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Monday
6th January

At a Committee Present
Josias Du Pré Esq^r Governor President
Warren Hastings, Samuel Ardley

The following Letters were this Day
signed & dispatched.

To the Hon^{ble} William Hornby Esq^r
President & Governor, &c. Gentlemen of the
Select Committee at Bombay
Hon^{ble} Sir & Sirs

Letter to Select Com-
mittee at Bombay ad-
vising them of the Sen-
timents & Orders of the
Company on the pre-
sent State of Affairs.

In our Letter of the 10th Ultimo, a Dupli-
cate of which comes herewith, We advised you of the Motions
of the Mahrattas, of their Demands of Assistance, of the
Nabob's Desire that we should comply therewith, of the Ex-
pectation we were in of receiving Orders from the Company
with Respect to the Measures to be taken: and of our Reso-
lution in the mean time to hold ourselves in Readiness, but
to keep still until those Orders arrived, unless the
Country was actually attacked. We are now to acquaint
you that the long expected Orders are arrived, & it is with
Pleasure We find that the temporizing Conduct We have
observed with Respect to the Mahrattas & Hyder Ally is en-
tirely approved by the Court of Directors — they earnestly re-
commend that we continue to avoid, if possible taking part
with either, and to confine ourselves solely to the Protection of
the Carnatic & the Company's Possessions in it. Under these
Circumstances we have it not in our power to afford any
Assistance to Hyder Ally, and altho' We much dread the
Consequences of his entire Reduction by the Mahrattas.

We

Fort St. George 6th Jan^y 1772

We cannot be justified in interfering in their Quarrel

We hope this Letter may reach you, before you shall have come to any final Determination upon the Answer you may receive from Hyder Ally, or at least before you shall have taken any Measures or given him any Assurances in Consequence for altho' the Company's Orders to you & the State of your affairs might justify your opposing the Mahrattas by assisting Hyder Ally against them yet it is possible that you would be obliged to assist after having begun for we must inform you that His Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary has communicated to us his Intention of averting the Distress with which the Mahrattas threaten this Province by a Negotiation with them, which may possibly end in a National Treaty of Peace & Friendship, and we are of opinion that in Case such a Treaty should take place the Company cannot lawfully appear in Arms against them. We shall advise you constantly of the progress of this Negotiation, for if it should not terminate in such a Peace it must end in an Invasion of this Province. In such an Event, as it would be impossible for us to prevent the Ravage of this Province even with all our Forces, and we cannot from hence carry the war into the Mahratta Country. We think a respectable Part of our Forces sent round to you might in Conjunction with yours, and assisted by His Majesty's Squadron, be employed to advantage; it would be Presumption in us to propose a Plan as you must be more competent Judges of what may be effected on your Side, but we have suffered ourselves to think that the Mahrattas might be distressed in their Navy & Seaports and as their Capital is not many Days March from your Coast - perhaps even that, might not be

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be beyond the Reach of a vigorous Effort. These Considerations however We submit to you. If such a Plan should take place, as the greatest part of our Forces is now at Trichinopoly, We should think it best to march a Detachment of four or five hundred Europeans with two good Battalions of Sepoys to Anjengo where the Squadron might take them on board & proceed to Bombay. We are

Hon^{ble} Sir & Sirs

Fort St. George
6th Jan^y 1772

your most obedient humble Servants
Jos: Du Pré & Co. Committee

To Peter Erwin Wrench Esq^r
Chief & Co. Factors at Anjengo
Gentlemen.

Letter to Anjengo
enclosing the fore-
going

Enclosed is a Packet addressed to the Select Committee at Bombay, which we request you will forward with all Expedition. We are

Gentlemen

Fort St. George
6th Jan^y 1772

your most obedient humble Servants
Jos: Du Pré & Co. Committee

Draft of Letter to
Trimbuckrow
communicated to
the Nabob - His
Remarks thereon

The President informs the Committee that He communicated to the Nabob the Draft of the Letter proposed to be wrote to Trimbuckrow - Who expressed his Apprehensions that it might be attended with one of these two Consequences - VIZ - either, that it might induce Hyder Ally to make up Matters with the Mahrattas, in which Case they would probably leave 10,000 Horse in the Mysore Country, and enter the Carnatic in Conjunction with him; when neither would acknowledge themselves to be the

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the Principals and the Country would be entirely ravaged & laid Waste:— Or, that Hyder Ally might be reduced when we might be assured that the Mahrattas would take Revenge on the Carnatic for our not having sent them any Assistance— The Nabob therefore proposed to acquaint Trimbuckrow, that he had done all in his Power to prevail on us to send the Company's Troops: but that the Orders we had received would not permit us— That as a proof of his Friendship to Madavarow, he was ready to send his own Troops, provided he obtained a formal Renunciation of all Demands of Chout, and a Cession of Syringapatam, conformable to Agreement— The Nabob further observed that his Troops could be of very little Service, and that he did not think Trimbuckrow would accept of the Offer of them— To which the President replied that the Nabob had already been informed of the Sentiments of the Board on this Subject, but as he now thought proper to resume the same, he would take the Opinion of the Committee thereon, & communicate the same to him.

Observations of the
Committee in consequence

The Committee having taken the above Proposal of the Nabob into Consideration, are of Opinion, that they cannot deviate from the Line they have laid down for their Conduct— They are fully sensible of the many & dangerous Consequences to be apprehended from the least Appearance of a Separation of Interests between the Nabob & the Company; & which not only the Mahrattas, but every other Power would be ready to avail themselves of— But as we have repeatedly told the Nabob, his Troops & Revenues are his own, we have not, nor do we pretend to have any Controul over him or them. He must be left

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to act as He shall judge best for the Security of his own Country - all we can do is to advise, to remonstrate, to represent to him the Dangerous Consequences of such a Measure - and if after all, the Nabob shall determine to adopt it, and to send his own Troops, it will be necessary to request he will return the Company's Officers & Soldiers now doing Duty with them.

The Committee cannot avoid observing that the Proposal of the Nabob to stipulate for the Cession of Syringapatam to him as recited in the foregoing Conference, explains a Passage in the Letter from Trimbuckrow to him received the 4th Dec^r. N^o 170 which the Committee did not before comprehend - to wit - "I understood from Mora Row it was your fixed Intention to join in the Circar's Affairs, & to have your Revenge on your Enemies, and after taking Syringapatam &c. places from the Enemy to give them to the Circar" - This is ^{the} more worthy of Remark, as it is a proof of the secret Negotiations carrying on by the Nabob and in some Measure accounts for his earnest Solicitations to us to send our Troops to the Assistance of the Mahrattas.

Agreed that the foregoing Minutes be communicated to the Council who are now assembled.

For the Bre

Warren Hastings.

Samuel Holley

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Wednesday
15th Jan^y 1772

At a Committee Present
Josias Du Pré Esq^r Governor President
Warren Hastings Samuel Ardley

The Committee now proceed to take into Consideration the Instructions of the Court of Directors as contained in their Commands of 22^d March 10th & 25th April last respecting the Nabob's Debt to the Company & his private European Creditors, & the Mode of carrying the same into Execution for which Purposse the Committee think it necessary to make a brief Recital of what has passed on the Subject that the whole may appear at one view.

Upon Reference to the Minutes of Consultation of 11th April 1768 it will appear that the Nabob entered into a formal Agreement to bear all the Charges of the War against Hyder Ally; thus he was induced to from the Expectations he had entertained of the Advantages he would derive therefrom - After the Peace with Hyder Ally when the accounts of the War came to be adjusted, the Board did not think it proper to insist on the strict Performance of the Nabob's Promise, as the War had terminated unfortunately and therefore ordered that the Charges should be kept under the distinct Head of War with Hyder Ally untill the orders of the Court of Directors could be obtained with Respect to the Proportion to be borne by the Nabob; of this they were advised in the separate Letter from the Board of 27th June 1769 p^d Thomas when it was recommended as the most equitable mode of adjusting them that $\frac{2}{3}$ should be defrayed by the Nabob.

2. Cons. 17th April 1769

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Nabob, and $\frac{1}{3}$ by the Company: which Proportion was formed from a Supposed Estimate of the Revenues proposed by each. — Upon the Receipt however of the Company's Orders of 17th March 1769 directing the Adjustment & Liquidation of the Nabob's Debt to the Company and to individuals, it became necessary to fix on a Sum to be demanded of the Nabob including his old Debt to the Company, and the Proportion to be borne by him of the Mysore War, but as the exact Amount could not be ascertained at that time, it was resolved that the Balance of his old Account should be estimated at 12 Lacks of Pagodas, & his Proportion of the Mysore War at 10 Lacks, making together 22^d Lacks of Pagodas, which Sum it was resolved to demand of the Nabob, & to acquaint him that as this was only an estimated Account it must be subject to future Adjustment. It is needless here to enter into a Recital of the Difficulties the Committee met with in bringing him to any Terms of Agreement; they are fully set forth in the Proceedings of the Committee from September 1769 to January 1770 — When the Nabob consented to pay the Company 25 Lacks of Pagodas in certain stated ⁺ Rists by the End of June 1771 — This Sum of 25 Lacks was, when paid to be placed to the Credit of the Nabob in a general Account to be adjusted at a future time when we should receive from the Court of Directors their Determination in Respect to the Charges of the Mysore War. It was necessary to leave this Account thus open, because the Nabob was really answerable for the whole & the Board could not know at that time whether the Company would consent to relieve him of any part of it.

Vid. Committee 3^d Nov^r 1769

Vid. Comm. { 9th Dec^r 1769
16th Jan^y 1770

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is plain therefore that some part of the Mysore Charges would have been cleared off had the 25 Lacks been paid because the old Ballance of the Nabob's Account of Carnatic Charges and the Current Expences on the same Account to the 30th June 1771 could not amount to so much. — Of this Adjustment the Court of Directors were advised by the Britannia. The Nabob fulfilled his Engagements to the End of June 1770 — the next List being three Lacks of Pagodas, did not become due till the end of September 1770 in the mean time Reports prevailed in the Settlement, & were indeed mentioned by those who might be supposed to be acquainted with the Sentiments of the Court of Directors that the Company intended to take the whole of the Charges of the Mysore War upon themselves — Their Orders to us of the 23rd March 1770 which were received here the 15th September in some Measure confirmed those Reports; as it appears thereby that they had conceived an Opinion that this Government had made the Company the Principals in the War & that the Nabob had been dragged into it contrary to his Inclination. — and such was their extreme Caution in this Affair that they did not even empower the Commissioners finally to determine thereon, but directed them to investigate & enquire into the Rise & Progress of the War, to make their Report to the Court of Directors who reserved to themselves the ultimate Decision: — By these Orders this Government was prohibited from making any further Demands on the Nabob on Account of the Charges of the War: all they could Demand from him was the Amount of the Current Charges as they became due. — And the Court of Directors were accordingly advised

Vis. Sup. Genl. Letter
23 March 1770 Par. 8 & 13

Vis. Dett. Par. 30

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advised by the Lapwing under Date 12th Oct^r that having received no Intimation from the Nabob respecting the 3 Lacks of Pagodas which he had agreed to pay by the 30th Sept^r we should let that Month run out, when, if we heard nothing from him we should apply to him to know his Intention regarding the Money we might expect to receive from him. The Nabob was accordingly applied to on the Subject and in answer thereto he acquainted us that in Case of Peace & Tranquility he would pay two Lacks the Amount of the Current Charges in January and one Lack in February, in the Int^r by which time Letters might arrive from England or if they should not, & the Company should have Occasion for a further Supply he would assist us in Case of Peace & Tranquility as far as 10 Lacks of Pagodas on our giving him strong Vouchers for the same. — Upon Reference to the Proceedings of this Committee & of the Board of 4th & 5th Feby^r 1771 the Nabob's Request to be permitted to pay the above 10 Lacks to his Creditors which he had promised to assist the Company with by way of Loan will appear, as also the Reasons of the Board for acquiescing therewith. — The Court of Directors in their Letter of the 30th Nov^r 1770 received here the 11 June last advise us of their good Disposition to an Accommodation with the Nabob's private Creditors and propose the Terms — The Reasons which induces the Committee to be of opinion that they could not in Consequence of those Orders make any Alteration in the Arrangement which had already been settled & agreed on with the Nabob will appear by our Proceedings of 15th June.

The foregoing is a brief Recital of what has passed on this Subject previous to the Receipt

Comm^{rs}: 31 Oct. 1770
Letter to 26 Nov. 1770

Letter from 28 Nov. 1770
Committee 13 Dec^r

Letter to Sub. Comm^{rs}
30 Nov. 1770 Pars. 9-10.

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of the Orders of the Court of Directors now under Consideration.

By their Commands to this Committee of the 22^d March 1771 We are Directed to interest ourselves with the Nabob to obtain speedy Payment of the Interest due to his Private Creditors - and afterwards the Principal untill the whole be Discharged.

We are to pay the Amount to such Trustee as shall be nominated and authorised by the Creditors & approved by the Nabob, "for the purposes of receiving the same from our President & of paying it to the Creditors".

The first Point established is - That all Money which shall be paid by the Nabob for his Creditors be paid to the President.

The next Measure in consequence is - That the Creditors do nominate Trustees for the above Purposes, and that the Nabob approve them and this must be done formally in writing that so the President may safely receive from the Nabob and pay over to such Trustees for the said Purposes.

