be lendt h
on his Note & charg'd to the Account of Nabob Mahom
Ally Cawn, & that Mr Call be permitted to depart
upon his Promise to use his Endeavours to bring about
the Treaty.

Mr Alexander Wynch Commissary
Reports that he has received Two Thousand Rupees
of the Forfeiture Money, which Sum is contained in
his Hands to defray the Charges of the Troops abroad &
is to be carried to the Credit Nabob Mahomed Ally Cawn

Tho. Saunders
Jno Hodgson
Henry Lawes
W Wynch
John Smith
E Bourchier

Fort St George May 1765.

18. Received the following Letter from Mr Bolts

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.

Honble Sir

The King promised to see me Yesterday & to Day but as often as he Promises Excuses follow & I can get no Admittance His Sec-retary Succopee, stops up every Avenue & fights hard against us, indeed he is the only Man in the Opposition, but his Advice is al- most implicitly followed, tho I am still in great Hopes that the Arrival of Mahauputhus Cavore may alter his Measures, should this Gentleman make a better faster & make a handsome Appearance to induce the Tanjoreens to Join, We shall at least oblige the Polligary to Quit his Ground, as he certainly is going to incamp on the Trichinopoly Side of the River Coorb Miles West of the Fort.

The Marattas entered this Country yesterday & after burning & plundering several Vil- -lages in the Neighbourhood, They walkd off very peaceably with their Booty. I sent the King Word im- mediately that our Party at Dobareram was Ready to assist Him whenever he pleased. but have received no Answer.

The Nawab we hear has settled with the Nabob of Cuddapah & is now paying a Visit to Candanore. It is also said that he has desired Nandi- roz to decamp, as Springham, Verdachellum, &c are Tripaty & Conjeveram Countries belong to him.

The Major has discovered a most intricate Piece of Villany in his Interpreter Comapah it was at his Desire that Nandiroz sent for him some time ago, when he assured the King that you had or-

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5 or 6 Months before, that the Fort was to be delivered up on his paying our Expences, & that it would be done in 40 Days at farthest: Boniapah has since carried on a Correspondance, pointing out the Methods how to hasten the Delivery, by cutting off the Provisions which were generally escorted by the Vellour Subadar with small Parties to Drop a Letter properly, imparting that this Subadar was to give up the Fort by Treachery, which would ruin him: the Letter was wrote & delivered & the poor Subadar had like to have suffered had not a Brahmin discovered the whole Transaction, which the Major I hear is now preparing to send you.

I have received from Mr Dupré the Bills for 10,000 Pagodas & am thereupon with great Respect Honble Sir Your most Obedient humble Servant Robt Palk.

Tuesday the 7th May 1754.

I Received the following Letter from Mr Palk

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq

Honble Sir

I have receivd your Favour of the 27th inclosing a General Letter of the 30th to the Mayor which was forwarded immediately, that to the King shall be delivered in the Morning as I shall also desire an Audience relating to Madame Dupleix, these People don't understand just as it serves their Purposes & to do them Justice they have as little Regard to Truth & plain Dealing as any of their Neighbours.

I have had the Honour to pass a good Part of this Day with his Majesty, when he gave me Reason to believe that the Nizam & Mahrattas Army will join the Vellour Force. We are Hourly

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that should the Enemy move over the Passes, he may possibly do it immediately, which three or four Days are to determine, the Marattas plunder his Country daily, & insist on his taking an Oath to be of their Side; their Vackeel was sent back last Night with a Present & fair Promises, which will not be satisfactory; an open Breach, or an Alliance must be the Consequence; all that he dreads is showing his Teeth, & not being able to Bite, I have endeavoured to fortify his faint Heart & to inspire him with Courage & Resolutions, but he is not easily susceptible of Inspirations: However Succajee seems to be in good Humour & high Spirits, He was very gracious to Day.

I wish Mahaupthoo Cawn would come & help us to a final Determination, no Man, I believe can do it more effectually. The Major seems to have laid aside his Intention of coming this way, as well as Salabad Jung. & I cannot help thinking but you have guessed very right by the Nabobs Motives, in writing such a Letter, as from his Vackeel, which is more probably the Effect of his Wishes, than of any Proposals between those Chiefs.

The Major writes me that his Health will not permit him to treat with Mr Dalrymple, & he tells me likewise that there are some Articles which cannot easily be settled; from what you are pleased to mention as an Alternative proposed by the Nabob, I have been thinking, whether another Visit to Sadrass, for which this might be given as a Pretence may not be the least Evil: — To say the Truth an Accommodation with the Mysoreans, as we wish it, is clogged with many Difficulty's, & after all the Execution not entirely to be depended on; for if it is not agreeable to M.r Dupleix, he will contrive

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worst Opinions or other to render it ineffectual as he might endeavour to do in the like Case, & if it is agreeable to him it may as well be concluded with him: besides in the one Case (supposing also a Method is found out of settling the Disputes about Rocks) the War is at an end, on the other it continues, our Force is Divided, & it depends on the English only to oblige the Dalleray to pursue that Track, this being become perhaps our Enemy, & in order to ingratiate himself with our Adversarys, ready to take any Opportunity to Join against us. It being no difficult matter to forge a Pretence for breaking an Agreement, when its terms are Interest

As what I have now taken the Liberty to mention, is not the result of Deliberation but what occured to me in writing this Letter, I am persuaded you will readily impute it, to what must be its only Apology, a good Intention. I am well convinced of its being liable to many & perhaps insurmountable Objections. I am with great Respect

Sanjore the 8.th May 1754.

Hon.ble Sir, Your most Obedient humble Servant

Rob.t Palk

19.th Sent the following General Letter to Major Lawrence & one to M.r Palk Viz.t

To Stringer Lawrence Esq.r Commander in Chief of all the Companys Forces in India

N.o 1.

Sir

We wrote you the 30.th April & have received yours Letters of the 23.d & 30.th of the same Month

Repeated Letters have been sent to Bob Calvert & Mahaupshay Lawn, that their Troops are ill paid is true, nor is it in our Power to send them 2 Lack of Pagodas they desire & are generally thought to have very little due

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for the Nabob the last Letter from Mashapatnam Cavan & Scrogin
Paccard say they should march by way of Tanjore, we wish it
may be so, but cannot rely on their Promises as often broken
That the Nabob has not had it in his Power
to push the Advantages of his Success is very evident, after the
Battle of Sryringham an unhappy difference arose between
him & the Ballaway the Consequence of which was that he &
our Troops were after great Loss of Time obliged to march by them-
selves without the Mysoreans, Maratta & Tanjore Troops the
week of good Horse was immediately pursued & the Sun above
of the Moratta's was severely felt by the Enemy one the Engagement
at Trichinopoly after this the Moratta's drew off & the Nabob with
our Forces encamped at Trichy, here again We experienced the
want of Horse, able to act on the Defensive only the whole
Army with difficulty supporting the Necessary Convoys
from St. David, soon after the unlucky Accident at Trichy
nopoly made it absolutely necessary that they should
march to its Relief. Nothing could be effected till the Junc-
tion of the Tanjore Horse when the Enemy were beat out
of the Field. The Tanjoreans Retired & as strong Escorts of
ours was over powered by the Enemys numbers of Horse, our
having none to cover them. Our Troops have always behaved
with the greatest Bravery & many have been their Succes-
this is universally known & the maimed who now walk the
Guards of most of our Settlements are strong Proofs of it.
Weak indeed is our Situation, & though our Inclination
prompts us to do every Thing in our Power to support
You We could not could have assured Leaving our Settlements
so Defenseless had not the Time of the usual Arrival of our
Europe Ships been near We have directed the Gentlemen at
St. David to send the Recruits from many Ships that are
to ah Mark Place Europe Troops as we spare

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of the 5th & 20th March that the Reinforcements we said you'd
be of no Effect without Horse we shall use our utmost
Efforts with the Mahrattas Cotton & the King of Tanjore

From the Time of that Letter Wyllet in the
Office at Pitchenopoly having only 15 or 20 Days Provision in the
Place instead of five Months which He had been Servid of which
occasiond your March & more recind the Nabobs Affairs We cannot
to a Resolution if possible to accomodate Affairs with the Rajah
Tanjay nothing could be effected in Camp Several Proposals
from time to time from the Kings of Tanjore which proved
abortive, obstructed our Designs, you cannot Letters to you will
shew you the Particulars as well as the Instructions given
M.r Cooke, the Nabob sent on his Plans which is compatible
with, excepting that instead of the Forfeit of 10 Lacks to be
is inserted the drawing off Morarow, the assisting the King
of Tanjore & not molesting his Country the paying the
Troops in alliance with the Nabob has always been accep
ed, please to remark that the Restoring of Devicotta is to the
Governour, but when a Treaty is concluded it takes a nother
Form The Nabob & the Mysore are the treating Partys, the
English are not Principals but Mediators, the Fort is to be
delivered by the Nabob, the English guarrantee it, it is to be
delivered on Condition the usual Tribute be constantly paid to
the Circar M.r Duplex writes us he intends to give Positive
reply to the Mysoreans, who having, who having not been
deceived He cannot think will be persuaded to draw off their Forces
when they have so considerable an Advantage for the accom
plishment of a Refusal in case of Orders to the Contrary.

He is of Opinion also Madrass &c
this Treaty takes place we can spare 200 Men to Aga
Mr Dalloway in regard to Madura &c as recedes

And in regard to the Expedition of

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Trichenopoly as you will please to observe. Here ace to remain in the Fort only a Hilledar of the Nabobs & an Officer of the Mysoreans Kings We hope there will be no objection to it as it will be more secure than when Capt.n Dalton had the Charge of it with 600 Mysoreans & a much less Garrison of ours, it is true there are a large Number of Prisoners but if this Treaty takes Place we shall not ace have a very fair opportunity to remove them.

That every thing may appear to you in as clear a Light as Possible We have sent Mercatrons Letter into a regular Form, we now inclose it to you & also a Translate of such Articles as are concluded but which he believes he can Effect. Peace seems to be the general Opinion of you and us. We wish we could effect it on the most agreeable Terms the only Measures that have occurrd were a general one with the French which has proved Fruitless & an Accomodation with the Mallowray. The Terms Mercara send you are the utmost We can Expect & the Querie is whether the distressd situation of the Nabob & the advantageous one of the Enemy will admit of any hesitation in accepting them for the least unfavorable Circumstance in our Affairs would very probably deprive us of them the greatest Difficulty are the Kings of Tanjore, & your situations which should be upon our taking this Step, immediately go over to the Enemy would be precarious Das you intimate this we have endeavoured M.r Palk in general Seems to leave that King's Resolution on whether he will assist in opposing or what Plans he purposes in treating with the Enemy.

We are very sensible of your Fatigue & how greatly it must have impaird your Health & Wish we endeavoured to apply a Remedy but to no purpose for Col.l Lawrence declind taking the Command, What can We do more all as the Army is in a very precarious Situation

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we are convinced it is so, but this Certainly makes it the more necessary that it should have a Commander of Experience & Conduct. We hope therefore you will be able to keep the Field a little longer, probably the Arrival of a Major from Europe may put it in our Power to relieve you, we wish it may, in the mean Time if you will make the Enquiry to the Dalloway it may be a means of removing your greatest Difficulty or it must presently appear whether Venkatrow has deceived us or not.

The 15th Instant arrived our Brigt Hunter Major Ships St George from England the 6th Dec. the two brigantines of war & Cheerwell & by the other Ships we may expect as many as they can accommodate

Col. Scott came on Shore with a Guard of Seamen which was join'd & proceed safely to Town the 12th Instant.

We have no Answer yet from M. Dupleix concerning an Exchange of Prisoners.

The Ships arrived from England Salisbd. Loyd Dalhousie Major St George Hardwicke & Duke of Dorset are to have dropped down in the Road, it is thought the Season is too far Spent.

16.183. 115. 121 la Treaty / sion 154 169. 163 / fect / in 169 / Europe / 157. 162 / dale are willing we should have / of 19. 55. 10. 86. 2 / Dupleix / for principals send to the 2a 13. 24 / English / for that purpose & are told the Request of 135. 169. 113. 115. / the Treaty / does not 99. 96. 99. / defeat / hopes of / 169. 131. 125. 138 / Conclusion of / which we should have due / Notice in the mean time by said 75. 50. 61. / 186 / must 99. 86. 89. / defeat also 92. 83. 84 / attempts / of 12th / the Enemy / 57. 49. / against us / it possible.

Venkatrow / is pleased to propose in his Letter

Fort St George May 1754.

as he will proceed directly to Tryvingbarr where he does not in the least doubt of Success to his Proposals so far as relates to his Master.

With this are Copies of Letters to the Rob & King of Tanjore. We are Sir Your most obd. Servts

Fort St George the 19th May 1754.

Thomas Saunders Charles Boddam Hen.y Powney
Alex.r Wynch John Smith Charles Bourchier.

NB. Vencatarow's Proposals referrd to in the foregoing Letter are enterd in last Consultation.

To the Reverend Mr. Robert Bilke

Sir

I have receivd your Letters of the 26th 28th Ult.o 6th & 8th Instant.

As you seem to think Succajee Nadjee is the Prime Minister & the only one that obstructs your Designs its possible according to the Eastern Customs he expects you would pave the way with some present to him as its practicable both French & Myssoreans take this Method if you examine it will facilitate Affairs do the same.

We cannot but think the King must know that if the Enemy should gain their Point notwithstanding the fair Promises & Threats alternately they will not only demand the Tribute due, but very probably raise him & if he should drop our Alliance who has he then to assist him We therefore conclude he would prefer acting a neutral part rather than take the desperate Measure of going over to the Enemy. but of what Significations will this be unless it is evident that with out them the Naiob will be unable to preserve the Fort he tells you his Troops are at hard enquiring after the Force from Bombay we may soon expect the reinforcement Letters from Europe Mahanaptroo Cauny and Day

Fort St. George May 1754.

writes he will march the next rainy difficultys & Want is one
the march & a fourth other obstacles start up there is a
difference between him & his Brother & neither of them
seem to have any regard for the Nabob so that their motions
must be deemed extremely precarious in this Situation
certainly it is absolutely necessary to come to some resolu-
tion for Delays may prove fatal. after assuring him
that we shall do nothing without his knowledge I left him
to reckon upon ask whether he thinks we can oppose the
Enemy, if not, in general Terms, what Plan he wo-
proppose for Treaty.

By general Reports neither
Salabad Jung nor Ballazerow will for some time move
this way.

I have wrote to M. Leyritz to avoid
all Occasions of giving offence.

I shall endeavour to procure for the
King a repeating Watch & Gun.

Please as soon as possible to send me
the Kings answer in regard to what his Packet con-
me concerning Madame Dupleix's Letter also desire
him to transmit the Receipts for the annual Tribute
of Dove Cobahs the Ballance of which shall be paid to
his Order

The Major's Letters will come under
a flying Seal to you, you'll have from him plea
to transmit in the same manner to Mr. Starke

The Cypher which you carri
you is made use of in the accompanying
Major if you have not had an Cypher
the Cypher the Paragraphs will pass

Fort St. George May 1754.

Fort St. George
the 19th May 1754.

explaine it to him. I am Sir Your most Obedient Servant
Tho.s Saunders.

At a Consultation Present

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Gov.r President
Charles Boddam, Henry Bravey
Alex.r Wynch, Fra.s Smith
Charles Boardier.

Monday
the 20th

General Letter from Major Lawrence
read as follows.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council of Fort St. George

N.o 46.

Honble Sir & Sirs

My last N.o 45 was on the 30th
Ulmo in answer to yours N.os 3. N.o 4. & 5 have been answer'd
some time ago. I have receiv'd none since. I thought long
before this to have heard that Col.o Scott was on his Road
to relieve me. In hopes of it, I have struggled with Sick-
ness & infirmity, for a long time. But now this is to in-
form you; that whether that Gentleman come or not I can
hold it out no longer; & I must leave the Army. Nothing I
think could retard it one but waiting for your Instruction,
& plan of Operations, which I hope you will soon
give him, as fully as he can desire, & ought to have.
Nothing relating to our State of Affairs should, or I hope
will be kept from him. I am just able now to sit in my
Chair after a fortnights Confinement to my Bed with
Violent Pa[illegible]

Fort St George May 1754

annoied I have done what I could; & have been long with
On these Considerations I flatter myself Gentlemen you
be wanting on your side to procure me a speedy
relief; which upon your orders you may
such need of.