The Propositions are now read - together with the Letter to this Committee of 10th April 1771 by the 22^d Paragraph of which We are enjoined, if the Nabob attempt to recede from his Stipulations respecting the Payment of his Debts - on no Account to relax in our Applications to him on that Subject - We are to apply to His Majesty's Minister not to impede the Nabob's Payment to the Company & his Creditors - and we are to use our good Offices with the

Nabob

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Nabob to obtain Payment of the whole that is due to the Subjects of Great Britain & to the Company.

The Letter of the 25th April 1771 is read — All that We can gather from the said Letter is — that we are to endeavor to prevail on the Nabob to make good those Lists, if he has not done it already, and then proceed to the Division agreeable to the Propositions of the Creditors of March 1771 — But whether We can or cannot prevail on him, those Propositions are to be our Basis.

The Case now stands thus.

By the Agreement of December 1769
The Nabob should have paid to June 1770 13 Lacks
From June 1770 to June 1771 12 Lacks
25 Lacks

He paid to June 1770 1300881. 23. 61

He refused to pay the Lists from June 1770 to June 1771 — But we insisted on him thereof that He should pay all the Current Charges, and accordingly he paid at sundry times

between June 1770 and June 1771 105602. 21. 41

So that the whole Sum paid to the 30th June 1771 amounts to Page 1706484. 9. 22

By the Propositions Article 3 & 4 in Case the Nabob had paid the 25 lacks to June 1771. twenty lacks were to be reserved to the Company, and we were to give Bonds to the Creditors for 5 lacks, and to take assignments from them of Nabob's Bonds to the Amount of 5 Lacks — The next thing in that Case to be done was, that all Current Charges were first to be paid, and when they were

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were completely paid, then, whatever should be further received was to be divided between the Company and the Creditors in Proportion to their Demands on the Nabob.

But this Can has not taken place and it is provided that then the following shall be the Rule.

If the Nabob should not have paid 25 Lacks to the 30th June 1771 - then, as far as fifteen Lacks to be first paid and retained to the Company's own Use - and all that shall have been paid over & above fifteen Lacks to the time of the Receipt of these Advices at Madras (NB, received the 22^d August 1771) to be divided between the Company & Creditors in the following Ratio - Vizt. as 10 is to the Surplus Sum paid by the Nabob, so is 5 to the Creditors Dividend: or in other Words to be equally divided - Company's Bonds bearing an Interest of 8 p Cent are to be given to the Creditors for their Proportion on their making Assignments to the Company of Nabob's Bonds to an equal Amount.

NB. This Division is taken from the Copy of the Propositions received from the Company - it differs from that which the Creditors are in Possession of, which runs that the Division is to be made in Proportion to their Demands on the Nabob, provided their Proportion do not exceed five Lacks.

After this Division so made, Vizt. of all that shall have been received to the 22^d August over and above 15 Lacks - then Current Charges are to be first paid - and then all that shall be received after that to be divided between the Company and Creditors in Proportion to

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to their Demands.

It has been before said
that the Sum paid by the Nabob to 30th

June 1770 amounted to 1300881. 23. 61

and from 30th June 1770 to 30th June 1771 405602. 21. 11

From 30th June 1771 to 22^d Aug^r 1771 the
Day of the Receipt of the Letter of the 22^d

March 1771 & the Propositions 126606. 1. 17

Total Sum received 1833090. 13. 69

From which deduct the stipulated Sum
to be first paid, and retained by the

Company 1500000. —. —

To be divided between the Company
& Creditors as $\text{\textit{P}}^{\text{\textit{r}}}$ Par. 5 of Propositions 333090. 13. 69

That is to say, in equal Proportions to each 166545. 6. 7 1/2

The above Adjustment is according to
the Letter of the Propositions, but as they seem to have been
founded on an Opinion that the Nabob, far from paying
off any of his Principal to his Creditors between Decem-
ber 1769 (the Time of the Agreement to pay 25 Lacks to
the Company) & the 30th June 1771, would not even
have paid off all the Interest, because the very first
Article of the Propositions expresses that the Court of Directors
shall send Orders to us to use our good Offices with the
Nabob in order to obtain immediate Payment of such
Interest as may be due to his European Creditors.

If therefore between December 1769 &
22^d August 1771 The Nabob should have paid to his Cre-
ditors more than the Interest on his Bonds, it should seem
that

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that such Surplus, whatever it be should be added to the Sum received by the Company exceeding 15 Lacks, and the whole to be then divided in equal Proportion between the Company & the Creditors.

The Sum received by the Company ^{exceeding the fifteen Lacks} from Dec^r

1769 to 22^d August 1771 amounts to 333090, 13, 69

The Creditors have received more than the Interest on their Bonds to that Period

To be divided between the Company and the Creditors in equal Proportion

The Creditors shall, for which We are to give Company's Bonds at 8% Cent on receiving Assignments of Nabob's Bonds to that Amount

What remains to be done after this Adjustment?

1st All Moneys received from the Nabob are to be applied in the first Place to the Reimbursement of Current Charges not exceeding four Lacks p^a Annum in Peace & whatever it be in war.

2nd We must Interest ourselves to obtain Payment regularly to the Creditors of the Interest as it shall become due on this Debt.

N.B. This is doubtful - that is to say, whether after the Payment of the Current Charges, what may be further received shall be in the first Place applied to the Payment of Interest, or whether it shall, without regard to Interest be divided as directed in the next Article.

Art. 3^d All further Sums received shall be immediately

Divided

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divided as $\S$ Article 6 of the Propositions between the Company & the Creditors in proportion to their respective Demands on the Nabob.

The favorable Disposition the Court of Directors have manifested towards the Creditors and the Desire they express to afford them all the Relief in their Power consistently with the Interest of the Company & to obviate any Inconvenience or Distress the Creditors might suffer by not having their Interest regularly paid them (vid. Letter 30th Nov^r 1770 Par. 12) induce the Committee to be of opinion, that it was the Intention of the Court of Directors that after Payment of the Current Charges, the Creditors should in the next Place receive the Interest due on their Bonds, and then that the surplus be divided between the Company & the Creditors as above Directed in Article 6 of the Propositions.

It remains next to be considered what is to be the Specific Sum assumed as the Company's Demand on the Nabob?

We propose to the Company to divide the Charges of the Mysore War into thirds & to take on themselves one third, & leave two thirds to the Nabob — The whole Charge as it now stands on the general Books under the Head of War with Hyder Ally amounts to — — — — — $\text{Pag. } 1607571, 8, 50$
 $\frac{1}{3}$ for the Company's Proportion $535857, 2, 70$
 $\frac{2}{3}$ for the Nabob's D^y — — — — — $1071714, 5, 60$

 $1607571, 8, 50$

But the Court of Directors have not informed

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informed us whether they approve or not of this Mode of Adjustment — In their letter of 25 April 1771 Par: & they say The Nabob's faith stands pledged to them for ten Lacks of Pagodas on Account of the said War.

It seems then that ten lacks of Pagodas should be the Sum: we should assume as the specifick Demand to be now made on the Nabob on Account of the Mysore War — Altho' the Matter in Reality is not, as above recited by the Court of Directors: for the Nabob never agreed or pledged his faith for a specifick Sum as his Proportion — We did not think ourselves authorized to depart from the Agreement he entered into the 11th April 1768 to bear the whole Charges — we only proposed, but never agreed or stipulated that the Company should bear one third: — the ultimate Decision was left to the Court of Directors.

If this arrangement be conformable to the Propositions; then we must in the first Place insist on the Payment of our Current Charges at stated Periods — suppose six Months — In which Case we must receive what is due to the end of October last, & then we may stop the Receipt of Current Charges till 30th April next — The Creditors may in the mean time receive what may be due to them for Interest — all above that, must be divided as above proposed.

Agreed that the foregoing Minutes be laid before the Board, & if approved by them that the Arrangements be communicated to the Nabob, & if he agrees to them that a Meeting of the Nabob's Creditors be summoned, that the Arrangements may be laid before them;

and

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and that they may nominate Trustees.

Read a Letter from the Nabob as inserted in Country Correspondence N^o 9 in answer to the Presidents of the 11th Instant on the Subject of the Nabob's Proposal of sending his own Troops to the Assistance of the Mahrattas - setting forth that as we have represented that such a Measure would have the Appearance of a Separation of Interests it is not his wish to take any Course which may be considered as such - representing his Inability to furnish any thing towards the Support of the Army in Case of a Mahratta Invasion, except the Provisions laid up in the different Forts, and the Ballance remaining due from him of the 4 Lacks of Pagodas. Enclosing Draught of a Letter proposed by the Nabob to be wrote to Trimbuckrow N^o 10 - To which a Draught of an Answer N^o 12 is now prepared.

The Honble Court of Directors having in the 2^d Paragraph of their Commands to this Committee of the 10th April 1771 directed that We open all the Packets under the Commissioners Address in our Custody, the Committee now proceed to open that received of Quin the 14th June & that of Asia received the 22^d August last, which are found to agree with the Lists transmitted with the respective Packets & contain original & duplicate of the Letter from the Court of Directors to the Commissioners of 30th Nov^r 1770 - with Copies of other Letters & papers before received.

For the Court

Wm. Hastings.
Sam. Artley

19 Fort St. George 2^d Feb^y 1772

This Morning M^r. Hastings embarked on board the
Minerva for Bengall.

The following Letter from M^r. Cartier
to the President is now entered.

To the Honble Josias Du Pre Esq^r

Sir

Letter from M^r. Cartier
containing the Account
brought by Capt. Russell
sent to procure Intel-
ligence of the French
Settlements at Ma-
dagascar.

I must acknowledge myself to have been
deficient in not before addressing you, but the Cause has
been a want of Subject sufficiently interesting to claim
your Attention. I am now furnished with Matter of
a public Nature, which it may be interesting & satisfac-
tory for you to know, and which I take up the Pen with
Pleasure to communicate.

The Court of Directors having re-
commended in their General Letter to Us of the 1769
that We should send a Vessel in order to discover the French
Strength and what Settlements they had made on the Island
of Madagascar, the Secret Department took this Matter
into Consideration in March last, and determined that the
Amazon Snow, a Vessel belonging to the Company should
be sent on this Service. Captain Lockhart Russell of the
Engineer Corps on the Bombay Establishment, whom We
had requested of the Bombay Gentlemen to detain, in order
to assist Lieutenant Colonel Campbell in carrying on the
Works here, was recommended by that Gentleman, as a
very proper Person to conduct this Enterprise. He was
accordingly pitched upon, and received his Instructions
from me.

After an Absence of more than six
Months

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Months, he returned to this place the Beginning of the present Month, and presented me with a Detail of his Transactions: by which it appears that he has employed much Attention in the execution of his Orders, and been very Diligent in obtaining every Information that might be useful to the Service.

With respect to the French Settlements on the Island of Madagascar, it appears both from Captain Russell's own Observations and from his Enquiries that the French have not one Post on the whole Island of any kind of Importance. They did once attempt to make a considerable Colony at Fort Dauphine, towards the Southern Extremity of the Island, and had a Force of two hundred Europeans stationed there, but by Mismanagement & Disagreement with the Natives, they found it necessary to give up such extensive Views, and have now reduced their Strength at that place to a Subaltern Officer's Command of twenty Men, with a Commissary of Trade; their only Defence, a wretched Redoubt of no sort of Consideration.

Any Intentions which the French had of forming Settlements at Madagascar appear to have been ill-concerted or badly executed: for every one of them has failed: so that they now seem to have abandoned all such Projects entirely and to prefer the Method of Traffick with the Natives (by sending Ships at the proper Seasons to purchase Provisions, Cattle & Slaves) rather than attempt supporting a Force and establishing a Property in the Country. — By Captain Russell's Account, the French are very much disliked among the Natives, who are a brave vindictive People, and retain a high Spirit.

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Spirit of Resentment for Injuries which they attedge they have received at every place where the French have resided among them. They say themselves (and Captain Russell is also of Opinion) that they would give any other Nation a Preference to the French in the Disposal of their Commodities; provided no Superiority was assumed, and Justice and Moderation observed. As the Inhabitants of Madagascar are yet in a State of Barbarism and do not look far beyond their present Wants; Industry is little encouraged amongst them: so that the Produce of their Soil, for want of Culture does not greatly exceed the Demand of its Inhabitants: the Cattle too that are brought to the Sea Coast for Traffick, are not numerous. All these Circumstances induce Captain Russell to imagine, that the French at the Islands might be reduced to the greatest Distress, if at any Time, We attempted to forestall them in the Purchase of those Necessaries of Life, with which they are chiefly supplied from the Island of Madagascar.

At the very time when Captain Russell left Bengall, a French Snow was dispatched, with the Master-Attendant and Pilots of Chandernagore on board: this Vessel he afterwards fell in with at Sea in South Latitude 19. 15 six Degrees East of the Mauritius, and near two of Diego Rays: which points out her Destination clearly. Captain Russell touched at this last Island, where the French have a Turtle Fishery, but no Sort of Force or Works of Defence, in order to learn if they had received any Advice respecting the State of the two Nations in Europe: And from the Intelligence he picked up here, he had every Reason to be convinced that the French certainly intended

to

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to be Parties in the expected Rupture betwixt England & Spain: Here also he got Information of the vast Force the French had collected at the Islands: which he found to agree nearly with the Intelligence he afterwards received from others on the same Subject: According to Captain Russell's Account there are on the Island Mauritius 8350 regular Troops, including three Battalions, which arrived in June last, & a Militia principally composed of Europeans to the Number of near 9000 as well Disciplined (he says) as the Kings Troops, and also liable to be sent on Service. Bourbon Depends principally for its Defence upon its own Militia composed of Creoles, Europeans & some Black free Men, to the Number of 18000. — On the Island of Bourbon there are only 700 Regulars, 300 of which are stationed at St. Dennis, and 400 at St. Pauls: neither Places of any Strength. Petit Port upon Mauritius is the strong-hold of the Islands: of which Captain Russell has procured a Plan. These Accounts may perhaps be somewhat exaggerated, but whether exact as to Numbers or not they are a sufficient Authority for Us to conclude that the French Force at the Islands is very formidable and much exceeds what would only be necessary for the Purpose of Defence.

The following are Articles of Intelligence mentioned by Captain Russell: — That the French, at their different Settlements in India, have certainly kept up a Correspondence & had a close Intercourse with several of the Country Powers. — At the Application of M^r. Law, the Duc de Choiseul hath sent out ten Officers of considerable Merit to assist Hyder Naigue in his military Exploits — as soon as they landed they proceeded up to join his Army, and on
their

Fort St. George 2^d Feb^y 1772

their Arrival at Mangalore were received by Hyder's Killidar with Distinguished Attention: Horses &c.^a were in Readiness for their immediate Conveyance to Biddemore. They carried Presents from the King of France to Hyder Ally, and Credentials from the Duc de Choiseul of their own Distinction and military Abilities.

With respect to the French Shipping at the Islands, Captain Russell speaks with Uncertainty: The Transports which brought the three Battalions, he mentions to be as large as 70 Gun Ships: as likewise some of those loaded with Stores. — He concludes from the Intelligence he received, that the French certainly did intend to have landed a Body of Troops this Season in some part of India: and the Concurrence of many Circumstances gives us cause to suppose that Bengall was their Object. But it would appear that some Orders arrived from France to countermand this Enterprize when it was on the very Brink of Execution: most probably in Consequence of the Termination of National Differences, which took place in Europe: or perhaps from the internal Disturbances in France, or from some sudden Change in that Administration.

Captain Russell could no where receive any Accounts of the unfortunate Aurora. — The Hawke Sloop of War had touched at all the Ports on the East Side of Madagascar, which Captain Russell visited: I suppose by Instructions from England for that Purpose. I subscribe myself with great Esteem

Fort William

the 28th Novem^r 1771

Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant
John Cartier

24 Fort St. George 3^d Feb^r 1772

Received the following Letter from the Select Committee at
Fort William

To the Hon^{ble} Josias Du Pre Esq^r
President &c^a Gentlemen of the Select Committee at
Fort St. George.

Hon^{ble} Sir & Sirs

Letter from Select
Committee at Bengal.

We have been favored with your Letter of
the 10th Ultimo

It is with extreme Concern we observe
the great Probability there is of your being involved in a War
with the Mahrattas and you may rest assured of our af-
fording you every Assistance that can have a tendency to
lessen the Burthen of one so unavoidably expensive. We could
wish therefore you would give us early Information of what
Supplies you may probably require from this Presidency in
the Course of the present year.

Desire to know what
Supplies we may
want

We are sensible that if this War
should happen Remittances in Specie must inevitably take
place & in order to obviate in some Measure the Inconveniences
attending it, We make it our earnest Request that you will
take every Opportunity to draw upon Us to as large an
Amount as possible.

advising of their
having contracted
for our Lack of Maunds
of Rice.

We have the Pleasure to inform you of
the Resolution of the Board to supply you with a Lack of
Maunds of Rice which will be contracted for here by the
Merchants to be delivered at Madras & this will be the
Means of throwing an early Remittance into your Hands.

The King has now altered his Route
towards the Capital which he first intended should have been
by the Way of Agra, to obtain Possession of that City either
by Force or Treaty; but the Junction of the Mahratta

Chief

Fort St. George 3^d Feb^y 1772

Chief Sindiah with a large Body of Troops has Determined him to possess himself with all Expedition of the Throne of Delhy. Some few unimportant Skirmishes have happened in the Attempt to reduce the Countreys in the Vicinity of the royal Camp, but no military Preparations have been made by the Mahrattas of Consequence sufficient to give Us Reason to imagine we shall have Occasion to employ our Army in the Defence of these Provinces or those of our Allies.

We are
Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most obedient humble Servants

John Cartier

Sam^l Middleton

W. Aldersey

Fort William
the 10th January 1772

4th The following Letter from the Chief &c^a Factor at Anjengo directed to the Board was this Day received.

To the Honble Josias Du Pre Esq^{re}
President & Governor &c^a Council of
Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

We wrote your Honor &c^a last on the 6th

Letter from Anjengo

Instant and yesterday received your Packet addressed to the Select Committee at Bombay, which, agreeable to your Desire We immediately sent to Tellicherry p^y Toney express, requesting the Gentlemen there to forward it with the utmost Expedition. We are respectfully,

Honble Sir & Sirs
P. E. Wrench

Arthur King

Ja^s Glass

Anjengo
24th Jan^y 1772

Wrote

26 Fort St. George 7th Feb. 1772

Wrote the following Letter to Select Committee at Fort William
of His Majesty's Sloop Swallow

To the Honble John Cartier Esq:
President & Governor &c. Gentlemen of
the Select Committee at

Fort William
Honble Sir & Sirs

Letter to Fort Wil-
liam

Your Letter of the 10th January has been
received: but Mr. Hastings having embarked for Bengal
General Smith & Mr. Wynch being absent from the Settle-
ment, and Mr. Ardley the other Member of the Committee
being so much indisposed as to be unable to attend to any
Business, I am ^{under} the Necessity of addressing you.

Advising that We
hope We shall have
no Occasion to apply
to them for Money.

We have till very lately been under
great Apprehensions of Disturbances from the Mahrattas:
but the Nabob having sent a Vaguel to the Mahratta
General, We have hopes that Matters will soon be accom-
modated with them, in which Case We shall not be put to the
disagreeable Necessity of availing ourselves of the Readiness you
have shewn to supply Us with Money.

The Quantity of Rice you have con-
tracted for to be delivered at this Place would have been a most
acceptable & necessary Supply had the Mahrattas entered
the Province, and even should an Accommodation with
them take place We hope the Company will be no losers by
it.

Desiring one of their
Pilot Boats may be
ordered to Achum &
Ludan

In Consequence of the Orders from the
Secret Committee of the Court of Directors to the Select Com-
mittee at this Presidency a Vessel will be shortly dispatched
with some Troops on board for the Purpose of taking
possession

27 Fort St. George 7th February 1772

Possession of a Factory at Acheen & another at Quedah in the Straights of Malacca in the Name of the Company: and as it will be necessary that a small Vessel or two should be employed on this Service: I request that your Honor &c^{ts} will be pleased to spare one of your Pilot Sloops to proceed to Acheen; and that she may be put under the orders of the civil Servants who will be sent from hence for the Purpose abovementioned. It will be necessary that the Person commanding such Vessel be instructed to proceed first to Acheen and if he should find a Servant of the Company's there, to put himself under his Orders, but if no Company's Servant be yet arrived ^{there} that in such case he proceed to Quedah, and if he should find the English Colours hoisted and a Company's Servant resident, to put himself under his Orders. I think by the time this Vessel may arrive at either place, the English Colours will be hoisted at both & the Company's Servants who will be sent on this Service will be instructed to employ this Vessel between Acheen & Quedah and as soon as it may be convenient to dispatch her to this Presidency with such Advices as may occur.

Should the Expedition answer according to our Wish, We shall apply to Bombay to build us one or two Vessels fit for this Service, as We are unable to fit out any from hence; and your Honor &c^{ts} may be assured that you shall have the most early advice of whatever may be necessary for your Information - I am

Honble Sir & Sirs

your most obedient humble Servant
Josias Du Pré

Fort St. George
7th Feb^r 1772.

9th Mr. Ardley departed this Life this Morning.
28th Letter to the Honble Court of Directors of this Date to go p
Ship Lord North signed

26 Fort St. George 7th Feb 7. 1772

Wrote the following Letter to Select Committee at Fort William
of His Majesty's Sloop Swallow

To the Honble John Cartier Esq:
President & Governor &c^r Gentlemen of
the Select Committee at

Fort William
Honble Sir & Sirs

Letter to Fort Wil-
liam

Your Letter of the 10th January has been
received: but Mr. Hastings having embarked for Bencall
General Smith & Mr. Wynch being absent from the Settle-
ment, and Mr. Ardley the other Member of the Committee
being so much indisposed as to be unable to attend to any
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great Apprehensions of Disturbances from the Mahrattas:
but the Nabob having sent a Vaguel to the Mahratta
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modated with them, in which Case We shall not be put to the
disagreeable Necessity of availing ourselves of the Readiness you
have shewn to supply Us with Money.

The Quantity of Rice you have con-
tracted for to be delivered at this Place would have been a most
acceptable & necessary Supply had the Mahrattas entered
the Province, and even should an Accommodation with
them take place We hope the Company will be no losers by
it.

Desiring one of their
Field Troops may be
ordered to Achum &
Ludan

In Consequence of the Orders from the
Secret Committee of the Court of Directors to the Select Com-
mittee at this Presidency a Vessel will be shortly dispatched
with some Troops on board for the Purpose of taking
possession

27 Fort St. George 7th February 1772

Possession of a Factory at Achen & another at Quedah in the Straights of Malacca in the Name of the Company: and as it will be necessary that a small Vessel or two should be employed on this Service: I request that your Honor &c^a will be pleased to spare one of your Pilot Sloops to proceed to Achen; and that she may be put under the orders of the civil Servants who will be sent from hence for the Purpose abovementioned. It will be necessary that the Person commanding such Vessel be instructed to proceed first to Achen and if he should find a Servant of the Company's there, to put himself under his Orders, but if no Company's Servant be yet arrived ^{there}, that in such case he proceed to Quedah, and if he should find the English Colours hoisted and a Company's Servant resident, to put himself under his Orders. I think by the time this Vessel may arrive at either place, the English Colours will be hoisted at both & the Company's Servants who will be sent on this Service will be instructed to employ this Vessel between Achen & Quedah and as soon as it may be convenient to dispatch her to this Presidency with such Advices as may occur.

Should the Expedition answer according to our Wish, We shall apply to Bombay to build us one or two Vessels fit for this Service, as We are unable to fit out any from hence; and your Honor &c^a may be assured that you shall have the most early advice of whatever may be necessary for your Information - I am

Honble Sir & Sirs

your most obedient humble Servant
Josias DuRoi

Fort St. George
7th Feb^r 1772.

9th Mr. Ardley departed this Life this Morning.
28th Letter to the Honble Court of Directors of this Date to go p
Ship Lord North signed

28 Fort St. George 29th Feb.^{ry} 1772

The following Papers & Letters of Intelligence, Copies of which were transmitted Numbers in the Packet of Lord North are now entered.

Military Intelligence at Mauritius 1st & 5th Nov. 1771

Military Intelligence
received from the Sloop
from Mauritius.

The Chevalier De Roche Governor General of the Isles of France & Bourbon, is an old Captain in the French Navy, has the Rank of Brigadier General, has the sole Command of both Army & Squadron while they remain at these Islands.

The King's Troops now at these Islands from the best Information I could possibly obtain amount to seven thousand effective Men, Officers included; they are commanded next to the Governor by Brigadier General Storin by Birth a Saxon, and served all last War with great Reputation in the Prussian Army, has no Regiment, but very considerable Appointments. Next to him is the Chevalier De Foun who commands the Regiment of Normandy, ranks as Brigadier General, & served in India the last War. Colonel Mead commands the Regiment of Clare, is third in command; he also served last War in India; as did Lieut. Col. Fleury of that Regiment, they have besides those mentioned, three Colonels, five Lieut. Colonels, eight Majors whose Names I could not get, excepting Major Conway of the Regiment of Clare and from whom I had the greatest part of this Intelligence.

The Regiment of Normandy as now compleat consists of two Battalions of nine Companies each and each Company of seventy Rank & File: their Regimentals white faced with black, and silver Buttons: One Battalion has red Stocks, the other black, those I saw were
very

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very well looking Men and remarkably well dressed.

The Regiment of Clare now complete as in time of War consists of one Battalion of nine Companies one hundred Men in each, rank & file their Regimentals red faced with bright yellow and silver Buttons N^o. 78. White Waistcoats & Breeches, black Stocks and is composed of all Nations except French.

The other Troops I was informed were Draughts from different Regiments, and those which the King had taken into his Service from the Company, which as yet are not properly regimented but would compose two Regiments of two Battalions each, this I could believe from the various Regimentals I saw while at the Hospital (Vizt.) white faced with dark Blue, silver Buttons & Epaullets: white faced with light Blue, silver Buttons & Epaullets: white faced with Green, silver Buttons, Epaullets: white faced with red, silver Buttons & Epaullets: light Blue faced with white, silver Buttons & Epaullets: D^o. with yellow Buttons & Epaullets: all red, silver Buttons and Epaullets: Green faced with light yellow, yellow Buttons light Blue faced with black, silver Buttons. Muffar Caps & half Boots.