My Interpreter Boriapah h
mand us, by carrying on a correspondence with
Fort Augusta
7th May 1754
I shall inform you of the Particulars
I am Gentlemen Your most Obedient Hu
Servant
S. Saunders

The President Laye before the Boa

Letters from Mr Palk which follow Viz.t

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r

Honble Sir

I acquainted you last night of
receid your Favour of the 28.th inclosing a genera
to the Major. The Conveyance is liable to so many
deeds that large Packets run a very great Risq
that to the King is delivered. Tha
Tanjore
9.th May 1754.
is just come in from the Major. I owe to the great
Honble Sir Your most Obedient Humble Servt Pal
P.S. The King has just now sent to enquire if the Fo
Bombay are arrid.

A Hircar which I keep
at Syringam brings Advice that Morarow mar
yesterday Morning, cross'd the Coleroon & encamp
Pitchandah, that the Separaks are Account of
from the Dallawoy, & intends to go to the Pa
to Pass Mr Caphis Camp a Visit.

Fort S.t George 24th May 1754.

Coble Thomas Saunders Esq.r

Honble Sir

I send the Kings Letter, representing the large Offers made him by Mad.me Dupleix was only a Repetition of an old Story, in order to ingratiate himself with the English, never suspecting, Imagining, that he should be called upon to prove the Reality of those Proposals. he desires to be excused answering particularly to that Part, till he can hear from his Vackeel; Das to the main Point, He assures me that his Troops shall be ready at the proper Time, when the whole Force is collected.

Morarow is returned, & it is said encamped with the French, at Chercorepollam, on Chanda's old Ground, but was obliged to move at a greater Distance being annoyed by our Cannon, which is not improbable, as We heard much Firing last Night & this Morning.

We are informed from Syringham that the Nana & Mysoreans have come to an Agreement, the Terms are not mentiond I am with great Respect,

54. Honble Sir Your most obed.t humble Servant

Rob.t Palk.

Coble Thomas Saunders Esq.r

Honble Sir

The King has sent me two of his Horsemen who came in just now from Syringham with Intelligence that Nanderaz hearing a large Convoy of our Provisions was coming from Thirinoor, marched with his whole Army at three yesterday Morning to the Golden Rock, to intercept it, intending also to encamp on this Side, but the Convoy however arrived safe on Saturday Night, but of the returning Bullocks with an Escort, which

Fort St George May 1754.

Enemy imagind to be the Convoy were attacked.
observd from the Fort our People marchd out to
under Cover of a Water Course with six Guns &
them very briskly, put their whole Army in
fusion & obligd them to retreat to Springhar
The Mercars declare that they
Captain & 60 Europeans buried, & a great nu
wounded besides two of their head Commanders.
Horse & Sepoys killed & Wounded. I am with gre
Humble Ser Your most Obedient humble Servt
Robt Palk.

Received by the Revenge the 13th May 1754. 1 O'Clk P.M.

Agreed that the Reasons of Coll Lawrence
the Command be fully explained to the Mayor that
have no Reason to imagine it provided from
of Inclination on us, that he be desird to consid
Field a little longer where probably it may be in
to relieve him either by the Arrival of a Mayo
Europe, the Conclusion of Peace, which our
Masters give us Reason to hope for, or by the
tion with the Dalloway on the Terms proposd
from in case he (the Mayor) will communicate
Proposals to him, which We desire he will do
his Health should not permit him to go there
Negociation he will immediately determine on
Method to disburthen him.

The Coventry Correspondence
before the Board.

Mahzuphous Cawn writes that
Difficulties he is under for want of Money
Occasion of his delaying to March for Trichin
that he has 1300 Horse & 600 Sepoys whose wag

Fort St George May 1754.

of Rupees now due to them which they demand & also 6 Months Advance before they will move, that Abdul Gaffor Cawn is also largely indebted to his Troops to satisfy all which on moderate Computation Three Lacks at least will be necessary but as he finds it impossible to get this Sum he proposes to make a feint March as if he were going to collect the Revenues & so draw them with him to Deve Cotah.

Capt.n Campbell advises that his Hircaars bring him Intelligence the Enemy have 12 Hundred Sepoys twenty Europeans & one hundred and Sixty Topasses & Coffreys in Garrison at Gingee, that they have encamped on the Banks of a River near Gingee four Hundred Horse & two Hundred Sepoys but no Cannon & by Wandewash 600 Sepoys, two hundred Horse & four or five Hundred Boys with one Gun. This is all the Force he can learn the Enemy have that way, & their Intention it is said is either to attack Chittapet, oppose Mahaupthoos Cawn's March, or destroy the Country.

Two Letters from Ensign Record the first Advises that Mahaupthoos Cawn had altered his Design of marching as above mentioned & thought it impossible to proceed with a larger Force of Europeans in the meantime he proposed to collect the Tribute due by the Pollygars & then proceed. in the second Letter he acknowledges one from the President approving the Scheme proposed by Mahaupthoos Cawn to draw his People to Deve Cotah by a deceitfull March, which Letter he immediately communicated to Mahaupthoos Cawn who thereupon resolved to set forward in a few Days.

Lieutenant Preston at Arcot writes the 15.th Instant that the Rabobs had in a Council at

Fort St George May 14th 1754

that it was dangerous to march to Trichinopoly without a larger Force but that they had formd another Scheme of making a Diversion in the Mysore & Marratta Country where they hope to raise a large sum of Money.

These Various Accounts of the Irresolute Behaviour of Abdul Rob & Mahanyaboo Caun plainly shew that they have no manner of Intention to proceed of which it is agreed to advise Mr Call & the Major that no relyance may be plaed on them.

The President represents to the Board that notwithstanding it has often been intimated to the several Officers on Detachment & Camp that they are not to Correspond on publicke Affairs with any Body but the President they pay but little regard to it Every Transaction is immediately communicated to the whole Town which is of very bad tendency and may often ruin well concerted Schemes abortive, It is therefore Ord[ered] that no Officer do or any Account Correspond on publick Affairs with any Body but the President on [illegible] forfeiting his Commission, which Major Lawr[ence] is to be advisd of & desird to Communicate to [illegible] Camp.

The Commissary Reports that
the ten thousand Rs reported at last Consultation
has since been received ten thousand Rs more on Acc[ount]
of the Tinjapore Money, which is also come
in his Hands to defray the Charges of the Troops
Rs 10000 is ordered to the Account of Mahomed Alley

Fort St. George, 2d May 1754.

Agreed that Five Thousand Pagodas be remitted to Mr. Palk at Tanjore for the use of the Army as soon as Bills can be procured.

Thos Saunders.
Jno Bodam
Henry Lascelles
W. Lynch
John Smith
G. Vansittart

Fort St. George May 1754.

22. Recd the following Letter from Mr. Palk

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.

Honble Sir

[Capt. Caillaud in a Letter dated th
Night gives the following Account of the Action.

"I told you last Night I was to en
"bring in Provisions, little thinking what a
"I was to have on the Morrow, march'd at 8 in
"before any of the Provisions had Joind us, I was
"some Hours for four Thousand Horse Sepoys & Sepa
"I fought my way through them with one little
"according to Godwins Advice, who by the Bye is dea
"took a good Post behind a Bank & waited for the
"little Army to come up. I suppose
"by this Time the whole of the Enemy were join
"great Numbers, it was resolved that we should
"way back as we had ordered the Provisions to return
"by We set out, upon which the French Battalion
"right Flank, Morari
"attack us in Conjunction with their Horse, but
"peddled the French Battalion with
"that according to Custom they ran for it, & left
"good Order.

We cannot tell the Loss of the En
"it must be very considerable: We have about
"Wounded 7 killed & 3 or 4 missing, 6 officers are
"among them Capt. Blair who commanded. who
"whole fell upon your humble Servant. The
"ons so ill he could not be of the Party for
"not a little sorry, he gives his Service & begs
"write the Account to Madrass, & at the same

Fort St. George: May 1754.

"acquainted the Governour & Council, that I was now the only
"Captain in the Field, Capt.n Flowes being also wounded."

*Inclosd is an Account which the King
has received from his Vackeels at Tyringham & Trichinopoly,
he read it to me yesterday in a large Company, is quite over-
joyd at the News, & wishes our whole Force was collected, that
the Dalloway may be rewarded according to his Merit.

He has received intelligence that,
the Nabob has compromised with the Mysoreans* but
refuses to come into his Measures about Trichinopoly, on
the Contrary he promises to send 10,000 Horse to assist the
King of Tanjore, & intends paying a Visit to the Tanks
& Pagodas at Combercoonam.

Morary threatens daily to lay
this Country waste with Fire & Sword if the King persists
in his Obstinacy, but he is staunch & in spite of
their Threats will I believe continue so.

Mahomedkoor Canoo makes very
tedious Work of it, the Arrival of a French Ship or two
& the swelling of the Rivers will I fear put other Dances
in his Head, besides the want of Money if he delays
much longer.

We also hear that Shawnawas Canoo
is succeeded in his Office under Salabad Jung by Syds
Lascar Canoo: True or False I give you the Current News
I am with great Respect Honble Sir Your most Obed.t
humble Servant Rob.t Palk.

Tanjour the
15.th May 1754.

On receipt of the foregoing Letter it
was resolvd to send all the Officers that could possibly be
spard, to the Major's Assistance as will appear by the
following Letter which was sent away the same Night.

*for 18 Lacks

*The foregoing Paras. contains the Substance of this Account

Fort St George May 1754.

or the greatest part has already been expended or sold & divi-
-ded amongst the Men, to obviate this Difficulty a Pro-
-vision is now made that an Equivalent in Money shall
be allowed for what is not in being

We have the Pleasure to learn by
a Letter from Mr Palk that you have lately gain'd a
Victory, at least a very considerable advantage over
the Enemy; We heartily congratulate you on this good
Success, which We hope may be a Means of bringing
the Dalloway the more readily to a Conclusion Enc-
-couraging the King of Tanjore, whose Spirits Mr Palk
tells us were elated on it. The Officers for their Gallant
Behaviour deserve our Thanks & they have them, tis
a great Allay to our Pleasure that so many of them
are wounded which makes it necessary you should
be immediately supplied with others we have there-
-fore order'd Capt.n Bigoe Dillons & Innes to proceed
to you Directly, Capt.n Pascal is to supply Capt.n Innes
place at Dove Cotah & the Early there is to be under
the Command of Capt.n Lisa.

Secresy in the Transaction of
publick Affairs is certainly in General Essential to
their Success, but this is what We cannot boast of
there is scarce a Circumstance relating to Military
Affairs but is as well known to the whole Force
as to us; We do not point particularly at you or any
every Detachment sent out & every Garrison gives us
sufficient Cause for this Observation We think it should
be prevented as much as Possible, & have therefore
Order'd that no Officers correspond on publick Affairs
with any body but the President on Pain of forfeiting
his Commission which We beg you will signify to the
Officers

Fort St George May 1754.

Officers with you. We are Sir Your most Obedient & Servants
Thomas Saunders Charles Boddam Henry Tonnay
Alex.r Wynch John Smith Charles Bourchier.

Fort St George
the 24th May 1754.

23. Arrivd the Ships Fort St. David with Letters from Bombay advising of their having sent us a Reinforcement by that Ships.

The Fort St. David having touchd & landed the said Reinforcement at Fort St. David it was agreed to order the whole Detachment immediately to Join Captain Pigous at Deve Cotah & Letters were accordingly prepard advising Major Lawrence &c. Talk thereof but before they were dispatchd the following Letter was receivd from Mr. Palk which occasiond the Postcripts after the said Letters of the 24th as follow.

To The Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r

Honble Sir

I desird Mr. Hopkins to communi-cate to You the Contents of a Letter I wrote him yesterday, on a Request from the King, that our Detachment at Deve Cotah might march immediately to this Place, to oppose the Enemy in Conjunction with his Troops, in Case they made any Attempt on his Country. I wrote also to the Major on the same Subject, that We may not be disappointed should Mr. Hopkins want Authority, or I think it improper to give Capt.n Pigou Orders. So ready an Assistance will not only oblige the King, but Insure his Junction, at least Success-ive promises very fairly, & indeed I believe his Intentions are good.

Mr. Hopkins can have no other Objection but the want of Orders, & the leaving those part of the Country Exposd, Discretion & the Pleas

Fort St. George May 1754.

Your Affairs ought to goe apply the first, & in regard to the Latter, the Rivers will soon be almost a sufficient Defence, besides when I was at Dove Cotah It was agreed on all Hands that our Garrison there was as Strong as Most Collinbrom, only perhaps not so enterprising: It is indeed a very great Misfortune that We suffered them to raise the Siege of Palemcotah in so much Tranquillity.

A Movement of the Enemys on the 16th makes Capt. Bjoe's March still more necessary. Their Operations are exactly agreeable to the Plan laid down to them by that Villain Porcia Pack who knew too much of our Affairs not to advise them Right. Hirinnor the Rendezvous for our Provisions was plundered the 16th Our Sepoys made little or no Defence. They were only intent on Saving themselves. The Gave a two Bramder. Paddy &c. is taken. & I hear the Enemy have incamped on the same Ground, which infallibly cuts of our Provisions, & must oblige the Major to move.

from Soringham killed on the Spot one Officer killed & & Seapoys is very Considerable. He says that Morarow is on the other Side of the Coleroon preparing to plunder this Country & that the rest of the Army are to destroy Tondamons.

A Relation of Bobingers is just come in upwards of forty Men & two Wounded 6 more Wounded: their Loss in Horse

I have a Letter from the Major dated yesterday. He is anxious to know the King's Determination, but mentions nothing of his Designs on this new Diversion of the Enemy I give him daily all the Intelligence I can pick up. I have only received one Letter from you. I am with great Respect Your most obed. humble Servt Robt Palk

I forgot the

Fort St. George May 1754.

To Stringer Lawrence Esq.r Commander in Chief
of all the Companys Forces in India

N.o 9.

Sir

We have just receivd Letters from the President & Council of Bengal by the Ship Fort St. David advising us that they have sent us on that Ship r, p, s, n, b, (97) Swiss, Officers included also a Detachment of w.a. t. l. c. k. (54) Men all 145 Topasses except 138 (Officers) these are already landed at Fort St. David, & we write this Evening to the Gentlemen there to send them directly to Deve Cotah to Join Capt.n Pigou's Party & wait your Directions, there g. a. v. o (18) more 145. 167 Topasses with a Lieutenant a Serjeant & 2 Corporals coming on the Northumberland Snow which is hourly expected, these too as soon as they arrive are to be sent to Deve Cotah. The Gentlemen at Bombay advise us further that besides this Reinforcement the would send us by the Companys Ships Winchelsea & Montfort as soon as they returnd from Surat whither they were gone with Freight b, e. b. y, q, s, r, q (200) Military & f, a, i, n, g, b, q, (300) 147, 153. (Seapoys) that they had directed the Gentlemen at Tellicherry & Anjengo to supply us with g, b, q, y (150) 145, 108, 171 (Topasses) & to enlist for us some Calligaid one Seapoys who are reckond good Soldiers.

The President writes this Evening to the King of Tanjore, on whom We hope this News may have a good Effect We have directed the Gentlemen at Fort St. David to send the Peons out of any Ships from Europe that may touch there & discipline them which we hope will reach you

Were Sir your most Obed.t Serv.ts Thos. Saunders
Charles Boddam Henry Bonney Alex.r Wynch
Fort St George Adlon Smith Charles Bourchier.
23. April 1754.

Just as the foregoing Letter was closing last Ni

Fort. St. George May 1754.

The President received a Letter from Mr Palk advising that the King had requested Capt. Pigous Party might march to Tanjore as the Junction of the Bombay Detachment may be of Consequence We have directed Mr Hopkins in Case Capt. Pigou should not have marched, to detain him a Day or two for that Purpose, but if he is already gone, to send him a private Advice of the intended Reinforcement that he may take proper Measures to facilitate the Junction We have sanguine Hopes the King will now act with us We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants.

Fort. St. George 24. May in the Morning

Tho. Saunders Charles Boddam Henry Powney
Alex. Wynch John Smith Charles Bourchier

To the Rev. Mr Robert Palk at Tanjore.

Sir

I wrote to you the 19th Instant & have since received your Letters of the 9, 12, 13 & 15th May with the News of the last Attack at Pitchenopoly, as all our Letters to Major Lawrence come open to you it is needless to repeat the Substance of them. We wrote to him also the 19th again Yesterday. It is so much the King of Tanjore's Interest to keep fair with us that I am of Opinion with you Monsieur Dupleix cannot frighten him into their Party, his standing Neuter is what there is the greatest reason to fear as the Assistance of his Horse might retrieve our Affairs & the want of them may distress us. I have and Major Lawrence & Abdul Cook in the most pressing Terms but I much fear they will never be prevailed on to March but for nothing but their Instruction will induce the Tanjoreans to move We certainly depend on a Bottom Staff. A Letter to Major Lawrence the Contents of which you

Fort St. George May 1754.

you will observe, accompanys this as does also one to the King of Tanjore & a Translation of it for your Information if his Spirits were elated on the last defeat of the Enemy surely this News will put him into a proper Temper to be presd with Success for the March of his Horse, the sooner you can get an Audience to communicate it the better & in the most urgent manner. I am, Sir your most obedient Servant Tho.s Saunders.