The Troupes de pays or Militia, for every Man since the King took those Islands from the Company that can bear Arms, is obliged to assemble at certain places & to exercise once every Week and are restricted wearing any other Cloaths, than the Regimentals of the Division to which they belong. They are formed into two grand Divisions and those into Sub-Divisions - the one Division's Regimental is light blue faced with red; and the other white faced with red; I was assured there were

upwards

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upwards of four Thousand of these Militia who were under the most perfect Discipline - the Officers have Pensions from the King besides other Immunities, having all served the Company the last War, in India or in the Islands; they have also two Battalions of black Troops under the Command of European Officers, consisting of Six hundred Men each, who are under the strictest Discipline, & go thro' their Exercise as well as any Regiment in France: they are posted at different parts of the Island wear the same Regimental as the Troupes de Pays & are considered of the utmost Consequence in case of the Islands being attack'd as being acquainted with all the Defiles, & acting on the Plan of our American Rangers - They have also a Corps of Artificers which upon Service would be draughted into different Regiments: I could only learn that their Artillery was a complete Corps and very well appointed.

The Military when I was obliged to land is about four Miles to the Westward of the Town & would contain as I judge about five hundred Men, but I was informed there were not above four hundred in it - and they were building another on the same Construction contiguous to that which would contain the like Number.

Their Hospital was exceeding clean as was the Cloaths the Sick had on. they told me they had great Plenty of every thing they could wish for while at the Hospital, but at Quarters every kind of Provisions except Vegetables was extremely scarce: however those that had Permission and chose to work, might as Tradesmen double their Pay & live tolerably well, & those of no Trade worked on the Fortifications and new Buildings for which Labour they received a Gratuity equal to their Pay - They also informed,

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informed me the Ships in the Harbour were fitting out as Men of War with the utmost Expedition - being interrupted by the Gentlemen who accompanied me, and much impeded to go on board, I could learn nothing further.

Signed Gideon Schnstone

A true Copy Geo. Paterson Secy

Marine Intelligence
from Mauritius

Marine Intelligence at Mauritius 1st 85th Nov^r 1771

The French King's Ships in the Harbour of Port Louis in the Isle de France are the Actionnaire of 68 Guns 580 Men commanded by Le Chev^r De Montiel Chef d'Ecadre, ranks as Brigadier General is said to have served last War with great Credit in India under the Command of Adm^l D'Ache.

L'Union of 68 Guns 560 Men commanded by Le Cheval^r De Trajaille, was second Captain of the Magnanime taken by Sir Rob^t Harland in the Nottingham, and last War served in India in Adm^l D'Ache's Fleet.

Le Mars built to carry 68 Guns, at present has only 16 and 300 Men, commanded by Captⁿ Dejain who also served in the above Fleet.

L'Indien on the same Plan with the Mars was heaving down by the Board of the same Construction, she had completed both Sides the 5th at Noon.

Le Nours a small Frigate of 20 Guns commanded by the Baron De Rose was refitting in the inner Harbour.

Le Dragon & Le Roche two Ships

32 Fort St. George 29th Feb^r 1772

Ships of about 500 Tons, might carry about 25 Guns each, were just arrived from Black River with Timber for the Repair of the Ships & Fortifications.

Two small Snows bound to Madagascar & Mozambique for Slaves.

There lay in the inner Harbour a small Snow ready for Sea; on our Arrival in the Road she hoisted Spanish Colours and a large Pendant, upon Enquiry I learned she arrived about the middle of October with Dispatches for the General, there were also three Vessels moored in Shore without lower Masts which appeared to be intended for Hulks.

I was informed the Hector, on the same Construction with the Mars, had sailed about the 12th Oct^r for the Cape of Good hope on board of which the Captain and Officers of the Virelet had embarked and that she was to return to Port Louis with Provisions &c. as soon as possible.

And there was a Ship of the like Size laying at the Isle of Bourbon, the Captain of which had the Direction of the Affairs of that Island, but could not learn his or the Ship's Name.

Le Praline a Frigate of 30 Guns had sailed about 15 Days before our Arrival for Europe with the Passengers, and greatest part of the Virelet's Company, the same Number of the Praline's Company being taken on board the Ships in the Harbour.

La Fortune, a Frigate of the same Size of the Praline was in India.

While on board the Actionnaire I perceived under a large Shed of Wood upon Cooper's Island,

Fort St. George 29th Feb^r 1772

Island a great Number of Ship Carriages of different
Sizes, many people employed working upon them.

The Fortifications going into the Har-
bour of Port Louis seem well calculated for its Defence,
as well as the several Batteries which almost encircle
the interior Part of the Harbour those Fortifications do
not appear to be confined to the immediate Defence of the
Town & harbour only but extend in a Chain of Redoubts
from all which there is a Communication along Shore, &
to the commanding Grounds for several Miles to the East
and West of the Town.

The Barracks which are very con-
spicuous from the Road, being built on the Declivity of
the Hill to the right & left to the Town are apparently
calculated to contain a great Number of Men, those to
the left are not entirely finished: There are several Build-
ings erecting in the Town, one in particular is a grand
Arsenal — this is all I could learn from the Road.

Signed Gideon Johnstone

A true Copy Geo. Paterson, Secy.

Translate of a Letter from Rustum Ally Cawn (formerly
Joint Salt Farmer at Masulipatam) to Iogue Pundat
Dated at Devracondah the 25th Rainsaun Moon 1185 He-
xery or 1181 Phuzulle

* November

Letter from Rustum
Ally Cawn regarding
Moult Gussoor ap-
pointed by Madava-
now Ambassador to
France.

I received your Letter wherein you
desired me to let you know the News of the Court, which
gives me great Pleasure.

One Month past I set out from
the Court to subdue the Enemy in the Circar of Devracondah
Thank

3A Fort St. George 29th Feb^y 1772

Thank God in a short time the Enemies will meet their Punishment

*Constantinople

Madarow has appointed Abdul Gaffoor (an Inhabitant of Room) as an Ambassador to go to the King of France. I don't know the Reason he wants to send him there, the said Abdul Gaffoor is my Friend, He came here three years ago in Distress. I gave him a House and some Money for his Expences, after which he went to Madarow and entered into his Service, he is a good sensible Man wherefore he met with great honor from Madarow and is appointed now as an Ambassador. He minds my Friendship and wrote a Letter to me. I now send you inclosed the Copy of said Letter. I am a Wellwisher to the Company and Friend to you, for which Reason I send it I give you Oath upon God; you will please not to make public this News, but keep it secret, when you assure me of it I will send you the original Letter. God is witness. I am a Wellwisher to the Company with my Mind & Life I was under Obligations to M^r. Pybus and you, therefore I write you this News and I will write you more if you send more Hircarrahi.

Translate of the Copy of the Letter from Abdul Gaffoor at Poonah to Rustum Ally Cawn Dated the 1st Rajab Moon (answering to 16 Oct^r 1771)

Madarow is in good Health at Poonah and intends to send his Troops to Delhi. He told me that he will send a Letter with some good Presents to the King of France, & appointed me to go along with them; in a short Time I will go upon a Ship by the Way of Bussorah & Stambol. If you want any Thing

Letter from the said Abdul Gaffoor ad. vising thereof

35 Fort St George 29th Feb 1772

*Constantinople

the Produce of Room & France, I beg you will please to write me, I will bring them with me if I return safely from thence; I don't want Money for the Things you may want, I will receive it from you after I bring them; I will write you again at the Time of my going away, If you have any Relations at those Countries & you want to write them Letters I will carry them & get you Answers.

March 6th Received the following Letter of Sappats from the Select Committee at Fort William.

To the Honble Josias Du Pre Esq^{re}
President &c^o Select Committee

Fort St George
Honble Sir & Sirs

Letter from Select
Committee at Ben-
gall

We have received your Favor of the 21st Dec^r, and cannot but acknowledge the Propriety of the Measures you have taken in your present critical Situation.

The Mahrattas have of late years taken large Strides to attain the entire Sovereignty of Indostan, & fortunately for them the many Divisions in the Country have but too much contributed to their Success in those Parts where our Influence has not extended. Contemptible at first they are now become the Arbiters of India.

The means of those Princes whose Extent of Territory or Consequence in the Empire should lead them to combine their Strength to stem this Torrent and prove a Counter-balance to the Mahrattah Power, are

not

36 Fort St. George 6th March 1772

not inadequate if they could be brought to act on one general Plan for the Security of the whole: but as it is they are divided, irresolute & incapable of taking any effectual Measure to avert the impending Danger. It is to no purpose that We have stimulated the Viceroy to undertake in Conjunction with the Rohillah something of sufficient Importance to convince them that a vigorous Opposition will follow any farther Advances they may make to the Eastward: He will do nothing without the Aid of a Body of our Troops which however at this particular Juncture we do not deem it prudent to grant Him.

Cannot undertake any
thing against the
Mahrattas.

You mention that a Diversion on our part would greatly favor your Operations against the Mahrattas but We are sorry to inform you that such a Diversion could not be made by Us at present consistently with our own Security. We could without much Difficulty We believe throw a few Battalions into their Possessions towards Mulwar & this might prove of some Service to you by attracting their Attention nearer home, but a Number of Inconveniencies must attend an Expedition of this Nature. If We detached a Brigade upon this Service as We could spare but one, the Mahrattas at Delhi would not miss the Opportunity of overrunning the Provinces of Allahabad and Corah and those of the Nabob Sujah ul Dowla; nor would they stop here, but endeavor to penetrate into the very Heart of the Company's Possessions an Event which would either oblige Us to recall the Troops acting in the Mahratta Country or induce Us to advance another Brigade to oppose them; and here it may be proper to inform you that for the three succeeding Months We purpose having two Brigades as near the Vicinity of the Presidency
as

37 Fort St George - 6th March 1772

as can possibly be done with Convenience to the Troops
for the Jealousy We entertain of the Designs of the French
and the formidable Power they keep up at the Islands
Determines Us to be as well prepared against any Attempt
on this Part of India as We can, for if such an Attempt
is made, We suppose it will be early in the Southerly
Monsoon, & this Consideration alone independant of any
other Argument that might arise from the Subject We
regard of sufficient Weight to supercede every View We may
possibly have of rendering you immediate Assistance in
the Mode you have pointed out.

You may depend Gentlemen that
We shall with the utmost Alacrity contribute every
thing in our Power to favor your Military Operations
but at the same time We must be so candid as to say
that a Compliance with your Proposition at this Period
would in our Opinion not only be imprudent but in-
compatible with our own Safety. We are

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most obedient humble Servants

John Cartier

Sam^l Middleton

W. Aldersey

Fort William

3^d Feb^y 1772.

7th The following Letters were this Day wrote.

To the Honble John Cartier Esq^r
President & Governor &c^r Gentlemen of the Select Committee
at Fort William

Honble Sir & Sirs

We have been favored with your Letter of
this

Letter to Bengal

38 Fort St. George 7th March 1772

the 3rd February — In ours of the 7th February We advised you that the Nabob had sent a Vaguel to the Mahratta General, and We have now the Pleasure to acquaint you that He has accommodated Matters with them, and they are returned into the Balaghaut, by which we are eased from the Apprehensions We have long been under of an Invasion from them.

Advised of the Return
of the Mahrattas
into the Balaghaut

and enclosing Copy
of Intelligence received
from the Islands.

The Admiral dispatched the Hawke
Sloop to the Mauritius in October last, she returned in
January, and We send you herewith Copy of the Intel-
ligence she obtained regarding the Military & Naval
Force collected at the Islands. We are

Hon^{ble} Sir & Sirs

Fort St. George
7th March 1772.

Your most obedient humble Servants
Josias Du Pri &c. Committee

To the Hon^{ble} William Hornby Esq^r
President & Governor &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee
at Bombay

Hon^{ble} Sir & Sirs

Letter to Bombay to
the same Effect.

In our Letter of the 6th January a
Duplicate of which comes enclosed, We advised you of the Orders
We had received from the Court of Directors respecting the Con-
duct they would wish us to observe with regard to the Mah-
rattas & Hyder Ally: and of the Intimation given us
by His Majesty's Minister of his Intention of averting
the Distress with which the Mahrattas threatened this
Province, by a Negotiation with them. We are now to
acquaint you that in Consequence of the Orders from the
Court of Directors, We thought it expedient to declare
openly both to the Mahrattas and Hyder Ally that We
could

39 Fort St. George 7th March 1772

could send Assistance to neither; and the Nabob finding
Us determined to observe the Line prescribed by the Compa-
ny dispatched a Vaguit to Frimbuick-row the Mahratta
General and has found Means of accommodating Matters
with them, and We have the Satisfaction to acquaint you
that they are returned into the Balaghaut, by which We
are eased from the Apprehensions we have long been under
of their invading this Province.

The Admiral dispatched the Hawke
Sloop to the Mauritius in October, she returned in Ja-
nuary with the enclosed Intelligence respecting the Mili-
tary & Naval Force collected at the Islands. We are

Honble Sir & Sirs

Fort St. George
7th March 1772.

your most obedient humble Servants
Josias Du Pré &c. Com^{rs}

To Peter Elwin Wrench Esq^r.

Chief &c^r Factors at Anjengo
Gentlemen

Letter to Anjen-
go.

Enclosed is a Packet addressed to the Select
Committee at Bombay which We request you will forward
with all Expedition. We are

Gentlemen

Fort St. George
7th March 1772.

your most obedient hum^{ble} Servants
Josias Du Pré &c. Com^{rs}

20th Packets to the Honble Court of Directors & the Secret
Committee ordered to be closed.