Fort St. George
the 23 May 1754.

Late last Night after writing the foregoing I receivd your Letter of the 18.th in case Capt.n Pigou should not have marched when this reaches Deve Cotah M.r Hopkins is directed to detain him a few Days for the Bombay Detachment but if he is already gone M.r Hopkins is to send him immediate Notice of this Reinforcement that he may take proper Measures to facilitate the Junction which seems necessary as the Bombay Officers are entire Strangers to the Country I am Sir Your most Obedient Servant Tho.s Saunders.

Fort St. George
24.th May in
the Morning

26. Receivd the following Letters from Major Lawrence & M.r Palk.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council
of Fort St. George

N.o 47.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I acquainted you in my last N.o 46 how We had been deceivd by Poruapak. I now send you an Account of the whole Affair as was taken down at the different examinations we had about it. His Guilt is so evident that I had not delayed passing Sentence & putting it in Execution immediately: But that he had been all his Life a Company's Servant, & sent by you to me as an Interpreter. I thought it proper to defer punishing till I advisd you of it; & also intend waiting your O
If you have any Objection to his suffering Death

Fort St. George May 1754.

will be speedy in sending me Word, for fear your Instructions might come too late, for I see Nothing can save him unless as I said before, the Objection comes from You

By this Accident I am in great Want of a Linguister I beg you will look out, & have us supplied with a Person proper for the Business, & whose Character as yet has been good. For you may remember Ramiapah had been accus'd of Dishonesty before & put in the Pillory I believe I have nobody here; For Maddin Gopaul I think is not to be trusted.

I intend sending back Ramah Naigue, as I find him of no manner of Service. He has been with Tondiman some Time endeavouring to make a Peace between him & the Morary Pollygar, but his Mediation has proov ineffectual. & I believe his Interest at the Court of Tanjore will be of little Service to us there. Neither can he do as Interpreter. He requires more State & Attendance than will suit with an Employ of that Kind which obliges a Man being always in the Way, & ready at all Calls.

What is to be done Gentlemen with our Party Encampid near Deve Cotah. I am unwilling to call for them here as the Enemy has collected a good deal of Force that way; And yet our Weakness here makes one uneasy for the Worst. Should the Enemy oblige us to come to Action As for Mauphaos Camp I am tired with Reports & Conjectures, but I suppose you know what he is a doing

I must review again Gentlemen my Earnest Solicitations for a Relief. Col. Scott not coming up after he was sent for expressly for that Purpose amazes me. I hope you will Consider it is hard for me to fall a Sacrifice to any little Misunderstanding, that may have arose & that it is really your Interest to have such an Hero as the Col. at the Head of your Troops

Fort S.t George May 1754.

I beg this may Influence you to conciliate any little difference
that may have happend: And let me have the Satisfaction
to Leave an Army I have had the Honour so long to Command
that have so well done their Duty under me, whose Beha-
viour has got me some Credit, let me have I say the Satis-
faction to leave them in such good Hands as the Colonels
It is my only wish, & I am sure your Good. I am Gent.n

Camp the
11.th May 1754.

Your most obedient humble Servant S. Lawrence

P.S. I intended sending off this Letter on the 11.th the Day it was wrote,
but was obligd to defer it on Account of waiting for the Examin-
ation papers being finishd. In the meane Time Capt.n
Caillaud was orderd on the 12.th in the Morning to march
with a party to escort in some Provisions we had Notice
were a Coming in from Tordinans Country. At Break of
Day he found a Considerable Party of the Enemy had
lodges themselves in the Road he was to march. However
he drove them from it; & took the Post they were in &
lodgd himself, & there waited till We could march &
support him According to his Orders Our moving the
whole, made the Enemy do the same, & brought on a
General Affair. As We had sent Word for the Provisions to
Return: We had nothing else to do but to march back to our
Camps In our March the French Battalion on our right
Flank, Numbers of Seapoys in our Rear, & on the other; & the
Horse all round us. The French Battalion was so warmly recei'd
with Grape & small Arms that they soon gave over for it; but the
Seapoys harassid us greatly & occasiond most of our Loss. We got
to Camp in good Order & without leaving any thing behind us.
The Men behaivd like gallant Fellows that knew they had
nothing for it but to Conquer, or be cut in Pieces. How long
this may last I cant tell but I much fear the end one
[illegible]eing oppressid by Numbers. We have lost in

Fort St. George May 1754.

46 Men Killd & Wounded, all Europeans, but 6 & 6 Officers wounded. Capt.n Polier who commanded (for I was so ill I could not move) Capt.n Howes Lieut.n Godwin & Monckton & Ensigns Wood & Mayo. Mr. Godwin is likely to suffer most tho' his Wound is not mortal I have now but one Capt.n left in the Field Capt.n Caillaud a Swiss Gentlemen. Words will point out our Situation so as to be felt & persuade you to send us more Force if you can do it. all that I could collect & get out of the Fort yesterday to support the Party was not upon my Honour one Sixth Part of the Enemys Force when they were all Joind together & We were attacked by them. I leave this to your serious Consideration.]*

I wrote to Mr Pitt yesterday immediately after the Affair to give us early intelligence as we could

S.t Lawrence.

May the 13.th

To the Honble Thos Saunders Esq.r President, & Governour &c.a Council of Fort St. George

N.18.

I have just now recd your favour of the 30.th Ult.o & shall answer it in a Day or two. The Enemy have suffer'd Considerably.

Honble Sir & Sirs

My last was on the 11.th with a Postscript of the 13.th also acknowledg'd in it the Receipt of a Letter from you which I now intend answering dated the 30.th Ultimo.

you will please to take Notice that two or three Victories more will leave us all one Fricaseed by Blains &c. to be sure it is a Death a Soldier would wish for to dye a Conquering; yet as I have the Honour of Commanding I cannot answer it to see brave Men throwaway their Lives every Day for Nothing. this is to assure you that before it is too late I will march down the Remains of the Army to the Settlements where you will please to Order & direct them I have represented my Situation often enough & too strongly

terms sufficient to have made you sensible had you been willing
that unless you would reinforce me I could not stay much
longer but as I find Representations are of no Effect It is
time for me to take care of my Charge in such a Manner
as I think I can answer to myself & those who employ me.
If I could Lay under the Walls of Trichenopoly I might wait
for a Reinforcement. But Gentlemen I must bring on Provisi-
"ons or starve. Or was I to live on the Fort the Stores there would
not serve Me & the Garrison two Months. while the Convoy
continue thus Superiour the bringing in every Convoy is at-
-tended with a Risque of losing the whole. Besides the Enemy
since the last Affair have thought of a more effectual Me-
-thod & have marched a Strong Detachment in Tondiemans
Country & have taken Post which effectually cuts off all
Supplys from that Quarter The Tanjore Country is equally
impracticable to us from the Smallness of our Force. This way
of proceeding of theirs is exactly the Plan Laid downe to them by
that Villain Ponniapah which they now pursue. what
Letter Col.o Scott could Receive from Me I dare say would not
alter his Resolutions & the Reasons he gives me in his
for not coming are very little Satisfactory. His Words are I am
extreemly glad to find your Health is so much recovered as
"there is no further occasion for me. I propose in a few Days
"to return to Calcutta. & that is all he says. Pray who could
tell him I was so well recovered as not to want him here
I might be better from a severe Fit of Illness but that
sure did not Imply Health perfectly Recovered. I want
rest from a long Campaign & Time to restore a hurt
Constitution that does not inaugurate two Hours Ease toge-
-ther I cannot but believe there are other Reasons back
from Whomsoever the Difficulties have arose I am the

Sir

Fort St George May 1754.

Sufferer & must be equally obliged to whomever have been the occasion of it. I cannot think that in an Affair of this Consequence & from the general Character of Col.t Scott that he would take his Resolution from a Common flying Report of my Recovery he must have had it from good Authority to determine him or it must be an Excuse to cover some other Reason he did not care to communicate to me. Let it however be as it will. I have taken my Resolution which on the Arrival of the first Europe Ships I shall put in Execution. your Proposals to the Nabob he has entirely acquiesced to & sent a Letter to his Vackeel with Letters for Trichy in consequence which Letter is first to be sent to Madrass for your Inspection & I think is what you require. I have not heard lately from Mr Pitts as the Roads are stopped but by Reports from that Court we have a little Reason to hope for an alteration in our favour which is absolutely the only Thing I think can save us the Marattas have plundered some Villages upon which Morarjee was called for to Court, & it is to get the Command & that the Horse is marched out of Tanjore. they are much afraid that Morarjee Intends praying them another Visit. Morarjee & the Rajah have Quarrelled to all outward appearance the former having seperated his Force & is now encamped on the other side of the Coleroone on Account, it is said of some Money due which he cannot get but at Tanjore they think it is a feint the better to cover their designs on that Country. The Negociation with the Dalloway you will see by my Letter of the 30.th I have declined. as if on that Affair you are resolved you must think of sending somebody out to transact it. My March to Tanjore on that Account will not happen but I may be forced to it on another as you will see by the Prior part of my Letter. I have ordered Capt.n Pigou up to Condeveram & there I shall give

Fort St. George. May 1754.

Trichenopoly May the 18th 1754. To the Hon.ble Thomas Saunders Esq.r

give him further Orders as I see Convenient. I am Gen.l Sir your most Obed.t Servant S. Lawrence.

Hon.ble Sir

By a Letter dated yesterday from the Major I find he has already ordered Capt.n Pigou to this Place. without receiving what I writ to Him on that Subject.

The Disposition of this Court is so Slackening Elevated & any little Succefs. & depressed at the least gloomy appearance, that I shall be silent on this late Motion of the Enemy, till Capt.n Pigou advances, for fear they should object to our Troops coming this way; at present the March is at their Desire.

I shall write the Major that in my Opinion if he can move to Coillady or Triakatapully. It may help our Affairs here, & enable him to subsist his Army without draining the Magazines in Trichinopoly & the sooner this is done the better.

A Letter of this goes by this Conveyance which will best explain to you his Situation. I am with great Respect Hon.ble Sir Your most Obedient humble Servant Rob.t Palk.

Tanjore the 19th May 1754.

Enclosed are some L.rs about the Deer Cotah Commanies. He promises daily an Answer to your last.

26. Return'd the following Answer to Major Lawrences foregoing Letter

To Stringer Lawrence Esq.r Major Commander in Chief of all the Company's Forces in India

N.o 10.

Sir

We wrote you the 23.d with a Postscript of the 24.th which with our Letters of the 19.th & 22.d answer all yours to us

46

Fort St George May 1754.

We inclosure, We have since received yours N.o 47 & 48. to which We immediately reply.

We have attentively perused & considered the Examinations you have sent us in Explanation to Conspiracy Treachery which appears so plain that there is not even Room to doubt of this Fault, his having been all his Life a Company's Servant is so far from Excusing that it aggravates his Crime, which in our Opinion deserves Death & that in the most ignominious Manner. In your Letter you take no Notice of Moorta Ceer Nah by the Examination it appears he is not privy to a great part of the Affair, for when the Brahmine was first spoke to by Boniapah to carry a Letter to Syringham it is proved that he consulted Peremaulu upon it, who advis'd him to undertake it now it is evident the Brahmine knew the Affair Boniapah proposed to employ him in was treasonable, for he objected to it that if he were caught he should be hang'd. notwithstanding for Boniapah directly promised him indemnity & withdrew by saying he employ'd him as a spy & it carried with it the strongest probability that the Brahmine which his Advice could have been to no Purpose, it also appears that in the subsequent Correspondence he knew of many Circumstances Letters passed before the Fellow was taken & he confessed the whole Design it might be concealed from You, they should he desire it to be, conceal'd if he were not Guilty. it does not appear that [illegible] was an active Party, but he ought to have discovered any Treachery that came to his Knowledge & his not doing so amounts to a negative Misprision the Punishment for which should be Fine & Imprisonment or some necessary Corporal punishment

Fort St. George May 1754.

not affecting his Life, We approve of your inflicting either on the Delinquent or pardoning him if you know of any Circumstances that plead in his Favour.

To supply the Place of Pomiapah we shall use our utmost Indeavours to find out & send you an Interpreter as soon as possible in the mean time We think you had better make use of Ramah Naigue who must be content to lay by his Sake when the Service of the publick requires it, unless you have any body else in Camp that can better answer your present purpose & in that Case We have no Objection to your sending him back.

Immediately on the receipt of Mr. Pabo's Letter advising of your late Success & the Difficulty you were reduc'd to by having so many Officers Wounded We order'd Captains Pigou D'Ilens & Innis to your Assistance, leaving the Detachment at Deve Cotah under the Command of Capt. Lin to wait your Orders the next Day we were advis'd that the March of that Party to Tanjore was necessary but at the same time receiving the News that of g, w, l, g, r, (151) Military were landed at Fort St. David from Bombay we immediately order'd them to Deve Cotah and Directed Mr. Hopkins to detain the Party a few Days till the Bombay Detachment could Join but by a Letter this Day receiv'd from Mr. Hopkins we find Capt. Pigou with the Party march'd the 21st. this will not prevent the Bombay Reinforcement from proceeding for We told the Gent. at St. David to hasten their Departure even tho' Capt. Pigou should be gone & Mr. Hopkins has Orders immediately to advise Capt. Pigou of their coming that proper Measures may be taken for the Junction the Gent. at St. David are to land

all

Fort St George May 1754.

had he did not think he could as a Kings Officer answer
taking the Command whilst we were in Arms against the
French. The truth is he thought our Affairs in a bad Way
& that there was no Honours to be got but more might
lost. This he intimated at the Board.

Once more let us press you to continue
relieve you as soon as possible.

We have this Day sent M. Allen a Bill
Exchange for five thousand Pagodas for the use of the
Army.

The Northumberland Snow is arrive
here with what wrote you the 28. November. Your most
Obedient Servants Thos Saunders Charles Boddam
Henry Brooke Alex. Wynch John Smith
Charles Bourchier

Fort St George
the 26th May 54.

26 Sent to Mr Robert Allen a Bill of Exchange for 5000 Pag
for the use of the Army.

200 At a Consultation Present

Monday
the 27th

Thomas Saunders Esq. Gov. President
Charles Boddam Henry Brooke
Alex. Wynch John Smith
Charles Bourchier

Mr Hopkins Chief of Dove Castle
Letter read this Day in Consultation representing
his Garrison is not sufficient for the Defence of that
Settlement. It is agreed that a Reinforcement of

Fort St George 2d May 1754.

Mr Hopkins be permitted to raise three Companys of Seapoys, which when disciplind may either be kept there or sent to Camp as Occasion may require, it is also agreed that the Gentlemen at St David be directed, in case any of the Europe Ships should touch there to take the first Opportunity after they have landed the Recruits to send as far as one Hundred to Devi Cotah where they may be disciplind & held in readiness to act wherever their Services may be requird

Capt.n Campbell at Chingalapeut writes that he has Intelligence that a Party of the Enemy but what Number he does not know march'd from Trichinopoly towards Gingee he also advises that Partys of the Enemy are continually making Incursions from Allamparvey into Chingalapeut Bounds plundering & destroying wherever they come which obliges him to send out some of his Sepoys to protect the Country as the Nabob has not one that way. He likewise represents that the Duty of the Garrison is become very hard several of them having been sent in Sick he therefore Requests a Reinforcement of fourteen Europeans may be sent him which Number he thinks absolutely necessary for the safety of the Garrison as a watchfull Eye must be kept over the Prisoners.

Agreed that a Detachment of fourteen Europeans be draughted from this Garrison & sent to Chingalapeut agreeable to Captain Campbells Request.

Ensign

Fort S. George May 1754.

Ensign Baccard advises that Mauphoos Canre continues in his Camp near Arcot & does not seem to have the least Intention to March.

Letter from the King of Tanjore complaining that certains Brarmins who on his recommendation have long been permitted to enjoy several Manians or free Grounds in the Districts of Jeer Cotah have lately been imprisond by Mr Hopkins upon the false information of Nagabosheen a Brarmin. that the said Brarmins were not the Persons recommended by him, he therefore requests that they may be set at Liberty & confirmd in the Possession of the said Manians & that Nagabosheen may be either sent to him or kept in Confinement.

Agreed, that Mr Hopkins be reprimanded for confining the Brarmins without our Directions that he be ordered to set them at Liberty & keep Nagabosheen in Confinement till he receive further Orders. that he also be directed never in future to decide matters of Property & Privilidge without first consulting us.

Letter from the Killadar of Palamcotah representing his Apprehensions of the Enemy's Attempts upon that Fort & its District & Requesting our Assistance in protecting them.

Agreed that Mr Hopkins be directed to give him all the Assistance he can consistently with the safety of his own Garison, the Killadar

2-70

Fort S.t George May 1754.

Killedar defraying all the Charges the Company may be at on
that Account.

The Major being ye Eldest of ye Inter-
preter the President is desird to propose it to Rupa Brahmins.

Tho.s Saunders.
Geo.e Boddam
Henry Powney
Wilson
John Smith
Ch.s Bouchier

Fort St George June 1754.

At a Consultation Present.

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Gov.r President
Charles Boddam, Henry Browne
John Smith
Charles Bourchier.

Mr Wynch absent.

General Letter from Major Lawrence dd

as follows.

To the Honble Thos Saunders Esq.r President
& Governour &c.a Council of Fort St George.

N.o 49.

Hond.le Sir & Sirs

I acquainted you in my last N.o 48. that the Enemy had marched a large Detachment in Tondimans Country. they have effectually cut off our Communication & I now set out to make the best of my way for Tanjore where we have some hopes of being joyned by the King & also to facilitate the Junction of the Dove Cotah Party. I hope we shall soon meet; & there whether the King joyns or not we shall be able to make our march good any where. I am Honble Sirs your most obedient humble Servant S. Lawrence.

Trichenopoly the 22. May 1754.

March at 5 o'clock to morrow Morning.

The President lays before the Board the following Letter from Mr Call:

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr
Honble Sir

I have been so much employd lately that I could scarce afford Time to write to you, but I have now the Pleasure of acquainting you that the King has compleatly all his

Fort St. George June 1754.

his Scruples, & seems determind to come to no Accomodation with the Enemy in spite of Consequences which also he dreads. I have promisd that we will protect his Country, & that when once We are joind he has nothing to fear. He makes me even ans=swerable for our Success & says his whole Dependance is now upon the English, the Arrival of our Europe Ships & our great Expecta=tions from thence & Bombay with Assurances that Reinforce=ments shall be sent from Madras the moment they arrive, & Mahaupthoos Cawns Junction are Arguments which I have not failed to make use of, & on their Performance the Continu=ance of our Friendship here depends. The Enemy after entring the Woods with their whole Force, one Eighteen Pounder, & two twelves, plundering burning & destroying Tonda=mans Country, drawing their Siege of Bodicota his Capital, retreated to Killcota a Tanjorine Fort, near Trevicerum, which surrenderd in one Day, from thence they marchd to Cillady, & invested that also, & as the Defences are already destroyd We are very apprehensive it will not hold out till the Major's Arrival. This is a Place of no small Consequence because it commands the Bank of the River. Gauderoy with 2000 Horse & 1000 Foot is at Trincatapelly, where We hope he will soon be joind by the Major, who arrivd at Tirinoor the 23d & is unluckily halted at that Place yes=terday & to Day, but as some of our Expresses from the King & me, must have reachd Him last Night or this Morning, I expect that he will march on with all possible speed. Capt.n Pigou wrote me last Night from Shaw Cotah, a Fort near Comberconam that the Enemy had made their Appearance in his Rear, on which he thought proper to march to that Place, but that on receiving my Letter wherein I told him that an Escort of Horse

was

Fort St George June 1754.

was order'd to attend Him, He promises to continue his March this Day. I have advis'd him to alter his Route, notwithstanding the Major's Order's, & come immediately to this Place, which is more safe as well as more convenient for his joining the Major. I have now done all that was requir'd of me & indeed much more than ever I expected. If it may be done without any great Inconvenience to my self, (for really this Country is much too hot for my Constitution) I will wait till I may expect an Answer to this Letter & then you can have no objection to my returning. I am only sorry that in so long a Time Nobody has been sent to me for it is highly necessary somebody should continue here. I am Honble Sir Your most Obedient &c. R. Palk.

Tanjore the 25th May 1754. R.P.

It Mr Palk complains of want of Health & prays for leave to come in Agreed that Mr Andrew Newton be order'd to proceed to Tanjore as soon as possible & that Mr Palk be desir'd to continue there a little longer until the King has enter'd more heartily into our Measures in the mean Time it will be a great Advantage to Mr Newton to be introduced at that Court by Mr Palk & have the benefit of his Advice before he leaves him in Charge of the Negociation there.

Mr Hepburn in a Letter read this Day advising that Capt.n Innes is so much indispos'd as to keep his Room & therefore in no Condition to go to Camp, & Capt.n Pascal being represented in good Health Agreed that Capt.n Innes remain at Fort St David & that Captain Pascal proceed to Camp.

Captain Campbell at Chingalapet writes that

Fort St George June 15th.

The Enemy have taken Utramalore but the Garrison were suffer'd to march to Coryeveram with their Arms that the main Body of the Enemy are now gone to invest Trivatore & their Horse are divided into small Partys ravaging the whole Country, without opposition & some of them have taken the Route of Vendalore & the Mount.

Ordered, That the Commissary examine into the Accounts of the several Officers in the out Garrisons and on Detachment and report to the Board whether any & what superfluous Monthly Expences are charged.

Lieutenant Preston at Arcot writes that Abdul Bob Cawn gives himself no concern about that Garrison nor will furnish a Grain of Cheuram for repairing it altho the bad Consequences of its present Condition have been frequently represented to him.

The President is desired to write to Abdul Bob Cawn on that Subject.

Wasdawa Punt Vackeel on Duty in Salabad Jungs Camp writes that the Army is now encamped ten or fifteen Coss from Nermalla and it is not yet determined whether the Duan will be at Golconda or Aurungabad, that it is reported Balazeerow had threaten'd the Mysore

Fort St George June 1764.

with an Attack but recommended Matters with them
for Sixteen Lacks of Rupees, Muckdabad Suny is
greatly distressed for Money & tho he owes the
Saucars a considerable Sum he is still perplexing
them for more. Muckdabad Suny has received a
Sanad from the Mogul for the Government of Deccan
of which he had procured a Copy & [illegible]

Thos Saunders
Geo Stratton
Henry Strachey

John Smith
Wm Brereton

Fort St. George June 1754.

At a Consultation Pres.t

Wednesday the 5.th

Thom.s Saunders Esq.r Gov.r President &c.

Chas. Boldero Henry Bonney

Jno. Wynch Eaton Smith

Charles Bourchier

Jno.s Wynch absent)

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows.

To the Right Hon.ble Thos. Saunders Esq.r President

& Governour &c.a Council of Fort St. George

N.o 50. Gentlemen Sir & Sirs

My last was on the 22.d Instant Advising you of my intended March the next Day, which I began at two in the morning on the 28.th & pursued till my Arrival here on the 28.th & there received your two favours of the 13.th & 22.d The Day before I sent out the Enemys Detachement (which I informd you was gone in Tondeiman.s Country) often having falling Downt every thing Regulars were returned by the borders of the Tanjore Country: & in their way took Billecotah. thus did I keep to Collidoy. which was as easily carried. The King of Tanjore alarmd at these Acts of Hostility; sent a Body of Horse to Tirukattypully (under the Command of Gauderow) who suffered themselves to be surprized, & in Endeavouring to make their way thro the Enemy lost about 400 of their People The Enemy rais'd a Battery against the Place, but on hearing of our Approach returned to Seringham. On my Arrival here I found the King as We could wish him for our Interest. Frightend with the Enemys Invasion, & willing on his Part to exert himself to

Fort St George June 1756.

I would to God St Helena could but neither Men nor Money should be spared. Now I have this Affair appears more in our favour than at present, & I do assure you Gentlemen & Messrs you were of the Opinion & this then are some Hopes of Success, you must be convinced the best Method to secure it is to act with Vigour both Money than must be given, & not sparingly: If it is properly applyd, Troops are not wanting. If you chuse to follow this Method I must recommend a Disposition of all your Force, which may be effected after this manner. When I heard of the Reinforcement from Bombay I intended to have sent you they might be sent for from thence to Madras, Bellary, & with the Recruits lately come over this would form an Army, I want to know what you can do effectually out of Europe. If you are willing to find them the Money he wants he can have no more Troops for his Relief. I am afraid you will be disappointed in your Expectations from Europe, we shall be able to act offensively, & keep out against the Enemy, but not to send any from hence. I hope this will be time enough for them to arrive in the Country before the Monsoon is over, & I am convinced it will be the best Method to secure it. I am sorry to find you have not been able to get the Troops you wanted, but I am in hopes you will be able to get them from the Nabob of Arcot. I am

Fort S.t George June 1754

good Body. & if Capt.n Caupfe is sufficiently recovered, he may have the Command; or else Capt.n Charles Campbell. & let them Joyn & bring up Mahaupthoos Canoe. Tomorrow Morning Gentlemen, as it will be proper to have somebody at the Head, who has had experience in the Country & knows the People. If Capt.n Caupfe is not well enough he may supply the Place of Capt.n Campbell at Chingalapaut. It is now Gent.n at your Option to follow that Plan, or any other (with Vigour) that you please. or if you are inclin'd to prosecute y.e Treaty with the Mayasore; I beg you will be satisfy'd with my Reasons already given, for not choosing to negociate. If therefore Delays (as you say) are Dangerous It will be proper for you to make a speedy Choice of some one for that Business Col.l Scotts Death has given me sensible Concern, what has happened about his coming to my Relief must now drop. I hope with you some other Means may be found to procure me rest let me entreat of you Gent.n not to send up any more considerable Detachements without a Convoy. They are liable to meet with Accidents, & in such a Case to be left quite destitute of Assistance will alienate much the Affection of your Soldiers who will imagine that such Neglects proceed from an Indifference about their Concerns, & from those People who ought to take care of them which cannot easily be forgiven. In this last Party (which has joined me) two Men were absolutely lost on the Road for want of Medicines, or any Body to administer them. I have the pleasure to inform you that Capt.n Polier & Howes are so much recovered as to have march'd with me, & stay in the Field. the other Gentlemen were left on a fair way of recovery. I shall recommend it to the Officer under my Care not to desert [illegible] Bridge, you will please to take the same Care of the

Fort S.t George June 1754.

In the first Way the Nawr gave out we six Sepoys were hurt
all over the Corps before I received your Letter that piece of
Intelligence must have come from the Gentlemen at Sea
Gentlemen Your most Obedient humble Servant
S. Lawrence

The President laye before the Board the
following Letter from Mr Bellasyse Surgeon

To the Worshl the Governor &c Council

Honble Sir

May last was of the 25. the Day on which
Gudoore very unexpectedly surprized Himself to be surrounded
by the Enemy was a Matapully & in forcing his Way
through them back to this Place, lost about 500 Horse
Killed by is taken & dismounted, & what is of much
more Consequence, the Nawr which comprehends part of the
Coleroon into this Country is broken down, & the greater
Part of the Enemy entered to Seringham. Capt.n Byng
arrived the 26th & joined the Major at this Place the 28th
when the King came out to receive them. Matapully with
Premises of future Protection & Performance of former Pro-
Mensjes is not yet reestablished, but he expect it will be
done immediately in full Form & more Force collected
what with the late Recruits & their disbanding ex-
pects it is but small at present but if the King can
rely with Safety as he expect he will, Mensjes and
more recruit his Army. I received your Honours of the
19th yesterday. I hope there will be no occasion for any
Remarks the nor endeavouring to deprive that Gentle-
man (Dalton) his Masters & he do not disapprove of according
to your desire in regard to Trichy without coming to
the Board of Trichinopoly. I have proposed before, but

Fort S.t George June 1754.

found Him very averse to any Measures of that sort, He is sufficiently persuaded that his own safety depends on Trichenopoly, tho he has not taken the proper Precautions to preserve it.

I am with Respect Sir Your most Obedient Servant Rob.t Palk.

Campn on Tanjore
to 8.th May 54.

As the Major still lays a great Stress on the Junction of Maupthoos Cawn's Troops which is represented as a Main Point for fixing the King of Tanjore in our Measures, it is agreed that the Major's Plan be pursued & that Maupthoos Cawn be acquainted that if he will march to reinforce the Army We will send a large Detachment of European Troops to join him at Conjeveram & to remove as much as possible all Evasions on his Arrival at Deve Cotah We promise to pay a Lack of Rupees to his Agents at S.t David towards discharging the Arrears due to his Troops.

Agreed that the Reinforcement received from Bombay & Tellicherry by the Stafford be held in Readyness to march, that the Detachment sent from hence to Deve Cotah on the S.t George be order'd back again on the same Ship, & that the Gentlemen at Fort S.t David be directed to send us immediately a Detachment of Capt.n Lieglers Company which were intended for Deve Cotah but drove back in two Boats to S.t David, & soon as these arrive that they be added to the abovementioned Bombay Detachment to Join Maupthoos Cawn at Conjeveram in case he accepts of the Proposal, but in regard to the Recruits from Europe it is agreed that they be landed at Fort S.t David in case the Ships should touch there as they can be of no Service till they are Disciplined & in case they should be there wanted this way it will be much easier to transport them hither than to convey them to the Southward from hence against Wind & Current.

As

Fort S. George June 1764.

At Major Lawrence's absolute
by declares making the Proposals to the Balloways
and thinks that if the aforementioned Messrs
should induce Mauphaus Coorn to march his Army
will put a good Face on our Affairs and contribute
much to bring the Balloway to Terms it is agreed
that the intended Negotiations with the Balloway
be suspended for the present until we see the
Effect of the Proposals to Mauphaus Coorn.

The President lays before the
Board a Letter from Captain Roderick Forbes of the
Bombay Establishment representing that he was ordered
by the President & Council of Bombay to incorporate
in his Company one hundred Topasses from
Tellicherry & Fifty from Anjengo which they are
which he requests Permission to do, he also desires
that the Pay, Batta, & Cloathing of the intended
Detachment may be under their
Presidency may be put upon the same footing
as the Military on this Establishment which
will prevent Murmurs that might otherwise
arise, he also represents that the Terms of the
Tellicherry Detachment are Unequal Conditions
& therefore requests they may be changed, and
as the Number of Men in his Company may make
an Assistant necessary he requests an Assistant
may be appointed.

Agreed that the Tellicherry

Fort S.t George June 1754

To pakes be incorporated with Capt.n Forbes.s Company
& also those from Anjengo when they arrive, that
the whole Detachment be put upon the same footing
as our Military, that the Tellicherry Arms be exchanged
& repaird, & that Capt.n Forbes be permitted to recom-
-mend one of his own Company to be Adjutant.

Thp. Saunders.
Chas. Boddam
Henry Lowndes

John Smith
C. F. Bouchier

Fort S.t George June 1754.

6.th In Consequence of the Resolution in last Consultation, sent the following Letters to Fort S.t David & Deve Cotah Viz.t

To Richard Starke Esq.r Deputy Governour &c.a Council of Fort S.t David.

Gentlemen

Advices this Day receivd from Major Lawrence have determind us to detain here the Detachment brought us from Bombay on the Stafford; In case the S.t George should not have passd your Port when you receive this, give the Comonander Orders to return here directly with the Detachment he has on board him & in Case you should not have yet sent to Deve Cotah the Men belonging to Capt.n Ziegler's Company which were drove back to S.t David in two Boats, Imbark them likewise on the S.t George to be brought hither; with one Lieutenant of that Company all these We intend to form into one Body to Join Maupin's Cavern at Conjeveram & proceed from thence together to the Army: Captain Forbes just arrivd from Bombay will have the Comonand of this Party as being the oldest Captain but We should be glad of a good Officer for him to advise with, who has had some Experi of the Enemy in this Country Major Lawrence recommends Capt.n Gaupp if he is in a Condition to undertake it & We approve of his Choice, if his Health should not permit him, We shall or Capt.n Charles Campbell on this Expedition & appoint Capt.n Gaupp to take the Command in Chingalapeak so that in either Case he must take his Passage hither on the S.t George: In case she should have pass'd your Port We send Instructions to

Hope

Fort St. George June 1754.

Hopkins which are enclosd for your Perusal & to be forwarded with Expedition. There are 20 Chests of Arms on board the St. George for Deve Cotah, if you dispatch her immediately to us Land the Arms & forward them by the first opportunity. We are Gentlemen, Your Affectionate Friends and Servants Tho.s Saunders, Charles Boddam, Henry Perrney, Alex.r Wynch, John Smith, Chas. Bourchier.

Fort St. George
the 6.th June 1754.