40 Fort St. George 24th March 1772

The President received this Day a Letter from Mr. Cartier dated 18th Instant advising of his having sent Captain Lockhart Russell in the Amazon Snow to obtain the best Information of the Force the French have at the Isles, and of their Destination. That he had ordered Captain Russell to call here on his Return, & to advise us of the Result of his Enquiry.

26th The following Letter from Mr. Swartz Danish Missionary & Chaplain to the Garrison of Trichinopoly, was this Day received by the President.

To the Honble Josias Du Pre Esq^r.

Honble Sir

Recd from Mr. Swartz

The Rajah of Tanjore was the Friendship between the Company & him may be renewed.

Give me Leave to address you on a particular Subject. A few Days ago I came here to visit the Christian Congregations. Soon after, I was invited into the Fort where I saw the Rajah's Brother & some of his first Officers. After some Conversation about Religion I was told that the King was concerned that the good Harmony between the English & him had been of late interrupted, that he wished it might be renewed in a solid & lasting Manner; and that he was resolved to desire me to go to Madras & bring about a firm & sincere Peace. The next Day I saw the King, who after some Conversation hinted the same. Knowing the Nature of these People and how little one can trust their Word, I declared myself rather disinclined. At present they have a Feast and I am told that after the Feast is over the King will talk of it again; Now as I would not do any thing in this Affair against your Will, I beg you Honble Sir to let me know whether you approve or disapprove.

proove

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proove of the said Scheme, and if the Rajah should propose any taking a Journey to Madras, whether it is agreeable to you or not. If after all they should drop the Business according to their fickle Disposition, I hope you will kindly excuse the Trouble I have given you.

Wishing you all true Happiness I remain respectfully

Honble Sir

Tanjore
March 18th 1772.

Your obedient humble Servant.
C. F. Swartz

The President has also been informed that Sambajee Puntaleo, who resided here many years as Vaquil from the Rajah of Tanjore to the Company & left this Place upon the late Rupture, returned here since the Conclusion of the Peace as Vaquil from the Rajah to the Nabob, and that he brought at the same time a Letter from the Rajah to the President with the usual Compliment of a Drees. That however being cautious of offending the Nabob he intimated to him his Desire of presenting the Letter, but not obtaining the Nabob's Concurrence, the Vaquil hath not even waited on the President, but hath secretly intimated his Desire of doing so, if it could be brought about without offending the Nabob. Upon all which the President hath to this time remained silent. but upon the Overture now made by the Rajah thro Mr. Swartz, it being necessary to return some Answer, the President judged that he could not consistently with his Duty, and a due Regard to the Company's Interests, refuse to hear what the Rajah might have to offer, leaving himself however at large to proceed hereafter as the Case may require: and therefore

upon

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upon the Receipt of the Letter from Mr. Swartz herein
before entered, he the same Day returned the following
Answer.

To the Rev. Mr. Swartz
Sir

I have received your Letter of the 18th.
If the Rajah should renew the Subject you mention, the
only Declaration I can make at present is, that if he has
any Matter to communicate or propose to the Company
I shall be ready to receive ^{candidly} & consider it. And if he chooses
to do it thro' you, it will be very satisfactory to me.

Fort St. George
26th March 1772

I am &c.^a

Josias DuPré

The Difficulties which may occur on
this Subject with Respect to the Quarantee, are fully
explained in the Letter from this Committee to the Court
of Directors of 28th Feb. & Lord North.

April 2^d Received this Day p Resolution the following Letter from
the Select Committee at Bombay.

To the Honble Josias DuPré Esq^r.

President & Governor &c.^a Gentlemen of the Select Committee
at Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Gentlemen

We have been favored by the Receipt of
your Letters of the 27th Nov^r & 10th Ultimo.

The Proposals made us by Hyder
Ally in Case of our assisting him are such as We can by
no means agree to accept, We have therefore given over all
Thoughts of doing it, till he may convince us he sets a
greater Value on it, by such Offers as will be more equi-
valent

Letter from Select
Committee at Bomba-
bay.
Outline Hyder Ally's
Proposals.

Fort St. George 2^d April 1772

valent to the Advantage which must accrue to him there-
from.

Having received a Packet from the Ho-
norable the Court of Directors to your Address which from
your Advice We judged might contain the Decisive Instruc-
tions you expect in regard to the Measures to be pursued with
the Nabob, Hyder Ally and the Mahrattas, and as We
judged it very expedient We should be apprized thereof as
soon as possible, We opened the Same, and transmit the
said Packet enclosed: As nothing is therein mentioned
on that Subject We request your Honor &c^a will com-
municate to Us the Directions & Sentiments of the
Honble Court on this Head as soon as you may receive
them. We are with Esteem

Honble Sir & Gentlemen

Bombay Castle
25th January 1772

Your most obedient humble Servants

W^m Hornby

D. Draper

David Wedderburn

Nath^l Stackhouse

Jn^o Watson

17th. The following Letter from the Select Committee at Fort Wil-
liam was this Day received of Tappals.

To the Honble Josias Du Pré Esq^r.

President &c^a Gentlemen of the Select Committee at

Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

We have been favored with a

Letter from your President under Date the 7th Ult^o re-
questing that one of our Pilot Sloops be ordered to Achern

Letter from Select
Committee at Bombay
Dispatch the
Commission Schooners to
Achern & Lucado.

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and Zudah for the Purpose of assisting the Factories to be established at those Places: accordingly the Cussalore Schooner Captain John Wedderburn has been fitted out for this Service and was dispatched to the former Place on the 3^d Instant with Instructions to put himself under the Orders of such Civil Servant as he may find there from your Presidency.

Advice of the Defeat
of the Rohilla's by
the Mahrattas.

We are sorry to inform you that a Body of 30000 Mahrattas headed by Mahujy Sindhia has crossed the Ganges and given an entire Defeat to the Forces of the Rohillah Chief Tabla Caion collected there to defend the Ford. A general Panic has been the Consequence of this Victory, and the Rohillah Chiefs instead of combining their Strength to oppose the further Progress of the Invaders are supposed to be separately providing for their Safety by Flight while the Mahrattas elated with their Success, have penetrated with their usual Rapidity into the very Heart of their Possessions.

Sajah ul Dowlah however with a better appointed Army than is common in Hindostan encouraged by the Presence of General Barker who was with him on the Purpose of Negotiation has proceeded to his Frontier in the Vicinity of the Rohillah Country, and is there determined to give them Battle should they attempt to pass the Boundary of his Provinces. We are yet in hopes that some time will elapse before the total Subjection of the Rohillah Country will afford them sufficient Leisure to prosecute their Designs against the Vizier: but at all Events we are determined to prevent as much as possible his submitting to any disgraceful Compromise: and, if hereafter it should appear absolutely

necessary

Prepared to oppose
the Mahrattas if
they attempt to
enter the Provinces

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necessary to assist him with a Body of our Troops provided it can be done consistent with our own Safety.

We will not fail to give you Advice from time to time, of the further Progress and Designs of these Ravagers, and of the Conduct. We purpose observing towards them, as Circumstances may arise, and it is a Subject of Satisfaction to us to learn that an Accommodation with them is likely to take place in your Quarter. We are, Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most obedient humble Servants

John Cartier

Warren Hastings

W^m Aldersey

Fort William

15th March 1772.

24th Received the following Intelligence from the Mahratta Camp.

Advice from the Mahratta Camp Dated 11th April 1772

On the 11th Instant Mahomed Ally Commandant of the Sepoys in Hyder's Service went out to oppose Triembukrow at Paripatnam, when he heard he was within 7 Cos from him, he marched & attacked the said Commandant & defeated him with great Loss; at length the Commandant returned to Syringapatam thro' the Woods.

Typo Saib attempted to attack Balaventkistnarooy at Arcalacode, but it was to no purpose; On the 8th Instant Terms of Peace were settled between Triembuckrow & Hyder by Oppajee-Ram thro' the Means of Morari-row; It is talked that Hyder's Vaquid agreed to pay 65 Lacks of Rupees to Madavarow besides the Durbar Charges which they say will be above

10 Lacks

Advice of Peace concluded between the Mahrattas and Hyder Ally.

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10 Lacks of Rupus out of the 65: Vallub Sunder, Puckenje and Verapah Chitty Soucars took upon themselves to pay 40 Lacks in certain Payments: Trimbuckrow on his part agreed to evacuate all the Countries taken During the War excepting Sirpy, Maddagherry, Opcolah, Peddabulaporam, and Gurrumconda; & to that end Sahasambhurry was appointed & empowered to go and withdraw the Mahratta Garrisons from different Parts, besides what was agreed by the Soucars as above, Appaja Ram agreed to pay 15 Lack of Rupus in one Month, & until the Remainder is fully Discharged, he promised to remain with Trimbuckrow.

As Morari was a Mediator in this Affair the People are of Opinion that the Peace will firmly take place & be concluded within one Week in a proper Manner.

If any thing occurs hereafter I shall advise you.

The following Letter from Mr. Swartz to the President was this Day received.

To the Hon^{ble} Josias Du Pré Esq^r
Honorable Sir

Letter from Mr. Swartz

Your kind Favor I have received, and communicated it to the Rajah - upon which he told me that he would consult about it - He seems to be very desirous of having that Business well done & a firm Friendship between the Company & him re established - But there are People who endeavor to hinder it - Perceiving the Futility of their Consultations, I left Tanjour, telling

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telling them that if they wanted me they might let me know
— yesterday I was invited again — & as Mr. Gerike from
Cussalore is at present with me, he will officiate for me, so
that I can go to Tanjour more conveniently. — As soon as
I know any thing with Certainty concerning the Rajah's
Proposals, I shall look upon it as my Duty to let you know
it immediately. I am with all due Respect.

Honble Sir

Trichinopoly
April 20th 1772.

Your most obedient humble Servant,
C. F. Swartz

A

May 3^d Received the following Letter of Ship Ganges from the Pre-
sident & Council at Bombay.

To the Honble Josias Du Pré Esq^r
President & Governor &c^a Gentlemen of the Select Comm^{ee}
at Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

We have received the favor of your
Letter of the 6th January since We wrote you last from
this Department dated the 25th of that Month, and We
return your Honor &c^a Thanks for the early Communica-
tion of the Honble Company's Orders respecting the Mah-
rattas, Hyder Ally & the Nabob of the Carnatick, by
which We propose to be governed in our future Negotiations

The Rear Admiral has ad-
dressed a Letter enclosing his full Powers from his Ma-
jesty to treat with any Power or Princes in India, but

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as We cannot agree in thinking they authorise him to enter into those Negotiations he proposes, We have therefore declined entering upon that Subject with Him, at least untill We may receive Directions on that Head from our Honble Employers, We enclose Copy of his Letter with our Reply for your Honor &c^{ts} Notice, and are with Esteem

Honble Sir & Sirs

your most obedient humble Servants

William Hornby
D. Draper

Bombay Castle
12th March 1772

In: Watson
W. Taylor

4th The foregoing Letter with the Copies of those from & to Sir Robert Harland enclosed therein were this Day laid before the Board.

10th Came in the following Letter from Mr. Robert Adams at Syringapatam.

To the Honble Josias Du Pré Esq^r

Governor & President of Council &c^{ts} &c^{ts} in Madras

Sir

Your Favor dated the first of Feb^y I do myself the honor to answer by the Way of Pondicherry since which the Mahrattas have taken Periaputtan, & also Negradivincotah, in the former they found five Elephants belonging to Mier Saib, five hundred Musquets of the Nabobs, forty thousand Rupees in Cash &c^{ts} &c^{ts}, in all about five Lacks of Rupees, and in the latter fort they

Fort St. George 10th May 1772

they found five Elephants &c^a &c^a In Periapatam was deposited eight or ten Candies of the Honble Company's Sandal-Wood waiting for the returning Oxen from Mangalore, and with it were seven of the Honble Company's Sepoys which I heard the Mahrattas made Prisoners & had destroyed the Sandal Wood on which I wrote to Tirmuckanama representing to him how his Horsemen had plundered & wounded the Honble Company's Servants and had likewise taken away the Honble Company's Cash by force though they informed them that they belonged to the Honble Company, to which his people paid no Attention, and that I was again informed he had taken Periapatam in which was deposited the Honble Company's Sandal-Wood which was destroyed by his Lascars, & had made the Sepoys Prisoners belonging to the Honble Company, therefore as he knows the English & Mandarow are good Friends he ought not to suffer his People to behave so to force away the Company's Cash, kill & imprison their Servants & destroy the Sandal Wood: which I hoped he would consider & not hinder the Honble Company's Servants in their Business & not keep them Prisoners which must be a great Loss to the Honble Company as their Ships are waiting at Corial for the Sandal-Wood.

To the above Purpose I wrote about Six Days after the Mahrattas had taken Periapatam. Sooner I could not send as the Nabob's Vaguel did not go sooner, for had I sent otherwise than with the Vaguel the People would again be robbed. It is about six Days since I wrote since which not any Letters are come from the Mahratta Camp and since which the Mahrattas have left.

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left Periapatam, therefore two of the Sepoys came from Periapatam and inform me they were all Prisoners nine Days though they told the Mahratta Officers they belonged to the Honble Company they did not release them untill they released the Nabob's People which was when they left the Fort, they also called the Amuldar & threatened they would hang him if he would not immediately deliver every thing in his Possession to them, therefore the Papers which they scattered about before they took with some Cloths &c^a belonging to the Dubash but afterwards returned the Accounts as useful to them; they have likewise destroyed four hundred & thirtun Pieces of the Sandal-Wood by the Sepoys Account.

The Mahrattas and the Nabob have made Peace on the following Terms, the Nabob is to pay fifty Lack of Rupees to Maudarow & ten Lack to Sirmucknama and Mararow &c^a and pay fourteen Lack p Annum as before; Twenty five Lack in Cash the Nabob is to pay now, two Lack in Elephants four Lack, four Lack in Diamonds Pearls &c^a But the Nabob has sent eight Lack in Diamonds &c^a which he says if they will not accept he will not make peace; the Remainder he is to pay in three Months & give his Soucar with them as Security whom he has sent with the Vaquil as above & the Elephants are now ready to go Should Sirmucknama agree to take the eight Lack in Diamonds &c^a & hourly expects an Answer; They are to deliver up to the Nabob all his Country & Prisoners except Meer Saib & his Country. The Nabob likewise will not give the Jaghire to Chunda Saib which he before gave, which the Mahrattas now desire he would continue to Chunda Saib: The Reason why which I suppose you have not heard

Fort St. George 10th May 1772

heard which is, about this time last year the Nabob desired or rather demanded Chunda Saib's Grand-daughter in marriage for Tepe Saib his Son which Chunda Saib's Sister & Son refused by trifling Excuses and disfiguring her to the People whom the Nabob sent to see her by rubbing her over with different Colours &c. however the Nabob resolved to have her by Force and made all things ready and when the appointed Day or the Day before came, the Girl was found dead in her Bed & no Reason could be given for her Death by Chunda Saib's Family; and in the time of the Preparations Chunda Saib went to Serah and there has continued ever since and on this Account the Mahrattas apply for his Jaghire to be continued which the Nabob will not hear.

The Nabob wrote about two Months ago to Bombay, to which they have not sent him an Answer, neither has he since wrote to Bombay or Madras. I have the honor to be

Honble Sir

your most obed^t & much ob^t to Ser^ts

Robt Adams

Syringapatam
April 18th 1772

22^d. Received this Day a Card of Lincoln the following Letter from Mr. Claud Russell at the Cape of Good Hope.

Cape of Good-Hope 26th Feb^y 72

Sir. The Morse having put in at this Port for Re. freshments and to search for a Leak, I think it my Duty to communicate to you such Intelligence concerning the French as I have been able to learn during our short stay here. All Accounts confirm the Reports that prevailed in India of the Loss at the Settlement & of their Distress for Provisions & Money - Since Jan^y 1771 no less than twelve of

their

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Their Ships have imported here from thence, for Provisions but have given nothing but Bills on France in return. Three large Ships, without their second Tur of Guns mounted are now here with a Detachment on board belonging to the Regiments of Normandy and to the Legion. The Commodore Mons. Montaut is treated with Distinguishing Honors here & tho' on his Arrival he acquainted the Governor that he should stay no longer than he could get Provisions on board for the Isles, he has within these few Days declared his Intentions of remaining here till May & then carrying the Ships round to Palmy Bay where they are to await further Orders. Whether this is in Consequence of Advices from Europe by a Ship arrived a few Days ago, that left St. Malo's in October, is not known, but having since left off the usual manner of Lodging as Strangers do here, and rented a House which he is now furnishing, it would seem that he expects to continue here a considerable time. I have not been able to learn with Certainty the Number of the Troops on board - for the Supplies from Shore are not regular & generally consist of only the Heads, Hearts, Tripe &c. and very seldom a Proportion in Meat. The Dutch complain loudly of the Paper Payments, but still continue supplying them which may be from Fear, if the Report be true that the Commodore insinuated that he should be obliged to provide for himself were his Demands not complied with. About eighteen Months there has been a Mons. Passeron Resident here for French Affairs, and it is conjectured by many that they have an Eye upon this Settlement on the first News of a Rupture in Europe, trusting to the Pacifick Disposition of Holland.

Nothing

Fort St George 22nd May 1772

Nothing has transpired of the Advice by the Ship lately arrived. It is indeed pretended that a Number of King's Ships are expected from France, but I believe this rather to be Dutch News.

Enclosed I have the Pleasure to send you a List of all the French Ships that have imported in Table & Table Bays since Jan^y 1771 which being extracted from the Register may be depended on. I am
Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant

Claud Russell

List of French Ships imported at the Cape from Jan^y 1771 to 26th Feb^y 1772.

Ships	Captains	Whence come	Whether Co st Mer ^{ch} or Man ^{of} War
L'Alliance	Gros	Bourbon	Martinico 95—18 th Jan ^y
Le Gervion	Dumesnil	D ^o	L'Orient 36—29 th D ^o
La Galante	P Rio	D ^o	Mauritius 29—10 th Feb ^y
La Diez	Le Fer	D ^o	L'Orient 60—17 D ^o
L'Africain	Pelgier	Mauritius	Mauritius 170—22 nd D ^o
L'Isle de France	Cotive	D ^o	D ^o 113—24 D ^o
L'Union	De Trogeler	Brest	D ^o 840—16 April
Le Compte De Mesnon	Conceau	D ^o	D ^o 340—25 D ^o
Le Fort	Michel	D ^o	D ^o 213—25 D ^o
La Fortuné	Marchesian	Rocheport	D ^o 400—19 May
Le Gros Ventre	Fames	D ^o	D ^o 200—22 nd D ^o
Le Citoyen	Robin	D ^o	D ^o 260—1 st June
La Courante	Du Bois Grenant	D ^o	D ^o 180—3 rd D ^o
Le Triton	Minslow	Bengal	L'Orient 200—16 D ^o
La Marianne	Citard	Rocheport	Mauritius 172—27 D ^o
Le Jaxon	Vivret	D ^o	D ^o 221—6 th Aug ^y

June 2nd Received

54 Fort St. George June 2^d 1772.

Received the following Letter from M.^r Robert Adams at
Syringapatam.

To the Honble Josias Du Pré Esq^r

Governor &c^a, &c^a. in Madras

Sir

In my last I took the Liberty to inform
you of the Particulars of what I wrote to Tirmuckmama
since which the People whom I sent with the Letter are returned
and the Answer which he sent by Word of Mouth is,
that he could not account for what his People did before he
took Periapatam, and when he took it he put a Watch
over the English Company's Sandal Wood, and delivered it
to the Company's Sepoys when he left the Fort; But the Truth
is this, when took the above Fort he called the Honble
Company's People and threatened to hang them if they
would not immediately deliver to him all in their Possession
Accordingly he took three hundred & sixty seven Bhadry
Pagodas belonging to the Honble Company besides the Sepoys
Cloths &c^a, the Sepoys shewed a Pap with the Honble Compa-
ny's Chop which M.^r Libbald has given to shew they are
the Company's Servants, but they were told to keep their
Chop as it might serve on some other Occasion. It is true
Tirmuckmama put the Sandal-Wood in Charge of one of his
People, but it was only to oblige his Officers, for he gave Chits
to those who wanted Sandal-wood, - one Person so many
Pieces, to another so many Oxen-Loads &c^a, so that they
chose out the first & second Sorts out of eight hundred &
forty Pieces, so that there now remains only four hundred
and thirteen, and the Remainder was delivered to the Honble
Company's Sepoys. I think I wrote you in my last,
the

55 Fort St. George June 2^d 1772

the terms of Peace which is the Mahrattas are to deliver up all the Nabob's Country except Meer Saib's Country: before, they refused to deliver up Meer Saib, but now they have agreed to deliver him, because unless they deliver him, the Nabob will keep the Killidar of Sera prisoner and the Nabob is to pay Chout as before, give fifty Lack of Rupes to Mandarow's Circar, and ten Lack to Tirmuckmama &c.^{rs} the half to be paid now, the other in three Months, in part of which Tirmuckmama agreed to take two Lack in Elephants and four in Diamonds &c.^{rs} and must give his Soucar Security for the remaining thirty Lack. Accordingly the Nabob sent his Soucar and Vaguel with eight Lack in Joys &c.^{rs} and prepared four Lack in Elephants which was double to what Tirmuckmama agreed to take: While they were wrangling about this Difference in Joys & Elephants, Tippe Saib met five hundred Horse and three hundred Sepoys (on his Way to Nagar) belonging to Mandarow, coming with a Convoy of Six Thousand Oxen besides Camels to the Mahratta Camp, loaded with every Sort of Cloathing, and five Lack of Rupes in Money besides many other things in gold & Silver and necessaries &c.^{rs} belonging to different Officers, all which Tippe Saib took; killed many of the People and the rest made Prisoners; the whole amounted to about ten or twelve Lack of Rupes, therefore when Tirmuckmama heard this he refused making Peace unless all that Tippe Saib took was delivered to him which the Nabob refused, therefore the Nabob's Vaguel and Soucar returned and now Tirmuckmama has agreed to take only four Lack in Joys, the Remainder in Money on which the Nabob wrote to send Morarow here and he would agree with ^{him} accordingly Morarow is incamped to night,

about

56 Fort St. George 2^d June 1772

about three Cops off with five hundred Horse and is expected tomorrow Morning. In the Mahratta Camp they can't get Victuals, only three Sear of Rice for a Rupee Flower of Raggy one Sear ten Pice, little or nothing for their Horses, Oxen &c. so that Numbers of People and Cattle are daily dying and ^{the} whole Camp in Confusion desiring to go home, and now the Rivers begin to fill which I suppose will oblige the Mahrattas to make peace. Rice here, two Sear one fanam, other things in proportion, Numbers of People daily going off here by Fevers, Fluxes &c. owing to the Camp being now above two years in this Place, so that the Air & Water are bad by the Dead being left above Ground to be eaten by some Thousands of Pariah Dogs, and sometimes by the poor People who cannot get Victuals, a few Days ago the Nabob sent three People so many Cops distant from this Place for eating the Hip of a fat Bramin, who I suppose died suddenly, who was laid on the Pile of wood ready to be burned, by this you may judge how charitable the People are here, & how reasonable Provisions are, indeed the N. prevents Charity in his Country by giving twenty five Days, and sometimes thirty three to half a Month, and People that have a little Money, he finds them out by sending his dearly-beloved cursed Blood-hounds in search who Delight in robbing & Distressing the People; this hellish Cast of Devils came out of Arcot after playing the Devil there; Hasud Ally Cawn Deroga of this Country is Chief of their Cast; I believe the Almighty sent them as a Curse to the People of the Country for their Sins; for every Lack of Pagodas Hasud Ally Cawn robs the People of, he gets twenty five

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five thousand Rupees for himself and does not fail in-
flicting Punishments on these he thinks have not given
all, or those who he thinks are his Enemies, on Pretence
they have got so many thousand Pagodas. Colonel
Angel died here yesterday, and Meer Fazelah Cawn
Nabob (whose Father is Killedar of Arcot) died this
Evening. I have the Honor to be

P.S. pray excuse this long Letter to Honble Sir

Syringapatam

Your most obedient humble Servant &c

May 9th 1772. P.^r Tranquebar

Robt. Adams

17th Arrived this Day the Honble Company's Ship Royal
Henry with a Letter from the Honble Court of Directors
to this Committee Dated 27th Nov^r 1771.

18th Arrived this Day the Honble Company's Ship Notting-
ham with Duplicate of the above mentioned Letter.

20th Arrived this Day the Honble Company's Ship Lions
with a third Transcript of the Honble Court of 27th Nov^r
1771 & Copies of those of 10th and 25th April 1771 to this
Committee.

August 7th When M^r. Hastings embarked for Bengal the 2^d Feb^r

M^r. John Smith
appointed Member
of the Committee

last General Smith was in the Field and the other only re-
siding Member was confined to his Bed by Sickness and he
departed this Life the 9th February. The President then
remained the only residing Member. Had any Matter
occurred which required Secrecy or to be Deliberated in
Committee previous to its being brought before the Board
it was the Intention of the President to have consulted
General Smith in writing on the Choice of other Members
to form a Committee. but as nothing material has occurred
but

58 Fort St. George 7th August 1772

but what might with Propriety come at once under the Consideration of the Board the President thought it proper to defer the Election of other Members until General Smith's Arrival, who being now returned from Camp the President with him proceed to the Choice of another Member to form a Committee, and having both concurred in the Choice of M^r. John Smith. He is accordingly called in and takes his Seat as a Member of the Committee.

At a Committee Present
Friday
7th August
Josias Du Pré Esq^r Governor, President
Joseph Smith John Smith

M^r. J. M. Stone
appointed a Member
of the Committee

Upon Reference to the Orders of the Court of Directors of the 17th March 1769 and 3^d Jan^y 1770 containing their Directions respecting the Establishment of this Committee and filling up Vacancies occasioned by the Death, Departure or Absence of any of the Members, it is thereby ordered that the Committee shall not at any time consist of less than three Civil residing Members; in Conformity to which the Committee proceed to the Choice of another Member from among the Council; and M^r. Stone being Secretary to the Committee, he is unanimously appointed a Member thereof, & takes his Seat accordingly, of which it is agreed that the Council who are now assembled be informed.