To M.r Charles Hopkins
Chief of Deve Cotah

Sir

The St. George was dispatchid from hence the 31.st Ult.o with a Detachment, & Capt.n Ziegler & some Officers &c.a being drove to Sadras We orderd the Commander to call there to take them in & proceed to you touching in the way at Fort St. David some Advices from Major Lawrence oblige us to change our Measures & We have therefore wrote to the Gentlemen at St. David to send Capt. Robinson immediately back hither, with the Detachment sent from hence & also the Men belonging to Capt Ziegler who were drove back to St. David in two Boats, with a Lieutenant of that Company but in case those Men should have been already sent you & that the St. George should be gone from St. David in that Case Capt.n Ziegler & his Company are to remain at Deve Cotah & you are to return the St. George to us with the whole Detachment sent on her from hence order the Commander to touch at Fort St. David to give Captain Lawe a Passage hither, the last mentiond Party We shall add to a Reinforcement receivd two Days ago from Bombay on the Stafford & send the whole to Join Mahaupshoor Cawn at Conjeveram that they may march together to reinforce the Major We are Sir Your Affect.e Friends

George
754.

Tho.s Saunders &c Council

Fort St. George June 1754.

At a Consultation Present

Tho.s Saunders Esq.r Governour President

Charles Boddam, Henry Bonney

Alex.r Wynch, John Smith

Charles Bourchier

Monday the 10.th

General Letter from Major Lawrence & one from Mr. Palk to the President read as follow.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r President & Governour &c.a Council of Fort St. George

N.o 51.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receivd your Favours of the 23.d & 26.th May. Poniapah is executed & in as publick a manner as possible, to deter others from falling into the same Errors. As to Peremmauze he was Guilty, but not equally with the other, & seemed to have been the tool of a more cunning Villain. I did not intend to let him go free, he has been imprisond, & in Irons ever since his Examination & there shall remain as to the Fine it may be levyed as you think proper. My former Letters will have acquainted you with my March, which was the only expedient I had left. I refer you to Mr. Palk for the Success of yesterday in his Negociations & I make no Doubt but this Change of Ministry will produce much in our favour. In my last Gentlemen, I said that our Affairs appeard to me in so favourable a Way (so far from thinking them desperate) provided you would exert yourselves. I should be sorry you could imagine my desire for a Relief, proceeded from that Cause, very far from it; Would my Health permit me never desire to leave the Field. While there remained a against us one Ill. That I most earnestly could only be wishe

Fort S.t George June 1754.

in Relation to my particular Situation, which I believe you will allow, was not the most Eligible: Except there had been no remedy for it; but I always thought there was, & pointed out also what I thought were the Means to procure it. Your being desirous to have me keep the Field is needless; for I am as willing to do it, while I think I am capable of it, as you can be to wish it; As you do me the Honour to say. But then Gentlemen is it not your Duty to see me supported in that Command as I ought. I mention this in relation to a private Letter wrote a great while ago to the Governour concerning Capt.n Donald Campbell, to which he has never thought proper to answer. Had I been unreasonable in my Complaint, it might have been told me, but if what I ask'd was my Right, & my due; Why not Justice done me for the Neglect. If the Gov.r will please to shew my Letter you Gentlemen may be Judges. I have had an Account from Mr. Hopkins which gives me much Uneasiness. that some of the Boats with part of the Bombay Detachment are missing which were sent from S.t Davids. To remedy that Inconvenience for the future, if you dont approve of my last proposd Scheme, The Sloop which has orders to stop the Shipping at S.t Davids, may by another Order make them land their Troops at Deve Cotah, as also all the Space Down they can give us. there are many wanted as well for the Garrison of Trichenopoly as for the Field. I think this Method would save some trouble & vogue. The Men may be disciplin'd with me, or at Deve Cotah. As to what you want me to do in relation to the Dollaway. the Proposals may just as well be made from you as me; & the Answer will be full as Satisfactory. the King's Aversion to Ramah Naigue is so strongly grounded as to not

not to be removd. The Knowledge of this being here is every disagreeable: on that Account therefore I think him not fit to be employd by me & besides I do not think he has Capacity for the Employment; I therefore have ordered him back. & I beg you will look for somebody else Capt.n Polier & Howes, with Doctor Boswell have applied for leave to go down to the Settlements for a while to try the change of Air which I could not refuse them. I am, Gentlemen Your most obedient

June the 5.th 1754. & most humble Servant S. Lawrence.

To The Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r

Honble Sir.

I have your Favour of the 23.d & 24.th May acknowledging the Receipt of all my Letters except the 19.th 25.th & 30.th Every thing here looks very well great Efforts are making but by reason of Manajee's Behaviour the Command under Succojee & some of his People are removd. We are so well convinced of the Necessity of a change of Ministry, that the Major has signify'd to the King his Resolution not to join his Forces without many Difficulties are started & Manajees Demands are represented to be most extravagant, but I believe they must be complyd with; We have pointed out, in very plain Terms, that the late Accidents have only been the natural Consequence of the imprudent Conduct which the King has pursued, & that it must still continue, unless Succojee Naik, whose Principles are too well known, be removd. When Manajee is reinstated we may depend on their utmost Efforts, & if Mahrattahs (even Joins, a Method may also be found out to keep his Forces, for these People begin to see the Necessity of vigorous

Measures

Fort S.t George June 1754.

Measures; I have delivered your Letter to the King, his Answer shall be sent by another Hircara. Capt.n Pigou's Detachm.t arrivd very opportunely. Tondaman sends frequently Provisions into Trichinopoly. He is closely pressd by the Moravar but the Major intends to do Him all the Service in his Power. The Enemy are incampd about Kellicotah & Eremiserum, part of Moravars Army continues on the other Side of the Coleroon I am with Respect Honble. Sir, Your most Obedient humble Servant Robt. Palk.

Tanjore the 4.th June 1754.

After writing the foregoing the King sent for us, we waited some time for the Lucky Hour, when Monajee when Monajee was introduced & reestablishd. Succoje did not make his appearance, which gives us to hope the Business is done effectually. The King will send the Recruits, but he desires 1000 good Arms may be purchased for him, & that them that fires frequently from once Loading; the Bill for Pag.s 5000, is accepted. & the Additional Copper received. I am, Honble Sir, Your most obed.t Robert Palk.

Tanjore the 5.th June 1754.

The President also lays before the Board a Letter from Capt.n Kilpatrick at Trichinopoly desiring to be relieved on that Command on Major Lawrence's return there with the Army as he intends to go to Europe in September.

Letters in Answer to the Major's & Mr. Palks entred in last Consultation having been prepard some Additions are now made in Consequence of those just received & read, & the following Letters are now signd Viz.t

To Stringer Lawrence Esq.r Commander in Chief of all the Company's Forces in India

N.o 11. Sir

Over

Fort St. George June 1754.

Our last was dated the 26th Ultimo & your two Letters No. 49 & 50 are received & now to be answered.

Our Reasons for ordering all the Reinforcemt We could collect at Deve Cotah in Order to Join you were that the Army appeared to us to be so much weakened as to render a speedy Succour necessary, the Delays Excuses & Evasions of Mahaufphoos Cawn, & his Brother Abdul Rob gave us good Grounds to imagine that the assisting the Nabob is what they have very little at Heart, & therefore we conceived it, could have exposed you too much & too long to the attempts of the Enemy's superiour Force had We subjected these Troops to Mahaufphoos Cawn's pleasure however as you recommend that Plan, we changed our Measures immediately on the receipt of your Letter No. 50. We had some Days before dispatched the St. George to Fort St. David & Deve Cotah with upwards of Sixty Men these We ordered to be returned Upon the same Ships, & We have obtained a Detachment each of a, b, l, r, s, y, (Fifty) 140 (Europeans) f, g, q, q, s, (one hundred) 145 (Topasses) & a, b, m, r, y, (Sixty) 147. 149. (Seapoys) which arrived here a few Days ago from Bombay we have also ordered up hither, to these We Add as many Veterans of this Garrison as can be safely spared We place them with new Recruits from Europe; all these with any other Reinforcements, that may arrive in Time from Bombay We shall send to Join Mahaufphoos Cawn at Conjeveram in case he will proceed to march immediately upon their Junction, the Brigd. has wrote to him on the Subject, & promised that on his Arrival at Deve Cotah we will pay a Lack of Rupees to

Fort St. George June 1754.

to any Agents he may appoint at Fort St. David, no Answer is yet
receivd from him, but whatever may be the result shall be
immediately communicated to you. We are persuaded the
Dallaway would gladly agree to Venkatroni's Proposals but
since you absolutely decline offering them to him We have
no Choice, but must wait until the Junction of the
Reinforcements with you which We acknowledge must give
great Weight to our Negociations. We have considerd that
new Recruits are often of greater Prejudice than Service until
properly trained We have therefore continued our Orders to
Fort St. David to Land there from such Europe Ships as may touch
there & discipline them, if We should have Occasion for them
this Way it will be much easier to bring them hither than
send them from hence to that Southward.

Capt. Kilpatrick has acquainted the
President of his Intentions to resign & return to Europe in
September & therefore Requests to be relieved on your return
to Trichenopoly, he has our Consent, & We leave it to you
to supply his place with whom you shall think proper,
when the Time approaches for his Departure. We have
wrote for Capt. Gaupp to come up hither & We shall
appoint him to go with Capt. Forbes who as eldest Officer
must Command the Party to Join Mahaupetchos Cauve
or if Capt. Gaupp's Health should not permit him
We shall Order Capt. Campbell on that Expedition &
Capt. Gaupp to Chuingalapeut.

The 8. & 9. Instant arrivd our Hon.ble
Masters Ships Triton & Onslow with a, 6,0, m,r, (Eighty
Six Recruits) our Captive of the 19. remains still in suspense
by the general Voice we may expect by all the Chinca
Ships

Fort St George June 1754.

Ships about f. i. g. e. g. s. (300) Recruits & by the Cornish & Bay Ships b. g. g. a. g. (100) Swiss besides what are intended for Bengal the Number of these last is not mentiond. Enclosd you will receive Copy of several Paragraphs of our Honble Masters Commands. We recommend it to your Consideration whether in Consequence of the 53. We ought not to be still more desirous if possible to have Pencatarows Proposals tendered to Mr Dalloway the President has acquainted us that he Proposes to write you seperately on the Subject of the 42. Paragraphs, such an Agreement & harmony as our Employers recommend is what we have always had at Heart & We shall embrace every opportunity of cultivating it.

Mr Bishop mentiond in the 109 Paragr. is also appointed Superintendant of the Powder Works, the Company's intentions with Respect to his Lieutenancy appear dark. We should be glad of your Opinion what is meant by first Lieutenant of the Military. We are Sir your most obedient Servants.

Since closing the above your Letter of the 5th is come to hand, as well as Mr Palks of the same Date, the Success of his Negociation gives us great pleasure, We shall exert ourselves in every Respect to the utmost of our Abilitys. Tho our Affairs may not be desperate but afford a much more favourable Prospect than a few Weeks ago yet We think the main Point of Peace should be still pursued, a favourable Turn is certainly the properest Time to make Terms & We cannot help thinking those offerd by Pencatarow worth our Notice, even should our Cypher of the 19th take Place what a prodigious Advantage will

Fort St George June 1754.

will it be to have the whole Debt secure this is no trifling Consideration We shall therefore do our utmost to hasten our Reinforcement to Mauphoos Cawn & his Junction with yours & in the meane time consider of a proper Method to make the Overtures to the Dallaway. We shall give Orders for the Sloop you mention to direct any Europe Ships she can speak with to land their Arms & Military at Deve Cotah & if they should fail We shall take the first opportunity of supplying you with Arms from hence some other Particulars in your Letter shall be answerd in our next. The Protector is just come into the Road with 6, l, a, p, (fifty nine) 140. 14 (Europeans) and 6, h, a, q, e, g. (two hundred) 147 (Seapoys) from Bombay. x, h, e, g. (forty) Men of Capt.n Lieglars Company from St. David & the Detachment which was intended for Deve Cotah by the St George, we wait now only for Mahaupha's Cawn's Answer for the Party to move.

The Ipsea is just arrived from Europe with i, s, g, r. (thirty) Recruits & h, t. (four) Officers. We are, Sir, Your most obedient Servants Thomas Saunders. Chas. Boddam. Hen.y Pinney Alex.r Wynch John Smith Charles Bourchier.

Fort St George
10.th June 1754.

To the Reverend Mr. Robert Palk

Sir

The President has communicated to Us your Letters of the 25.th & 30.th May by which We have the Pleasure to observe a Change in the Kings Measures which promises well to our Cause the Arrival of the Bombay Reinforcements We hope will give new life to it & determine him to act with Vigour, the Promises you made

Fort St. George June 1754.

made him of our protection shall be performd to the utmost of our Power, but as Mahaupshoos Carnis Forces are not at our disposal We cannot answer for their Junction, indeed if We may Judge of the future by the past, little is to be expected from such supine Wretches, who by an unparalleld infatuation have remaind inactive near Arcot whilst the Enemy have been ravaging the Country around. what can be expected from such Behaviour? by a Letter We now write the Major you will be informd what fresh Proposals We have made to get those Troops to the Army, if they still start new Difficultys We know no Remedy.

We shall be glad to hear of Monopie's being confirmd in the Command and of an Abatement of Omer Kinfluence in a certain Minister which We shall look upon a great Step towards towards seeing the King in our Interest.

As you gave us Reason in your Letter of the 25th to fear your Health would not permit you to stay much longer at Tanjour We immediately ordered Mr Newton to proceed thither, but as he is not be thoroughly acquainted with the Temper & Disposition of that Court We hope you will be able to remain there a little longer till the King has entered heartily into our Measures or at least till Mr Newton may be fully instructed in the Nature of his Commission your Advice & Assistance will go a great Way towards qualifying him for this Task.

For further Particulars relating to publick Affairs we refer you to our Letter to Major Lawrence & are Sir Your most Obedt humble

Fort St George
26th June 1754

Servts

Fort St. George June 1754.

Your Letter of the 5th is this Instant received & gives us infinite pleasure Succojee's disgrace is a great Stroke as well as Monajee's appointment to the Carnatic & We are obliged to you for the part you have had in procuring this Change, We shall do all in our Power to reap every Advantage that may arise from it, acquainting the King we shall use our Endeavours to procure the Arms he wants out of our expected Shipping. We are, Sir, Your most obed.t Servants Tho.s Saunders. Cha.s Boddam. Henry Bonney. A. Wynch. John Smith. Charles Bourchier.

Captain Campbell at Chingalapeut writes that straggling Partys of the Enemy's Horse still continue to infest & plunder the Villages thereabout, whilst he is unable for want of Horse to prevent it, that Mahau=phoos Cawn has been advis'd of it, but instead of coming to the protection of the Country has halted at Callonar a little way from Arcot & pretends that the Enemys Strength is too Superiour consisting, as he says of 2000 Horse & 2000 Sepoys with some Europeans & Guns altho it is well known they have not half that Number, he adds that he is informed two hundred Horse marched towards the Mount the 6.th Instant.

Ensign Packard advises that Maupthoos Cawn marched as far as Arcanie & halted there in expectation of receiving the Succours & Supplys Abdul Bob Cawn promis'd him which were One Thousand Horse, One Thousand Foot and a Lack of Rupees but after waiting four Days without any probability of receiving any part of these Troops & supply Mahaupthoos Cawn was determin'd

Fort S.t George June 1754.

19 Sent the following General Letter to Captain James Kilpatrick at Trichenopoly Viz.t

To Capt.n James Kilpatrick
at Trichinopoly

Sir

Major Lawrence having represented to us that the long fatigues of the Field have so greatly impaired his Health that his continuance at the Head of the Army is rendered extreamly precarious, it becomes necessary that an experienced Officer should be chosen to succeed him in that very important Charge. his Opinion & Recommendation of you have had such weight that it has been resolvd in Consultation to offer you a Major's Brevet & the Command of the Army which if you will accept, give us immediate Notice & the proper Powers & Orders shall be sent You. We are Sir your most Obed.t Servants Thomas Saunders
Fort S.t George Charles Boddam. Henry Bonney
19.th June 1754. M.r Wynch John Smith Charles Bourchier.

21 Sent to M.r Palk at Tanjore my Letter from the Secretary two Bills for two thousand two hundred Pagodas for the use of the Army.

At a Consultation Present
Thomas Saunders Esq.r Gov.r President
Tuesday the 25. Charles Boddam. Henry Bonney
Mess.rs Wynch. John Smith
Charles Bourchier

General Letter from Major Lawrence read as follows. Also a Letter from M.r Palk to the President.

To

Fort St. George June 1754.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r President
& Governour &c.a Council of Fort St.t George

N.53.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I receivd with great pleasure from Mr. Starke, an Account that the remainder of the Bombay Detachment, was arrivd; & also of the intended Disposition of those Troops, with others; According to the Plan of Operations I had laid before you. those Men of the first imbarkation from Bombay, that were already arrivd at Deve Cotah, which were only five Boats out of the Nine that set out from St. Davids. I have ordrd to Tranquebar as I see by an Extract of Letter from you sent to Mr. Hopkins; it was your intention to leave Capt.n Leighs whole Company at this Settlement, had they been there when the St George might have arrivd, with the other Detachments sent from Madrass: which you have ordrd back, on the receipt of my Letter. As I believe it may be necessary for me to make a Detachment. I have then ordrd them few Men up, to make me as strong as possible without interfering with the Party for Madura-patnam Coast.

I shall acquaint you more fully in a Day or two of my Intentions. as yet I cannot be determind. till We receive an Answer to a Message sent by the King of Tondemand to 22. Mr. 12. Mr. 18 (Enemy.)

Monaji is at the Head of Affairs; raising more Troops & satisfying the Old ones. The Method of doing business here is somewhat Dilatory but We must have Patience, & keep them close at Work. Every thing else appears as much in our Favour as we could wish. I am

Camp at near Tanjore 12.th June 1754.

Gentlemen your most Obed.t Humble Servt. S. Lawrence.

To

Fort St. George June 1754.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esqr.

Honble Sir

Monajee is reinstated & raising Troops with all possible Expedition. Succajee is laid aside & has not shrunk from his Morose nature. Swrit you last, the King promises that he will never more put it in his Power to injure the Nabobs Affairs, Saunderss Life was much more than I mentiond, but the Accts are already settled & paid: The Enemy are incamped to the Eastward & Westward of Trichinopoly threatning another Escalade which however We do not suspect they will put in practice. Tondamans situation only gives us some Concern, but We hope some Method will soon be contrived to relieve him.

The Major was very Ill yesterday but he is better to Day, & very desirous of continuing in the Field if his Health will permitt him, but it cannot be depended on for three Days together. I hope I have also got rid of my Disorder, nothing but a return of it will induce me to leave this Place till the Army is marchd which cannot be immediately. I am with great Respect Honble Sir Your most obedient humble Servant Robert Palk.

Tanjore the 14th June 1754.

The Party intended to Join Mahaupahs having marchd this Morning for Marmelong where they are to halt & encamp until all things necessary for the Expedition can be compleated Ordered that fourteen Pagoda Rupees be advanced to Captains Roderick Forbes & Charles Campbell, the first commanding the Bombay Detachment, the other the Moor belonging

Fort St. George June 1754.

Belonging to this Establishment as a Military Chest to defray the Expences of the Troops; that Ensign Rous be ordered to deliver over the Command of this Party to Capt.n Charles Campbell on his arrival at Conjeveram & returne hither himself & that Ensign Ogilvie belonging to that Detachment proceed to Chingalaput.

The Country Correspondence &c.a reads

Muhaupshoo Caun advises his Arrival at Conjeveram & that he is extreamly desirous of proceeding Trichinopoly that he has often wrote to Abdul Bob Caun for an Order on the Amildars for repayment of the Lacks We have promised to advance but he has not yet returnd any Answer.

Abdul Bob Caun writes that he has actually advanced Mahaupshoo Caun two Lacks of Rupees notwithstanding which he still delays to march, that he (Abdul Bob Caun) is therefore resolvd to march himself with his Forces to Join the Nabob.

Letter from Meeraas Ally Caun acknowledging the Receipt of the Presidents Letter wherein he desires to be informd of the Particulars of an Agreem.t between him & Abdul Bob Caun to which he Answers that he is certain Abdul Bob Caun has already communicated the Particulars but that notwithstanding he has sent them to his Vackeel to be represented to the Presid.t

As Meeraas Ally Caun has for some Time past omitted to Answer the Presidents Letters on this Subject & more artfully endes declaring the Terms of his agreement with Abdul Bob Caun by referring to his Vackeel a Method often practised with these People when they would conceal the Truth. It is therefore

agreed

Fort St George June 1765

agreed that Mr Ives ally Caron be acquainted that We consider his agreement as a Matter of such Consequence that a Verbal Account from his Attested is by no means Satisfactory & therefore We desire he will write it himself

Ensign Caccaud writes that he really believes Mahomed Noor Caun is determined to march as soon as I shall write the Party from hence, but Abdul Rob remains unacquainted at present

Capt.n George Frederick Sappington relieved Capt.n Charles Campbell in the Command at Chingalpet past now transmits an Accot. of the Remains of Stores with his Observations on the Fortifications & Repairs necessary to be made a-mongst the rest, the Glacis which was begun by Capt.n Campbell is very Essential & therefore he is going on with it as Capt.n Campbell had Orders to do so. which when completed will make the Place defensible. the Counterscarp of the Ditch he also says is fallen into the Ditch, & there are two or three Breeches in the Wall. & for the better Defence of the Place he desires that three Gunners & six Lascars may be sent him.

Agreed that Capt.n Sappington be directed to go on with the Glacis & compleat that, finish & in the mean time prepare Estimates of the Charge of the other Repairs. Ordered that the Gunners & Lascars be sent according to his Request.

Agreed

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Fort S. George June 1764.

Agreed that Captain John Knox proceed
to Arcot & take upon him the Command in that Garrison.

The Commissary Reports that he have
receivd ten thousand (10,000) Rupees more being in
all receivd forty thousand of the Amuldar of Tripassore
on Accot of the Lacks he is to pay.

Tho. Saunders
Geo. Boddam
Henry Lowndes
W. Lynch
John Smith
C. Bourchier

Fort St. George June 1754.

27. Sent the following Letters to Major Lawrence &c.

Palk.

To Stringer Lawrence Esq. Commanding

in Chief of all the Company's Forces in India

N.o 12. Sir

We have receivd your Letter of the 5.th

2.d and 12. Instant N.o 51. 52. 53.

Inclosd is Copy of the President's

Letter to you of the 5.th February concerning Capt.n

Campbell "Capt.n Campbell was dissatisfied with Captain

"Kilpatrick's having the Command at Trichinopoly but

"was answerd He approvd it, he was afterwards desirid

"to proceed to Camp but when he represented his long

"Services in the Field, that every Officer should shard

"take their Turn & that he would lay down his Com-

"mission. that we might send "as Many Officers

"as possible 'twas agreed in Consultation to send

"Captain Gardner in his stead this is what has

"passd in regard to Capt.n Campbell." our Intention

was to promote the good of the Service by ordering as

many Officers as possible at a Juncture when they

were so much wanted, he thinking himself entitled

to the same Indulgence as Captain Charles Campbell

was determind to lay down his Commission We

rather chose he should remain at St. David than you

should have an Officer. Less

Agreable to what you wrote us

concerning Capt.n Kilpatrick We have made him

an Offer of a Major's Brevet he accepted We should be

glad to promote your Favourite Kane sorry to hear from Capt.n

Stevenson

Fort St George June 1764.

Honble Sotier & Dr Bourcier that his Wound was laid open
again which may incapacitate him for the Field Duty.

Agreeable to what we wrote you we
order'd Capt. Campbell to proceed with the Detachment,
the Effects of his Wounds rendered him incapable, he has
therefore relieved Capt. Campbell at Chingalapuck who
commands the Madrass Troops as does Capt. Forbes
those from Bombay. the following are the Regula=
tions Mr Bourchier &c. Council Fenckinents in
regard to them Viz. "In the Packet is a List of Officers
"on this Establishment upon Command to your
"Presidency, who are to be promoted as Vacancys may
"happen according to the Rank therein placed, at the
"same time We must observe to your Honour &c. "that
"We have given the Command of the Sepoys now proceeding
"& those we intend you by the Montford to Capt. Andrew
"Armstrong who has a Commission signed by us ac=
"cordingly but nevertheless this is not to be an
"Hindrance or prevention to his Rising on the Mili=
"tary Establishment, if Vacancies happen as above
"noticed. Should the Gentlemen at Tellicherry and
"Anjengo send you any Sepoyes in Consequence of our
"Orders they are to be incorporated in the Company
"which went from hence under the Command of Capt.
"Forbes"

The Tellicherry Sepoyes are incorporated
accordingly & to prevent any Misunderstandings We have put
the whole Bombay Detachment upon the same footing
as the Military on our Establishment with respect to their Pay
Cloathing and Batta pr Copy of Roll of the Bombay Officers
and their Rank abovementioned is enclos'd

&c

Fort St George June 1754.

The Detachment marched off yesterday morning & halted at Marmalong, will decamp tomorrow & will be before be at Conjeveram in three Days. Mahaw-=phoos Cawn acceded to the Proposals of one Lack but still intimates Abdul Rob Cawn has paid in his Promi-=ses which the other denies, neither of them seem inclind to go, but the Nabobs Vackeel gives us Room to believe that in case they should both decline that the Force will proceed under the Command of the Jemmedars.

The Killedar of Permamalee is dead according to Custom the Fort devolves to the Government. 'twill be greatly advantageous to the Company to have it annexed to Permamalee the President has wrote the Nabob please to enforce it

The Ships for China are all safe arrivd but bring no Confirmation of the Affair-=s agitation at home. We may hourly expect them for Coast & Bay not a Ship arrivd at Pondicherry yet & only two had been at the Cape.

Enclosd are Copys of the Presidents Letters to the Nabob & King of Tanjore also a Bill of Exchange drawn by Gocaul Serawdy upon Ramaisser Serawdy at Tanjore for 3000 Pagodas which please to receive for the Use of the Army under your Commands. We are, Sir, Your most obedient Servants

Fort St George 27th June 1754. Thomas Saunders. Charles Boddam. Henry Berney. Alexr Wynch. John Smith. Charles Pearce Richd. Pybus

To Coll. Robert Clive

Sir

I have received your Letters of the 4th & 5th

with a small Chit of the 5th

Fort St George July 1754.

It is with Pleasure I observe Succorjee Naick is removd, Monajee in favour, & the King at least promises very fair to Join & act with Vigour though I must confess I am of Opinion his Majesty has been greatly influenced by the Presence of the Nabobs Army & from his former Conduct still suspect his irresolute Disposition will always stick close to him & when I consider that with the united Force we may protract the War but never be able to exhaust those great Resources the Enemy have my Sentiments are Daily more for Peace.

I am convinced the Major will Continue in the Field as long as Possible but am greatly concernd that at so critical a Juncture his Health is so precarious, for though I have a just sense of the Abilities of the other Officers yet, between Friends I cannot think them equal to the Command however we must do our best it gives me some uneasiness to hear from Capt.ns Polier, Howes & Lt. Boswell that Captain Kilpatricks wound has been laid open & that he cannot in a long time be fit for Field Duty.

Our Detachment marchd yesterday Mahaupahoos Camp acceded to the the Terms of receiving a Lack yet neither he nor Abdul Rob Caron seem inclind to go: the Nabobs Vackeel gives me hopes that should they both decline, their Forces will march under Command of their Commandars. I shall send him to Conjeveram to dispatch this business as expeditiously as Possible.

I have long expected the Kings Answer in regard to Madam Dupleix please to peruse it carefully & enclose in your Letter that I may reply to Mr. Dupleix's Letters which he will probably think I have been remiss in.

I

Fort S.t George July 1754.

I am glad to hear of the Recovery of your
Health & hope it will continue your Design of staying
as it must be of the greatest consequence at this Juncture
so is it extreemly agreeable. I am, Sir, Your most obedient
Fort S.t George Servant Thomas Saunders.
27.th June 1754.

30. Sent the following General Letter to Major Lawrence
To Stringer Lawrence Esq.r Commander
in Chief of all the Company's Forces in India

No. 13.

Sir

This is just to advise you, our Detachment are on
their March to Cuddalore with 150,000 Rupees have been sent
Mauptris Lavoni who agrees to march through still fancies
the Disposition of those People) Difficulties may arise, Capt.n
Forbes & Campbell have Directions to give you constant
Intelligence, that if the Enemy should make any Motion
you may be able to cause such Diversion as you think
proper We are Sir Your most obed.t Servants

Fort S.t George Thomas Saunders Charles Boddam Hen.y Bonney
30.th June 1754. Alex.r Wynch John Smith Charles Bourchier

July. At a Consultation Present

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Gover.r President
Monday Charles Boddam Henry Bonney
the 1.st Alex.r Wynch John Smith
Charles Bourchier

The two following General Letters from Major
Lawrence Done from him & another from M.r Pitts to the Gov.r
& Sent read

To the Hon.ble Thomas Saunders Esq.r President
& Governor &c.a Council of Fort S.t George

No. 54.

Hon.ble Sir & Sirs

I

Fort St. George July 1754

I have received yours of the 10th June, my last was on the 15th

Morarow has wrote again to the Nabob the King, and Monajee, & has promisd to withdraw his Troops for three Lack of ready Money. The King has promisd to pay it for the Nabob; & has wrote in Consequence; the substance of his Letter was. that Morarow should venture with his Troops, to his own Country, be an Enemy to the French & their Allies; & a Friend to us, and ours. mutually to assist each other when called on; & the Expence of such Assistance, to be bore by the Person who demands it, on these Conditions three Lack shall be paid for him in Buchanjis Hands, which he shall receive in the following Manner. One Lack & a half to be paid, each Day as he Marches such a Sum; & the Remainder one Month after his Arrival in his own Country. The King also has agreed to make him some Presents. We have had no Answer yet whether he has agreed, & ratified the above Terms. but We hear he has already crossed the Caleroon, & is above eight Coose on his March homewards.

Monajee was Yesterday with Tondiman, & has persuaded him to make a Peace with the Morarow Billygar; & both of them to join & assist us. Were these People as ready to perform as Promise the Affair would soon be at an End. Morarow is a great Point gained, & things are much mended, agree we would not wait to be obliged by to the Enemy to send his Indifferent Opinion to the Nabaupthoos the Dollars taken. Pray persist in your Resolution, of acting with Vigour,

&

Fort St George July 1754.

& let not a little Flame of Success dazzle us so, as not to see & pursue our true Interest.

Mr Newton arrived Yesterday. But if Mr Palks would be will permit him, I hope he will stay till we move from hence.

Mr Bishop's rank is really obscure to me, when that Gentleman Arrives, & he you know his Pretensions we may be able to Judge.

Capt.n Howe Gentlemen has recd you 12 twelve Month's Intervals little Chance of a Vacancy at Bengal to Give him a Company. It is a hardship on a Person to be on Service without the hopes of Preferment. If any thing could be done for him on the Coast his Services Qualities & Behaviour as an Officer Do Gentlemen merit it from you.

[I have appointed Mr Woodman Volunteer brought out by Capt.n Dillons to do Duty as Ensigne. The Gentleman deserves justly his Promotion. his being young made me defer appointing him before I knew him; & now I find him qualified in every Respect for a good Officer. & I hope you will give him a Commission in Consequence.]

Camp near Trajore 20.th June 1754

myself & the Gove
I must wait a few
Your most Obedt
P.S. I omitted in my
Adjutant was oblig
his Health since
Morarow is returned to George received two Letts from the
King as soon as the heavy Artillery I shall acquaint you.

My Answer to the Paragraph concerning
mour as also the Extract of the Govr Letter
dated before I leave Land ik. I am, Gent.
Most humble Servant S. Lawrence.
The inclosed from him covering yours Mr White sent
on to St David on Account of
Lieut Pitts Accounts are come that
I am certain I shall acquaint you.

To

Fort S.t George July 1754.

To the Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council of Fort S.t George

N.o 55.

Honble Sir & Sirs

My last was on the 20.th Inst in Part answerd your Favour of the 10.th

I have receivd a letter from the Governour in relation to the Paragraphs from our Honble Masters. Hope M.r Saunders will be satisfyd with my Answer & be good aswid Gentlemen that my utmost Endeavours, & Happiness will be to promote that Harmony & Friendship so requisite for the forwarding the publick Good, & Interest. I have proposed Gentlemen to forget what is past: which I sincerely will adhere to; & as I make no Doubt the Sh.d will act with the same Sincerity, I do not fear the Companys Interest being fully executed.

We have receivd yet no Answer from Moravoo I informd You he was come back. but still remains on the other side of the Caleroon.

Should Mahaupthoos Cawn again trifle with us I beg the Troops may be sent up to me as soon as Convenient, I saw with pleasure the order you have given concerning the Remainder of the Military on board the rest of the Ships. I hope it will answer the purpose very well.