Jos. Du Pré
Joseph Smith
John Smith

59 Fort St. George 8th Aug^r 1772

Saturday
8th August

At a Committee Present
Josias DuPre Esq^r Governor President
Joseph Smith John Smith
John Maxwell Stone

The Nabob applies
for a Force to reduce
the Polygars in
the Madura and
Sinnerelly Countries

The President acquaints the Committee that the Nabob had represented to him that the Polygars in the Madura and Sinnerelly Countries had taken the Opportunity of the late Troubles in which We have been engaged to rebuild their strong Holds and to strengthen themselves in their Pollams from which they were become very troublesome to the Circar & he therefore desired that a proper Force might be sent to reduce them by demolishing the Forts they have erected and laying open their Pollams, so as to put it out of their Power to commit further Depredations or of raising Disturbances in future when our Troops may be otherwise employed.

Considerations thereon

The Committee, previous to their taking the Nabob's Request into Consideration think it necessary to recite in a summary Way what hath passed respecting their Polygars.

In the latter End of the year 1766 the Polygars in the Madura & Sinnerelly Countries having committed many Acts of Violence in those Districts, and the Nabob's Troops in that Country being unable to suppress them, a Detachment of Troops under Captain Doreman was sent from Trichinopoly and Madura for that Purpose, which proving insufficient it was reinforced by a Battalion of Sepoys from Trichinopoly and the whole

put

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put under the Orders of Captain Harpor - This Force was however unequal to the Undertaking and Major Flint with a further Reinforcement was ordered to join and to take the Command. The Enemy baffled all his Attempts, & he was unable to reduce their Forts for want of battering Cannon which induced the Board in the beginning of 1767 to order Colonel Donald Campbell on this Service who in April 1767 marched from Trichinopoly with 200 European Infantry Rank & File, 500 Sepoys - 15 Artillery Men 2 Brass twelve Pounders - 2 six Pounders & 2 five Inch Howitzers to reinforce the Detachments already in the Madura & Tinnevelly Countries. Colonel Campbell succeeded in reducing their Strong Holds: but the Approach of a Rupture with the Soubah & Hyder Ally in August 1767 obliged Us to order Colonel Campbell with the greatest Part of the Troops employed on that Service to Trichinopoly which prevented his Settling with the Polygars as had been recommended to him: & he was obliged to leave that Business to Captain Frischman who then commanded at Palamcottah. Captain Frischman with the Nabob's Manager Luckametre found it impossible to oblige the Polygars to pay the whole of the Arriars alleged by the Nabob to be due from them, as they had not a Force to enforce their Demands; they therefore got what they could from them at that Time leaving the Remainder to be settled at a more favorable Opportunity. - About this time Hyder Ally and Mauphux Cawn wrote circular Letters to the Polygars encouraging them to take up Arms, promising to give them Assistance, and great Advantages in Case they joined in reducing the Madura & Tinnevelly Countries - The Polygars summed Doubtful what Part

Vice Consul^y
9th Sept^r 1767

They

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they should act, but it is probable the Fear of their not being effectually supported and the late Check they had suffered, prevented their entering immediately into the Proposals made them - However it is evident that their remaining at that time quiet was not proceed from Inclination but from the Want of a favorable Opportunity to take Part with the Enemy. Since towards the close of the War with Hyder Ally when he entered the Baramahal and detached Meer Phazul Ulla Cawn into the Madura and Tinnevely Countries, the Polygars then to a Man throw off the Mask, ravaged the Country and joined the Enemy with all their Forces; & as We received constant Advices of their Defection and of the Enemy's Success We may venture to affirm, that if the War had continued another Month, the Nabal would not have had a single Foot of Ground remaining in those Countries except the Forts of Madura & Palamcottah.

The foregoing Recital shows the Danger of suffering these Polygars to possess the Power of raising Disturbances and of course the Expediency & Necessity of reducing them to such a State as to render them incapable of giving Us future Trouble when We may be engaged in Undertakings of more Importance.

It may possibly be urged that considering the present State of the Connexion between the Nabal & the Company, and the Efforts he has made to render himself independant of them it may be imprudent to assist him in any measures which may tend to increase his Power, and of course strengthen his Views - but this Consideration can have little Weight in the present Case.

Since

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since the Orders of the Court of Directors are very full and explicit with regard to the Expediency of reducing the several Polygars to such a State of Subjection as to put it out of their Power to give the Circar any Trouble and the whole Tenor & Spirit of the late Orders from the Honble Court enjoin Us in the Strongest Terms to afford the Nabob every Assistance in our Power for establishing his Authority throughout his Country & while the Company are connected with the Nabob, We shall consider it as a Duty incumbent on Us to endeavor by every means in our Power to remove the Suspensions and Jealousies he has entertained to the Prejudice of the Company, and convince him of their Attachment to him, of their Desire to support his Interest to establish his Authority and to render him respectable in the Eyes of the Country Powers.

The foregoing Reasons induce the Committee to be of Opinion that the Nabob's Request should be complied with, and as this appears a most favorable Juncture since We have nothing to apprehend that may impede the Execution of this Business, the Committee are of Opinion that no time should be lost, but that the Expedition should be immediately undertaken, and for which the following Force is proposed with the Concurrence of General Smith Viz.

200 European Infantry

half Company of Artillery

one half Battalion of Sepoys with their Guns

two 18 Pounders

two 6 Pounders

two Howitzers

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to which the Nabob proposes to join three Battalions of his Sepoys with his Horse.

As it will be impossible for Us to put a Detachment in Motion unless the Nabob will advance the necessary Supplies of Money for that Purpose since it is with the utmost Difficulty We can provide for the Current Charges, the President is desired to apply to the Nabob on that Subject.

Agreed that the foregoing Minutes be communicated to the Board.

John M. Bré

Joseph Smith

John Smith

W. H. Stone

6A Fort St. George 10th Aug: 1772

His Majesty's Ship Dolphin having arrived last Night from the Isles, the President received a Note this Day from Sir Robert Harland, acquainting him that the Reports of the French having left the Isles and sailed for Europe are confirmed by M^r. Colpoys who commanded that Ship.

Thursday
27th August

At a Committee Present
Josias Du Pri Esq^r Governor President
John Smith John Maxwell Stone

Sir Robert Fletcher
takes his Seat at
the Committee.

Colonel Sir Robert Fletcher having in Consultation the 24th Instant, been appointed to the Command of the Troops on this Establishment and having in consequence taken his Seat at the Board; He is now appointed a Member of this Committee, pursuant to the Orders of the Honble Court of Directors contained in the 15th Paragraph of their Commands of 10th April 1771 and takes his Seat accordingly.

The Rajah of Tan-
javore apprehends
an Attack from
Hyder Ally.

The President acquaints the Com-
mittee that the Nabob had informed him that the Rajah
of Malavar had agreeable to the Nabob's Desire sent his
Troops to assist in reducing the Maravar & Naalcooty
Polygars; that the Nabob had lately wrote to him for further
Assistance to reduce the Polygars in the Madura and
Sinnerelly Countries, but had in the mean time received
a Letter from him setting forth that his Country was
threatened to be attacked by Hyder Ally Cawn and therefore
desiring that the Troops before sent might be returned,
and expressing his hope of Protection from the Nabob
should Hyder Ally make any Attempts against his
Country.

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Country.

Opinion of the
Committee thereon.

Upon Reference to the Agreement entered into between the Nabob and the Rajah entered in Country Correspondence 1767 N^o 7, it appears plainly that Travencore is Dependant on and tributary to the Nabob: the Rajah is also expressly included in the Treaty entered into with Hyder Ally Cawn in 1769: for which Reasons the Committee are of Opinion that it is incumbent on this Government to afford him Protection, if an Attack should be made on his Country: But the Committee being also of Opinion, that in case Hyder Ally Cawn should have entertained any such Design, that he may, by a proper Representation, be prevailed on to desist therefrom, the President is desired to converse with his Vaguit on the Subject.

J. M. B. R.

John Smith
J. M. B. R.

66 Fort St. George 5th September 1772

The following Intelligence was this Day received from
Gutty.

Intelligence from
Gutty of the Return
of the c. Mahasathas

Advice from our News Writers &c. who left the Mah-
rattalamp and arrived at Gutty in their Way to Madras
Dated the 20th of August 1772.

Triembuckrow stayed on the other
Side of Tungabudra till the 8th Instant or untill he set-
tled his Demand on the Zamudar of Auragundy on
Account of his insulting some of his Horsemen under
Pretence of their robbing his Villages, at length it was
settled for 20000 Rupees which he received and
moved from the other Side on the 9th and proceeded to-
wards Canacaghery which he left on the 11th with a Reso-
lution to cross the River Kistnah within the 18th.

On the 12th the Kittedar of Gur-
ramconda took leave of Morary on this Side of Tun-
gabudra and he having about 400 Horse with him was
afraid to march through the Zamudar's Country in
order to go to Gurramconda, wherefore by Permission of
Morary took his Rout through the Morary's Country
and arrived in Gutty on the 18th; as it is dangerous for
one to take his Journey at this Juncture without a
proper Company. We thought it necessary to bear Com-
pany with the said Kittedar and so We also arrived
at the said Gutty and intend to return to Madras by
the Way of Gurramconda and Cuddapanathom; The Na-
bobs News-Writers and Hircarrahs are likewise arriv'd
in Gutty, Morary stayed behind in order to settle
some Matters with the Zamudar of Auragundy and he
is expected to return to Gutty in a few Days.

Depending

67 Fort St. George 5th September 1772

Depending on your Promise of Reward We stayed and performed our Duty in the Mah-ratta Camp, and underwent great Dangers and Difficulties; One of the Hircarrahs has been cut off near Mulragat and 4 or 5 more died by Sickness occasion'd by the Badness of the Weather and Water during the War, all which We humbly recommend to your serious Consideration, hoping for a proper Reward.

Saturday
3^d October

At a Committee Present
Josias Du Pré Esq^r Governor President
Sir Robert Fletcher, John Smith
John Maxwell Stone

The President lays before the Committee the following Papers of Intelligence &c.^a respecting the French Forces at the Islands which he had received the 25th Ultimo from Sir Robert Harland, Copies of which he acquaints the Committee he has enclosed to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors to go by the Hawke Sloop to the Cape and to be forwarded from thence by the first Conveyance.

Extracts from the Remarks made by Mr. Colpoys at the Mauritius.

Intelligence from the
Islands respecting
the French Forces

Sometime in January 1772 an Express arrived at this Island ordering home all the Men of War and Troops which had been sent out here in January 1771. At the arrival of this Express, all the large Men of War were at the Cape of Good Hope in order to procure Provisions for the Troops and the Island in general which found itself much distressed

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distressed by the Addition of so many Souls. An Express was immediately sent to the Cape to detain the Men of War there, and the Troops were embarked on board such Men of War and Merchant Ships as were then in that Harbour and could be got ready for sea. All the Regiments of Etare & Artois with one Battalion of Comptois and Normandy were sent away in this Embarkation. Before the above Regiments left France all their Companies had additional Men given them: but before they left this, they were again reduced in order to leave some well-disciplined Men in the Island, to mix occasionally with the Legion, Militia &c.^a Those People that were left behind were such as had received Pardon for Desertion &c.^a and had been entered in the above Regiments just before they sailed from France, in Consequence of the Proclamation which had issued for that Purpose. These broken Companies with the Legion and one Battalion of the Royal Comptois are the only standing or regular Troops in the Island, and this Battalion it seems are to go home at the Fall of the Year. The Legion is for the most part composed of Officers & Men reduced at the Conclusion of the War; The Officers of it are entirely complete, which makes a great Shew of that Class here; but the Private Men are not complete by many; it was originally to consist of 1200 Men, which were to answer the Purposes of the Mauritius, Bourbon and the different Settlements on Madagascar and on that Account were called the Legions of France, Bourbon & Africa. The same Troops do Duty as Marines on board the King's Frigates and Flutes stationed in India. All of them that are

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are now here have Detachments of the Legion on board, the King's Frigates at first I thought this might be for want of Seamen, but upon Enquiry found it was an established Custom in all their Colonies. Beside the above Troops there are two Companies of Artillery in the Island which I have been told are not compleat.

The above Forces are all commanded by the Baron de St. Mark an Officer who served in Germany most of the late War.

The few Militia Officers whom I saw here wore blue faced with red, a white Button and a Flower de Luce on it. I saw no common People with this Regimental. The Militia I have been told are exercised once a Week in the different Quarters of the Island.

The Governor one Day wore a Regimental, red faced with yellow, which he took Care I should know was that of the Dragoons, and that he had been exercising them that Morning: all which from many different Circumstances I know to be false. I also know that there is no such Corps in the Island: the General & his Aid de Camp were the only two who seemed to know any thing about them. At all Events, if there was, they could properly be called but Infantry, from the great Scarcity of Horses I have been well assured that there are not thirty in the whole Island.

I took particular Notice as I passed by the Barracks that there were very few Men in them for so large a Building. I was there about Dinner time, which is a pretty sufficient Proof that there are much fewer

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fewer Troops in the Island than the General boasts of.

L'Indienne a French Man of War pierced for 64 Guns has only her upper Deckers on board commanded by the Baron de Rose at present Commandant of the King's Ships in India, went to the Cape of Good Hope about four Months since, and was to bring back Provisions for the Island, and that part of the Legion which had been embarked as Marines on board of the different Men of War which was ordered home from the Cape. Intelligence has been received from thence, that she had put out to Sea and was obliged to return there again to repair some Damages which she had received in a Gale of Wind. Her not arriving according to Expectation, seems to give much Uneasiness on Account of the great Scarcity of Provisions in the Island.