I agree with you Gentlemen that Nothing but a Peace is to be our Aim. but you well know that Nothing but ~~a good~~ Vigorous one can be of Service. I have given my Opinion to the Governour concerning the Treaty with the Dollaway, which I take the Liberty to refer you to, If he pleases. You will see my Motives for what

Fort St. George January 1751.

of the Negrais, and by the Neptune shall transmit you my Accounts for the whole year, by which I shall give you the full Situation of the Honble Compys affairs here and must desire you will be pleasd to send me some Supplys as I have been obligd many Times to disburse my own Money on the Honble Compys Account and have almost built a new Vessell of upwards of Forty Tons, for the Honble Companys Service at the Negrais, and when finishd I shall send you an Account of the Particulars of her Cost.

I have applyd to Govr. Hunter who has been kind enough to assist me with some small Supplys, as you will perceive by my Accounts but as he has no Orders in particular concerning me, I must beg the Favour of you, to give him some Direction relating thereto, in case I want his Assistance, I remain with great Respect

Syrian
Dec. 18. 1753.

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Robert Hodgson

To The Honble Tho.s Saunders Esq.
President and Governour &c.a Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I now send you Duplicate of my
last, Accompanying my Accounts for the wh
Year. and can only tell you the Thing of Co
only trifling and drawing us, for I plainly
ceive they have no Inclination to Correspond
our Demands any further than what ha

induces them to, they have frequently given Orders for ever
Thing I desird but such Orders as his People are afraid
afraid to comply with I had an Order with the Rajahs
Chop to it, for sending Boats to the Negrais, which afte
my Boats were Loaden, the Government of this Place
took the People out, took the Rajah's Order from them
sent them to the Government of Pegu who whipt them
and made them pay sixty Tical before they were Relea
at that very Time I happend to be with the Rajah,
when the People came & told me what had happend,
which gave me some concern I immediately desired
Rajah to reprimand his Government for such Treat
which he promisd to do, and likewise they should n
do so again.

The King desired I would go to desi
Gov.r Hunter to come to this Place, and on my return fro
thence I waited on the King with Gov.r Hunters Letters
him and the Rajah, whom I applyd to him for Artifi
for the Negrais, he very readily gave me an Order to M
Bounday that I wanted, and likewise one to the Ba
-day at Cocaun, to send a hundred Coolys from them
and for all the Supplies that Country could afford, I ca
away with Joy to think of the Supplys He had grantes
me, and when I came to Syrian the Bounday told me
to send what People I could get, but the People are afra
to go, for fear in their absence, the Government will ope
press their Families, as the Rajah had not mentio
their Names singularly, to satisfie them in this Bu
I promisd to indemnifie them against any thing of this
kind, and for that purpose have wrote to the Rajah
three times for such an Order as the People want, and
has wrote to the Bounday & me, but in such an Evasiv
manner that it plainly appears he does not intend
We should have them, I hope his Orders to Persaim
ke

had some better Effect than those given To me, but I have not heard how Mr. Taylor has Succeeded Therein.

My not succeeding to their desire in Gov.r Hunters coming here they have now sent Coje Nicoue on the same Errand, who has come to me and has askid my Pardon for his former Offences and has promisd he will do a great deal for the Company he is not yet returnd from the Negrais, so I cannot inform you of the Succes of this Embasy.

On the 31.st Ultimo I have discoverd a plot of Mons.r Bruno, the french Chief here, who left this Place that Day with an Intent to go to the Negrais, and has Salted Several Jarrs of Pork which he has poisond and intends to present them to Gov.r Hunter and his Officers in Order to destroy them, I hear the Italian Priest here has some hand in the Affair, but I sent an Express immediately to inform Gov.r Hunter of their Wicked Design which will arrive before Bruno, I have not discloasd this Secret as yet till he is fairly out of this River, to see whether he proceeds on his [illegible] Villany, which if he does I hope Gov.r Hunter will give him his Desert, this Secret came to me by one John Grainger an Englishman, who was under the House of Mr Bruno when he heard them preparing this Plot, and says he see them put the Poison into the Pork, and they french discovering him, Run for a Sword to stab him, on which he made his Escape and came immediately to me and informd me of this Treachery

I think their only Reason for doing so is, that they have some Design on this Place and the better to Accomplish it, they will do this Treacherous Action, for they think as Mr Hunter is so neat and ever making an Alliance with the King of Pegu will by some Means render their Scheme abortive,

this

Fort St. George January 1754.

This is all the Reason I know of they can have which I shall inform the King of Pegu of so soon as I receive advice from Gov.r Hunter.

On the 26.th of September last the Kings General Poonea Cathorn. stopp'd here in his Passage towards Ava, and enticed away Eleven of the Horrible Company's Coffreys & Eleven Lascars, I have made many Applications to the Rajah about them but can have no Redress.

The Swordrys sent on the Moors Snow, & King of Pegu's Ship I have sent to the Negrais I must desire you will be pleased to comply with the enclosed Indent and am with great Respect

Honble Sirs & Sirs
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Robert Westgarth.

Syrian —
Jan.y 2.d 1754.

The Death of Mr Hunter making it necessary that a proper Person should be appointed to succeed him in the management of affairs at the Negrais. The President proposed to the Consideration of the Board whether all Circumstances considerd. it was necessary one of the Council should be pitched upon or whether any other of the Companys Servants equally capable might not answer the Purpose as well, and after some time spent in Debate this being thought an Affair of Moment the several Members of the Board were call'd upon to deliver their Opinions in Writing, which they respectively did, as follow

I am of Opinion that it is not in the least material what Station the Person may bear in the Companys Service who is to be pitched upon to succeed Mr Hunter in the management of Affairs at the Negrais But that the Nature of the Undertaking in all Respects

by

had some better Effect than those given to me, but I have not heard how Mr. Taylor has Succeeded therein.

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I think their only Reason for doing so is, that they have some Design on this Place and the better to Accomplish it, they will do this Treacherous Action, for they think as Mr Hunter is so neat and our making an Alliance with the King of Pegu will by some Means renter their Scheme abortive,

this

39

Fort St. George January 1754.

38

This is all the Reason I know of they can have which I shall inform the King of Pegu of so soon as I receive advice from Gov.r Hunter.

On the 26.th of September last the Kings General Poonea Cahorn stopp'd here in his Passage towards Ava, and enticed away Eleven of the Honble Compys Coffreys & Eleven Lascars, I have made many Applications to the Rajah about them but can have no Redress.

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Humble Servant
Robert Westgarth.

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Jan.y 2.d 1754.

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I am of Opinion that it is not in the least material what Station the Person may bear in the Companys Service who is to be pitch'd upon to succeed Mr Hunter in the management of Affairs at the Negrais But that the Nature of the Undertaking in all Respects

be

Fort St George January 1754.

being well considerd a person of a proper Capacity amongst the Companys Servants should be appointed to conduct it.

Charles Bourchier

It is my Opinion that our Honble Masters look upon the Establishing a Settlement on the Negrais to be of great Consequence, but I do not infer from thence that it is necessary one of the Council should succeed Mr Hunter, but rather a Person skilld in Fortification and Maritime Affairs especially the Latter to be capable of Chusing a proper Place on the Island in regard to the Advantages of an Harbour for in this Particular I believe every Gentleman at the Board thinks the Company's Interest chiefly concernd and that the Prime Motive for erecting a Settlement on the Negrais was that they might have a proper and safe Place to harbour and refit their Ships in the Time of the Monsoons on the Coast with other Advantages that might accrue in time of War. From these Reasons I am induced to mention Mr Hopkins a Gentleman who has been in Pegu and is pretty well versd in the before named necessary Branches. him therefore I think a proper Person to be sent on this Expedition.

John Smith

As there is but little Probability of a Trade being carried on at the Negrais for some time all that is requird at present seems to me to be the negociating with the King of Pegue & carrying on the Settlement which I think may be done as well by a Gentleman under as one of the Council, as the Orders and Instructions from home would be known the same to one as the other. I therefore am of Opinion there is no necessity for one of the Council being sent

Alex Wynch

3

60

Fort St George January 1754.

I dont think it necessary that one of the Council should be appointed to be Mr Hunters Successor as the Company thought proper to appoint him & Mr Combes to settle at the Negrais & by the Advices from hence they will find that Mr Combes is returnd to his Station at the West Coast to which We may Expect Answer in a few Months they will in all probability pitch upon a Person themselves whom they may think Qualified for such an Undertaking for the present another Companys Servant joind with Mr Brooke to see the Works carried on and Endeavour to cultivate a Friendship with the King of Pegue which may be as well transacted by them as by one of the Council there being no appearance at present of any Trade or Manufacture to be procurd whereby the Company may reap any Advantages

Henry Bonney

As the Company in sending Mr Hunter on the Expedition to the Negrais, had neither Stationd or mentiond him of any particular Rank in their Service but without doubt thought him a proper Person to Execute such a Design, and the Question being moved, whether one of this Board should not be appointed to Succeed him. from the Important and View our Honble Masters might have of making a Settlement there, I dont conceive if any other Person could be found under Council and was Qualified for the Nature of such an Undertaking as has been hinted of a Gentlemans peculiar Capacity for this Performance / that so immediately necessary for one of us to go, since it cannot be supposd, where a Man has only been usd to their Employments of Business and Trade here, and that Place as an Infant Settlement at present entirely destitute of any such helps from him, he can be of any great Service before it is brought to some Perfection, for receiving that Advantage, which it requires an able and capable Person, who has some Knowledge

and Judgment both of Fortifications and the Situation of Ground for other natural Conveniencys to render it more usefull on the Way I apprehend it was represented, & might be Esteemd for

Charles Boddam.

As our Noble Masters by their Appointing Mr. David Hunter to conduct this Scheme, a Gentleman of years and Experience and at the same time were so very cautious to prevent its miscarrying for want of a proper Person in Case of Accident as to direct Mr. Combes another Gentleman high in their Service and as by Accounts from thence We learn Affairs are in a very precarious Situation I think this Expedition should not be trusted to a Junior Servant but that the properest Person in Council should be orderd to transact it

Thomas Saunders.

Agreed that the Opinion of Messrs. Starke Lawrence & Cooke be taken in regard to the Appointment of a Successor to Mr. Hunter at the Negrais.

General Letter from Thos. Cotes Esq. read as follows

To the Honble Thos. Saunders Esq.
President & Governour &c. & Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

Annexd is Duplicate of my last I have been ever since Soliciting the King for another Audience but cannot yet obtain it the Excuse is that Gauderoon is in Mourning on which Account no Strangers can be admitted for some Days the Major bearing of Monaje's late Successor only Body for the present offering to come himself if that is not Sufficient

sufficient. They are arrivd at Tricattypolly which the King being apprisd of has sent me a Message by Secajee desiring I would Order them to return as Monajee had quite dispersd the Enemy and his Country was now cleard; and that he believd in 15 or 20 Days his Troops would set out again to join us. The Distance he keeps me at I think does not bespeak the least Credit to this. I have insinuated the same to the Major, but am not yet acquainted with his final Resolution. My Opinion however is still the same That these Troops stir not till he and the Nabob come & make their Personal Intercession for them — Monajees late Victory was really Grand. It is affirmd that near 800 Prize Horses have been brought in & between 3 & 400 Prisoners, besides Numbers Slain in Action — I was yesterday favourd with your Letter of the 23.d Ult.o & agreable to your Commands I shall not fail to inform myself of the Kings Resolution in regard to the Proposal the first Time I see him, and acquaint you with the same immediately — as I have been kept in daily Expectation of seeing the Nabob & Major has Occasiond me to defer my Ans.r to the Dollandays last Letter, I cannot do it without first Advising with them. Of the two Choices he has given. That of his Expences I apprehend is too considerable to be engagd for, And the Fort of Trichinopoly being recommended to me as the last resource I cannot offer to mention a Word of it till I receive your Express Orders. This rendering it necessary that I should confer with the Nabob I have proposd going to him if the Army does not come here — I should most readily exert myself to the utmost towards Answering the Intent of your Commission to Me, & am only sorry to find I am so little useful on it. If the best reconciling of the Nabob & King of Tanjore were your chiefest View in sending me, The former you see was done before my Arrival as he had just before sent you the Keys you mention, and my first Letter acquainted you that I found the Latter ready to concord to any Measures except the surrendering of Trichinopoly, This alone I am particularly enjoind not to speak of but upon the last Necessity, and his Lakhkeking

Fort St. George January 1754.

must farther convince you is highly necessary to be avoided.
The Dolloway has scarce deigned to answer any of my Letters
and tho he has at Last done it what is there proffited from it
In what an Idle Situation am I there in? At a great Expence
and neither of Use to my Honble Masters or Myself. I have
been now Six Weeks waiting here to procure & hasten out
the Troops but to what purpose, My late Letters to the
Major, and his being obliged to come himself for them at last
must fully convince you. My Intercourse with the Kings
has been ever far from Common, and much more so at this
Juncture. This I conceive makes me rather detrimental
than Serviceable, as the Business that is entrusted to me
was it sent by Letter would get to him immediately, where
as I must sometimes wait for many Days before I can get
an Audience to communicate it, and even then I am
rather talking to his Prime Minister for he receives all
Questions and returns most Answers - I could wish these
Circumstances as likewise how greatly my Employ at
David requires my Presence were once seriously Conside
as I cannot think but you will see sufficient Reason to acc
me. If not I would then entreat your Permission to
only for a few Days to settle some Accounts that I have to se
to Europe by the Ships that will be now on Dispatch,
which as I have Thoughts of following them Myself in
September are of the utmost Consequence I was obliged t
omit them in October past being too much engaged in
Settling the Affairs of my Employ for this Journey. As
am well persuaded this Small Request cannot in the le
Effect the Publick Service, I promise myself that it
will meet with your kind Compliance. Inclosed is my Ac
for December, with the Original Letter from the Dolloway
I cannot send it you in English as there are some Articles
that my Linguister finds a Difficulty to Explain. If the
Sum of it differs from what I have mentioned shall be
to you to inform Me.

Fort St. George 44 January 1754.

Tanjore the
10th Jan.y 1754.

I am in due form
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedient humble Servant
Thomas Cooke.

In regard to Mr. Cooke's Request for leave to return, Agreed that it cannot be complied with at Present as it is uncertain when Mr. Palk may be able to go to Tanjore to supply Mr. Cooke's place there

The President lays before the Board the following Letters & the Country Correspondence

Letter from Major Lawrence Viz.t

To the Honble Tho.s Saunders Esq.r

Sir

This Day Ramah Naigue Arrived in Camp we waited on the Nabob together, who expressed a good deal of Satisfaction at seeing of him.

Ramah Naigue is so hoarse with a violent Cold that he can hardly speak; In two or three Days as he grows better we shall proceed to Business of which I shall inform you.

This Day a Party of Ours, which I had left at Trichinopoly, In case the King of Tanjore should want them. but he having sent me Word he had no Occasion at present for that Assistance they served to Escort a large Quantity of Provisions to the Camp and then Ford Capt.n Polier also came up with them.

Your Letters to the King & the Nabob are very well wrote, full & Satisfactory; & must prove of any Jealousy of either Side.

Along with this goes the Nabob's Answer, which gives you full Power to Act as you please & think best

I have receivd yours of the 30th Decem.r & shall answer it soon.

Fort St George January 1751.

I wish you Joy of Monagus Success which I suppose you have heard of, & is for Certain as great as re-ported.

Camp
12 Jan.y 1751.

I am
Sir
Your most Obedient humble Servant
Stringer Lawrence.

Letter from Messrs Pitt & Vansittart dated the 13 Instant advising that they had received a Letter from M. Du-pleix acquainting them that he would dispatch his Deputys on Sunday the 20th Instant

Letter from the Marquis Dupleix dated 6th Instant as entd in the French Correspondence N. 3. in Answer to the Presidents of the 9th advising that his Depu-tys will in a few Days meet ours at Sadrass, but if he persist in demanding for a Basis of the intended Negotia-tion that Mahomed Ally Caron be acknowledgd as lawful Subah of the Carnateck he shall look upon it as a declara-tion that he do not intend to treat

Agreed that our Commissarys be directed to proceed on the Instructions already given them and propose in the first place that Mahomed Ally Caron be acknowledgd for Subah of the Carnateck & that the King of Tanjore enjoy his Country in Peace & if these be Done that the Nabob will agree that some Provision be made for Rajahsaib

Two Letters from Nabob Mahomed Ally Caron one of them enclosing Copy of a Sanad to him for the Carnateck & Trichinopoly Countrys from Nabob Bachshey at Meanadu Nizam al Mulucks Ausoph Jah Shahabedy Caron Bahadr Shatta Jung Sapharalar Son to Nabob Gauzedy Caron Bahadr advising that by the same Conveyance came Letters to the King of Tanjore the Mysoreans, the Phousdars of Gingee & Carnate requiring them to act in Alliance with him. In the other Letter he gives the President full Power to conclude a Peace with the French & to Hostilitys to allow them

Fort St George Janudry 1751.

what Jaguees he may think proper & stipulate any sum of Money to be paid them

The Power from the Nabob to grant Jaguees to the French being too general, as he may hereafter alledge, should he be calld to an Account, that it was left entirely to us, agreed that the Major be desird to discourse with him & desire that he will particularly explain what Jaguees he is willing to grant them, & at the same time to intimate to him that as Bawoor & Trivedy which they are in Possession of the French lie very Inconvenient for us We should be glad if others were given them in lieu & that it would be convenient for us if Porto Nova & Porto catapellah remaind in the Hands of the Country Government as our Communication between St David & Devecotah would then be open, the dominions being in the Possession of the Cuddapah Nabob, & in regard to this place our Trade would be free if Covelong, Chingalapaud, Conjeveram & the Mout to Arcot remaind in the Hands of the Country Government

Agreed that our Commissarys at Sadraps be advisd of the Hand the Nabob has received from Pauzedy Cauns Son, to be us'd as an Argument occasionally

Letter from Jaffer Alby Cauns Nabob of Rajahmundrum &c. desiring that We will assist him with five Hundred Europeans to oppose the French expressing a strong Attachment and Friendship for the English & Enmity to the French whome he says he is determind, if We will assist him, to extirpate, that he has granted Leave in Writing to the Chief of Vizagapatam to coin Copper & that if they desire it, he will let out all the Villages around the Factory, to them.

Letter from Viziarum Rauze) advising that a Treaty of Peace was on foot between him & Jaffer Alby

Fort St. George January 1751.

Ally Cawn, that he had receivd News from Delhi that the Mogul having defeated the rebellious Vizier in a Battle wherein Pauze de Cawn's Son had Signalizide themselves he recompensid them by appointing one of them Meer Bax-shey, & on another he conferrid the Subahship of the whole Decan Country, he desires We will Supply him with one Hundred Barrells of Gunpowder, & that We will give him our Sentiments in regard to Settling the Circars in those Parts.

NB. After Ally Cawn & Viziaram Pauze have already been wrote to before the Receipt of these Letters as agreed in Consultation the 7th Instant

Tho: Saunders
Tho: Bourchier
Henry Lawrell
W Lynch
Wm Smith
W Bourchier

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22 Rec.d a Letter from the Commissarys at Sadras advising the Arrival of the french Deputys. which with all other Letters & Papers that may Pass in these Conferences are for the greater Perspicuity, ordered to be entered in a Section apart to be bound up with the French Correspondence

23 Read the following General Letters from Major Lawrence & M.r Cooke

To the Honble Tho.s Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council
of Fort S.t George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receivd your two Favours of the 30.th Dec.r & 8.th January

The minute Colonel Scott arrives I intend to give him out my Orders as Commanding the Army, which I will resign to him, and stay with him as a Volunteer a few Days if he Chuses; to make him acquainted with some things necessary for him to know. I believe this Method will prevent any Misunderstanding between us.

I have acquainted You in my last Letter the Reason why I Stopp.d my Intended March. However I sent a Party as far as Tricitapoly, in order to bring up a Quantity of Provisions, and also to let the King know that party was under his Orders. But he sent me Word he had no occasion for them but sent Provisions as I desired. The Detachment returnd and brought every thing up under their Escort. with Capt.n Eblet. Had I marched I had followd your Method in leaving the Fort out of Danger, by a strong Garrison, and marching with the Remainder to the Tanjore Country I am still ready if you think proper to move that way

I could wish at the same time Madgore

Fort St. George January 1754.

send me Copys of the King of Tanjores Letters. Mark you would please to let me be acquainted with the Contents of Succoji's

I have got the Nabob's Consent to the Consent to the French Officers going away upon their Parole. The Instrument drawn up for them to sign shall be sent up to you he has thought proper to write to the King of Tanjore first and make him acquainted with his Design

Capt. Schaub's Allowance of half Batta I must own I think Sufficient. That was once given him on Account of the Additional Expence he might be at in an Enemy's Town. But I think his Situation compard with his Brother Officers in Camp, where they are obligd upon the whole to pay for Cooleys, and the other Expences attending a Campaign, he will be found to be much better off an Augmentation therefore is not my Opinion. His Bonard to the Moors for their Fidelity, I cannot help Looking on it, but as an Act of piece of generosity. I think the reviving their Pay they do, & the Engagements they are under to us, when be of Sufficient Force to make them faithfull to without any Reward for barely doing their Duty. But as the Gentlemans Action has been solely intended for the good of the Service; In Consideration of that he might be defrayd the Expence he has been at for their Time. Letting him know our Opinions of the Subject

I suppose you have been misinformed of Capt. Campbells Affair with Mr. Dupleix, who has assurd me Strongly on the Contrary. As the Report has given that Gentleman a great deal of uneasy-ness. I think some Pains ought to be taken to let him know that you are Satisfyd of Falshood of it. Concerning the Horse I shall enquire about it.

I have receivd your Accounts of the

Fort St George January 17th 1754.

reinforcement.

There is a young Gentleman at Deve Cotah his Name is Blaction who has been appointed by you to do Ensign's Duty. I should be obligd to you if you would grant him a Commission by all Accounts he is very deserving of it he would willingly come to Camp but as he is of use at Deve Cotah I hope his being kept there will be no Bar to his Preferment

I took the Liberty of opening a Letter addressd to Mr Saunders from the Moguls Vackeel for fear there might be any thing in it we should know immediately. I have forwarded it some time ago.

I have sent the Bill to Succojee Naik and shall inform you when it is paid.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
and most
Humble Servant

Stringer Lawrence

Camp
16th Jan.y 1754.

To the Honble Thos. Saunders Esqr.
President & Governour &c. Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

My last to you was under date the 12th Inst. of which the annexd is Duplicate. Therein referred to your Honour &c. the answering the Dollonays Letter to Me. His Demands being such as I know not what to say to them. However upon further Reflection as it would be ill Manners were I not to make some Reply to him, I have wrote him this Day as p Copy inclosed being intended for Form sake only. The Major informs me that the Nabob still says he is unable to raise any ready Money & that he has no other Method of

complying with Morarow's Proposal but to apply to you

Tanjore
15th Jan.y 1754.

I am in due Form
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obed.t humy Servt
Thomas Cooke.

NB. The Purport of Mr Cookes Letter to the Dollaway is that he thinks his Demands Extraordinary. that of being paid all his Expences to this Time is quite unreasonable & Asks the Sordar is the Moguls.

24. a General Letter to Major Lawrence having been prepared before the Receipt of the foregoing an Addition is now made thereto & sent by Tappies also General Letters to Messrs Starke & Cooke Viz.t

To Stringer Lawrence Esq.r Commander in Chief
of all the Companys Forces in India

Sir.

We wrote you under Dat the 16th Inst. since which the President has received your Letter of the 12th Inst. as also one from the Nabob inclosing Copy of a Sanad said to come from Gazee-ud-eenns Son Nabob Bachshey at Murralick Accepts Sah Nizam Mulluck Shahubedy Cannt Behader Phatha Jung Sapadar for the Carnateck.

The Nabob in general Terms says he is obedt always to our Advice & will agree to any thing we may do, as this is an Affair of Consequence the Expression seems too loose, for should he be hereafter callid to an Account he may possibly alledge he was oblidged by us to do it, as no Confidence is to be plaed in these Eastern Princes, We think Caution is necessary, & as he is well acquainted with the particular Jagueers & their Value, which the French have, it seems requisite he should mention what he would be content to allow them, and as Banoor & Trivady lie very inconvenient to Us, to give them for their Stead, & if Porto Nova & Vencatapettah remaind in the Hands of the Country Government, as Chellumbrum belongs to the Nabob of Cuddapah the Communication between Fort St. David & Fort Cotchi would be open, and in regard to this Place, if Covelam, Chingalepaut Carim[illegible] & the Route to Arcot were not encroachd on, our

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In the would not be confind. Please to communicate this to him and desire speedy Answer.

We have already advisd you that the Nabobs Request was no less than 2½ Lacks, which We are not able to comply with, if Abdul Cairn & Mazabulla Cairn acted justly by him, the Country in their Possession would furnish a much larger Sum.

Inclosd is Copy of Letters to the Nabob and King of Tanjore & of one from Mr. Dupleix acquainting us that his Commissarys will be at Madrass the 20th he will contest the Nabobs Rights, submits it to the Examination of the Comonissarys, and says he will stand to the Decision of Salabat Jung, in regard to the King of Tanjore says he is ready to make Peace with him, if he will lay down his Arms: this We think absolutely objecting to the Basis We propose & without his acceeding to it, no Peace can ensue. We have answerd him before that We look'd upon Salabat Jungs Decision as Arbitrary, for if granted that Salabat Jung was Prince of the Decan, he is overawd by an Army & therfore not at Liberty to decide, and that as the Nabob certainly had a Sanad from Nazir Jung for the Carnateek which was never disputed by any but Chunda Saib & his Allies & would have & would have enjoyd it peaceably, We think his Right is indisputable & requires no further Examination; & in regard to the King of Tanjore, he cannot be treated with seperately, He is an Ally to the Nabob & consequently must be included in the general Treaty.

You will remark in Mr Dupleix's Letter that the King of Tanjore had sent a Vacqueel & wrote Letters to him concerning Race the Nabob & We have never been acquainted with it, and may therefore look upon it as a Breach of Friendship, Mr Cooke writes us he rejects the Proposals of settling Affairs with the Dollorway & delays sending his Troops, as this is a very critical Juncture We are of Opinion if you could do it, your marching to Tanjore and with the Nabob, intimating that it was for the sake of his Country as well as the Nabobs Interest, & at his desire that the War was proceeded in might have a good Effect.

By the Companys Ship Dragon from Bengal yesterday, & in five or Six Days to proceed to the West Coast, came Military Officers Lieutenant Richard Bishop, Ensign Francis Hayes and Lieutenant Lawrence Witherington of the Train, they will proceed to St. David in order to go to Camp by the first Opportunity.

By the Cuddalore Sloop just arrivd from the Negrais We are advisd of the Death of Mr. Hunter the 22d Ultimo. The place is very unhealthy & Provision Scarce, the Treaty with the King not ratifyd & he seems not very inclinable to do it. The Works advance but slowly as most of the Natives are

Fort St George January 1754.

sick or dead. We should be glad of your Opinion who you think a proper person to succeed him there are the Sentiments of Coun[cil] Mr Percival & Mr Hopkins We are Sir

Your most Obed[t] Servants

Thomas Saunders &c[a]

Fort St George
the 23 Jan[y] 1754.
To Stringer Lawrence Esq[r] Comm[r] in Chief &c[a]

Sir

Since closing the foregoing Letter We have receiv[d] your[s] ...
We have wrote to Bengal for Colonel Scot to ... over ...
If upon perusing our Sentiments in regard to ... the King ...
Tanjore you concurr in them and nothing may ... more happ[y] ...
to make such a Step dangerous, We think yours & ... Nabob ...
=ing to Tanjore & talking with the King may ... a good ...
If any thing of Consequence had been conceivd in ... letter to ...
=ps Naigue; the Copies would have been transmitted ... but as ...
represented in the French Interest they were no more ... have ...
of Compliment referring him to the King for the rest. ... Pondy ...
We with you think Capt[n] Schaub Dismissed ... ...
& shall therefore not comply with it. ... ...
Since Capt[n] Schaub's arrival here, Happears ... ...
only Signd M[r] Dupleix's hand. ... ...
We have just received a letter from Mess[rs] Calliaud ... ...
=sing that the Reverend Father Lavaur & Mess[rs] de Bausset & Kerjean ...
French Commissarys are arrivd at Ladonk, & that the King of ...
=sore's Vackeel & two other french Gentlemen were expected ...
so that if our Proposals for a Basis are granted the Treaty will be ...
General, We shall constantly Advise you of what occurs. We are ...

Sir

Your most obedient & Servants

Tho[s] Saunders
Charles Boddam
Henry Bonney
Alex[r] Wynch
John Smith
Charles Bourchier

To

Fort St George
the 24 Jan[y] 1754

Sir

Since closing the foregoing Letter We have received ... Letter ...
to be Duly as we are Informed Sent Capt[n] Schaub ... Letter ...
not been ingrossed & Sign'd Consequently ...

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...taby Deputy
Governour of Fort St. David

Sir By the Cuddalore Sloop takely arrivd from the Negrais we are informd of the Death of Mr. Hunter the 24th Ultimo, We desire your Opinion who you think a proper Person to succeed him there are the Gentlemen of Council Mr. Perceval and Mr. Hopkins

We are

Sir

Your Affectionate Friends & Servants

Thomas Saunders
Charles Boddam
Henry Bonney
Alex. Wynch
John Smith
Charles Bourchier

Fort St. George
the 24th Jan. 1754.

To Thomas Cooke Esqr.

Sir We have receivd your Letters of the 10th 12th & 15th Instant with your Accounts & Copies of Letters.

The Apparances from us & the late Success of Monajee should move think make the thing easy, but by what you write & what We hear, there is Reason to believe the French are negotiating, & We wish it has not proceeded to a great Length; his desiring the Troops might return shews a Coldness that would cause Suspicion. As all offers of accomodating Affairs with the Dollavoy Offers that took their Rise from him have been rejected, what is to be done but his joining the Army, for We dont imagine he will readily do, whilst a Conference with the French subsist & the most likely Means to effect it, is, as you observe the Major & Nabob's marching as to the Morattas, you write as he had already flown off from the Proposal & the Nabob says he is not to be trusted, What then can be expected from him, and even if he agreed to it We cannot raise 2 ℔ ... which is the Sum the Nabob desires of us. If Abdul Cob Cawn and Nozabulla Cawn acted honestly by him, We are persuaded they might furnish him with that Sum.

Please to acquaint the King that 'tis above a Month since his Vachell has been desird to receive the Salt Petre & Lead which is

Fort St George January

is not yet done. As the French Comissarys are coming
is very uncertain when Mr Pulk can proceed to Camp, We
therefore cannot yet write you concerning your Return.

By Advices received within these few Days from
the Negrais We are informd of Mr Hunters Death. We desire
your Opinion who you think a proper Person to succeed him for
are the Gentlemen of Council, Mr Perceval & Mr Hopkins.
We are,

Fort St George
the 24th Jan.y 1754.

Sir
Your Affectionate Friends
Tho.s Saunders & Council

Major Lawrence in his Letter of the 16th Instant having fully explaind himself in regard to the manner in which he proposes to act on Collonel Scotts Arrival here, & the Opinion of the Gentlemen of Council having been taken thereon, it was agreed To write for Collonel Scott & General Letters to the President & Council of Bengal & to the Coll.e were accordingly this Day sent as enterd in the Copy Book of Letters sent N.o 10 & 11.

At a Consultation Present

Monday
the 28th Jan.y

Thomas Saunders Esq.r Govern.r Pres.t &c
Charles Boddam, Henry Bonney
Alex.r Wynch, John Smith
Charles Bourchier

General Letters for Major Lawrence read &
Mr Cooke read as follow

To the
Right Honble Thomas Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

My last was of the 16th Instant since
which a Vackeel from Bollygerow has arrivd here to the
Nabob, with Offers to send to his Assistance any Number of

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of Horse from 20,000 downwards. He says he is convinc'd of the English Bravery; and the French are not, what they talk themselves off for. He desires the Nabob to send him Word for what number he Chuses, & that they shall be with him in a Month Time. These Offers are very advantageous if Sincere, & this Friendship worth the Cultivating.

I take the Opportunity of a Party I send to Carnicorneare; (to meet Capt.n Lascall & his reinforcement) to send you Capt.n Kilpatricks returns. That Gentlemans Wound is still open & the Bones continue exfoliating very often.

Capt.n Gaupe goes down with this Party on his way to Fort St. Davids, to see if a change of Air will be of Service to him to recover the use of his Leg, & for his Health which is much impair'd.

Mr. Spears has declar'd himself unfit for the Field, (as indeed I think he is) & at his Request I have put him in Garrison at Trichinopoly.

Capt.n Howes has been so good at my Request, to take the Care of the Troops on himself; he is very capable of it, & the only Officer amongst us that has served in the Horse. In a short Time he will be able to make them as compleat a Body as their Numbers will

Danish of

I am

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient & most humble Servt

Stringer Lawrence

amps the
th January 1754.

ver.

To the Honble Tho.s Saunders Esq.r
President & Governour &c.a Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I receivd yesterday a Letter from Mr. Cooke, informing me that his Health was so bad, that he was obliged to go from Tanjore without waiting