La Seine a French Flute mounts 26 Eighteen Pounders, has a Spar Deck, looks very like a cut-down Ship, seems to be of a great Breadth, was dismasted in her Passage from hence to the Cape, in Consequence of which she was obliged to put back again, she had some of the Troops on board that were intended for Europe and which she was to have put on board the Men of War at the Cape, she was to have performed the same Service as the *Indienne*. She now lies without a Stick standing, the Day before I came away, the General had agreed for the Masts of a Large Merchant Ship which had been drove on Shore during the Hurricane, they were by no means large enough for her, but not having any in Store they must make them do when got ready, She is to proceed for Europe with
the

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the Troops that were formerly embarked on board Her.

La Normandie a Frigate of 32 Guns was drove ashore here during the Hurricane, was got off soon after, has been lately hove down, and is to proceed for Europe about the Fall of the year. She has three Ports of a Side below.

L'Africaine and the Comte de Mence two Flutes of 26 Guns each, both heaving down by the Berier Hulk (called the Bercan in Captain Johnston's Remarks) and both met with the same Accident as the Normandie: they are fitting out with the utmost Expedition for Madagascar and it's thought will be ready to sail about the 5th July, their Detention has also added to the Scarcity of Provisions in the Island.

Two Flutes of 22 Guns each lay bilged but not dismasted, they also had been drove on shore in the Hurricane. The French seem to think they'll have no Trouble in recovering them, but I am pretty sure one if not both of them are inevitably lost.

L'Ambulante and la Morn Brabant, Flutes of 24 Guns each were lost a little Way to the Westward of Port Louis during the Hurricane, the latter drove out from hence in the Height of it with a Number of People on board, no Sails and but very little Ballast, she was afterwards by a Shift of Wind drove on Shore where she was entirely lost, but all the People were saved.

L'Isle de France a Flute of 22 Guns arrived here the 1st Instant from the Manilas, she is an old Ship, the Time for which the King hired her is
now

Fort St. George 3.^d October 1772

now nearly expired, therefore its thought She will return to Europe about September, the Captain of her has an Ensign's Brevet which is to expire at the same time.

Le Penthiver, Le Duras & Le Masiac the above three Ships arrived here from L'Orient in the Course of the last three Weeks and are bound to China. The first of them mounts 30 Guns on the Main-Deck, her Ports of a good Size and a very good Distance asunder, She has three of a Side on the lower Deck & I am told is capable of being made a 64 Gun Ship. She is now deep laden and the Distance from the lower Cell of the lower Deck Port to the Water's Edge was $5\frac{1}{2}$ Plank somewhat narrower than those in the Sides of the English Ships.

Le Duras a very old Ship has made a good many Voyages to China, 18 Ports & a Side on the Main Deck, Ports below the same as the Penthiver and in all other Respects the same.

Le Masiac the same as the Duras in every Respect. There are more China Ships expected here in the Course of next Month.

S^t. John the Baptist a Vessel of 18 Guns lately arrived here from Manila, belongs to some French Merchants in Bengal for which Place she is shortly to sail.

Four large Merchant Ships mounting from 16 to 20 Guns, one of them expected to sail for Cayenne on the Coast of Guiana in about three Weeks, the others were preparing to sail for Madagascar, Mosambique and other Parts of the Coast of Africa on the Slave Trade. They daily expect the Arrival of some Ships from Europe with Money & Goods fit for that Trade.

There

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There were several small Vessels at the Head of the Harbour such as Brigs, Snows, Schooners &c. most of them carry Guns and were fitting for the Slave Trade.

The Flutes were all of them very burthensome Vessels, as might very well in smooth Water fight a few Guns between Decks as they have three Ports of a Side below.

Three small Vessels from 30 to 50 Tons were building on different Ships in the Harbour there were also two large Machines building for cleaning the Harbour which Business is to be carried on under the Direction of the Baron de Rose.

The Men of War that carried the Troops home from the Cape were L'Actionnaire of 64 Guns, L'Union D^e, Le Mars capable of mounting the same Number, La Fortune, La Nourrice and Le Hector Frigates with some hired Vessels. I have been told that there were great Rejoicings in the Island at their Departure as not only the Islanders but the Troops sorely felt the Inconvenience of so many Souls being on it.

Le Praslin a Flute of 24 Guns sailed for Europe in October last, had been at Pondicherry where she had taken in Goods on Account of some English Merchants at Madras.

The Governor told me he expected some Men of War from the Cape, but I am well assured that the Indienne is the only one expected from thence or indeed the only one they have in India that's not

in

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in this Port at present, and she is to go home at the Fall of the year. On board of her, the Seine, & Normandie the remaining Battalion of Comptois are to be embarked;

There's a Frigate of 30 Guns expected here shortly from Europe with Chev^r Sierney the new Governor to relieve Chev^r Des Roches. I understand he is not to have such extensive Powers nor the Title of Captain General which the present Governor has, and who it seems is recalled sooner than he expected, on Account of some Quarrels which have happened between him and the Colonists; it seems he had an extensive Plan on Foot for strengthening and fortifying this Island, but not being properly supported at home (since the Removal of the Duc de Choiseul, who it seems had the Welfare of this Island much at heart) he has been obliged to give over all his Projects which every body allows promised fair to be of Service to his Country, tho' perhaps not to the Inhabitants of the Island who must have had additional Taxes laid on them for the Execution of these Schemes.

The last Accounts from Europe seem'd to say that the French East India Company would be again re-established, but that the King intended keeping Possession of this Island and Bourbon.

The Day we sailed from hence the Ganges a Ship of 20 Guns arrived here from Bengal & Pondicherry. She had on board a Number of Slaves, and I learnt she was to proceed for Europe about the Fall of the Year.

Calculation

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Calculation of Troops which I am pretty
sure are in the Island of Mauritius.

Sick at the Hospital	500
Three Guards at D ^o	30
Law on the Parade	250
Guard at D ^o	30
Different Guards in & about the Town	50
Belonging to the Frigates and Flutes now here	110
Two Companies of Artillery; they have been out three years & have not received any Recruits	200
Two Companies of the Royal Comptois at the Powder Works	200
At the South-East Harbour	50
	<u>1420</u>

Calculation from Reports.

Royal Comptois originally banished here for some Misde- meanor, have been out three years & have rec ^d no Recruits	800
Draughts from the Regiments of Artois and Nor- mandie which went home	500
Of the Legion now on board the Indienne and which had been embarked on board the different Men of War that went home from the Cape	200
At different Quarters of the Island, and which I have many Reasons to Doubt	200
At Bourbon which I have also much Reason to doubt.	200
	<u>2000</u>

True Extract

Geo. Paterson
Jco^y

Extract

76 Fort St. George 3^d October 1772

Extract of a Letter from the Cape of Good Hope dated 25th March 1772. received by a Danish Ship 15th June.

There are three French Men of War at this Place, the Union, the Indienne, and Actionnaire of 64 Guns each commanded by Mess^{rs}. Monteil, La Rasse, and Tronjoly. They have been here three Months waiting Orders from Europe; three Days ago they received Orders to take on board two Battalions of Royal Comptois and the Irish Regiment of Clare to be brought from the Mauritius to this Place in their Way to Europe. So that there will remain at the French Islands the Legion, the Regiments of Artois and Normandie. The Chevalier Des Roches, and Monsieur De Poirre the Intendant are recalled and Monsieur Tierney is to succeed to the Government.

Extract of a Letter from the Cape dated May 8th 1772 received by Greenwich Indiaman July 15th.

The Union & Actionnaire have sailed for Europe with 300 Men of the Regiment of Clare on board. The Indienne is the only French Ship of War now at the Cape and it is understood that she is to sail soon from hence.

Extract of a Letter from the Cape of Good Hope dated 29th June 1772 received by the Nassau Indiaman September 3^d.

La belle Poule a French Frigate of 36 Guns and 250 Men is just come into False Bay. She has the Chevalier Tierney on board who is to succeed the Chev^r. Des Roches in the Command at the Mauritius.

True Extracts

Geo: Paterson Secy

The

Fort St. George 3^d October 1772

The President acquaints the Committee that having conformable to the Resolution of last Committee conversed with Hyder ally Cawn's Vaguit respecting the Rajah of Malabar's Suspicious of his Master's Designs against his Country, the Vaguit had assured the President that he was entirely unacquainted with any Intentions his Master might have with Respect to the Rajah of Malabar, and knew not whether his Country was in any Shape dependant on or connected with the Mysore Country; that He would however immediately write to his Master and obtain full and particular Information from him — that the Vaguit had accordingly wrote to his Master and received his Answer wherein he directed the Vaguit to assure the President that the Suggestions of the Rajah of Malabar were without the least Foundation; that no part of the Travencore Country is in any Shape dependant on him: that he has no Demands whatever on the Rajah nor the least Intention of undertaking any thing against Him.

W. M. G.

Rob. L. L.

John Smith

A. H. M.

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Fort St. George 15th October 1772

At a Committee Present

Thursday 15th October Josias DuPré Esq^r Governor President
Sir Robert Fletcher, John Smith
John Maxwell Stone

Letter to the Honble the Court of Directors of this Date to go by Ship Nottingham read and signed. Ordered that the Packet be closed.

Jos. DuPré
Rob Fletcher
John Smith
J. M. Stone

79 Fort St. George 26th December 1772

Saturday
26th Decem^r.

At a Committee, Present
Josias DuPré Esq^r Governor President
Alexander Wynch, Sir Robert Fletcher
John Smith, John Maxwell Stone

The President acquaints the Committee that the Nabob having received Advice of the Intention of the Honble Court to send a Person to reside at Poonah as soon as the Orders of the 25th March last of Duke of Grafton reached Us: he seemed much alarmed thereat lest any Measures or Connections might be formed repugnant to the Interest of the Carnatic. That the President had endeavored all in his Power to remove his Apprehensions on that head by assuring him that the Intention of the Honble Court in sending M^r. Mostyn to reside at Poonah comprehended the Interests of the Carnatic as well as the Company's on the Malabar Coast, and that their principal Object was the Establishing a firm Peace with the Mahrattas for both. Nevertheless the Nabob having lately received Advice of M^r. Mostyn's Arrival at Poonah, his Apprehensions are returned, & which are, that in order to obtain Advantages for the Company on the Malabar Coast, the Interests of the Carnatic may not be duly attended to - And all the Arguments the President could use had been insufficient to quiet & satisfy the Mind of the Nabob, who had therefore addressed to him the following Letter.

From the Nabob.

Dated & received 18th Dec^r 1772

I hear that M^r. Thomas & Mostyn, a
Gentleman

80 Fort St. George 26th Decem^r 1772

Gentleman of the Council of Bombay has lately proceeded to Poona agreeable to Orders from the Company, to negotiate with the Mahrattas. As my Knowledge of this State, the Manners & Customs of this Country is of long standing, possibly my Schemes and Endeavors for the adjusting of Matters with any Power in the Hindostan Empire might be better than those of many Europeans! — You are fully acquainted with my firm Friendship & Attachment to the Company: also with the intimate Connection, there is in our Affairs (so intimate indeed that they are as one and not to be separated) I shall therefore now inform you of what is my Desire — it is this — that, as in the settling of those Affairs of my best Friends which may be satisfactory, it will afford me Pleasure if I can be of any Service or Assistance therein, if you will advise me of any such, my utmost Endeavors shall be exerted to accomplish them — I have great Dependence on my best Friends, & think I should pay the same sincere Attention to their Affairs they do to mine! — Mr. Mostyn I make no Doubt has positive Orders from the Company respecting the Carnatic in the extensive Territories of which the Company are concerned! but although it is true they have a knowledge of the State & Affairs of this Country, still your Knowledge thereof, being upon the Spot is greater than theirs, I should be obliged to you therefore to write to Mr. Mostyn, telling him that supposing his Negotiations to proceed with Success, he would make your Advice and Desire the Guide of his Conduct. All my Aim is Peace, & the Protection of my Country, and that the Mahrattas, either to demand the Choute or any thing else, may never enter

Fort St. George 26th Dec^r 1772

enter the Carnatic! Let the Preservation therefore, both of me and my Country, from such Demands be ever in your View! The Company and I maintain a large Force, supposing then, such Demands to be made, and for the Reasons aforementioned, I am obliged to purchase a Peace: with Submission, there is no Necessity for maintaining of such a Force; and it is certain that any Revenues are not sufficient to answer both Purposes - There is no Occasion for my mentioning how much the Company's & my Reputation will suffer by a Compliance with such a Requisition of the Mahrattas on the Carnatic and on the Ally of the English Nation and the Company, as I am neither a Dependent nor a Tributary to any one. I well know there are Points, by which both the Company & I may reap great Benefit and acquire great Honor by the Mahrattas and you will know my Sentiments thereon! - Be so good as to reflect on this and to send me a favorable Answer, that my Uneasiness may be removed! What can I say more?

Agreed that a Letter be wrote to the Select Committee at Bombay informing them of the Orders We have received from the Honble Court as contained in the 57 & 58 Paragraphs of their General Letter of 25 March last, of the Nabob's Fears and Apprehensions, and requesting they will authorize Us to give the Nabob the like Assurances on their Part with respect to the Intent of Mr. Mostyn's Negotiation as have already been given him

by

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by the President and with which We hope he will be
satisfied.

Jos. Du Pré
Wm. Mearns
Robt. Plunket
John Smith
J. W. Mearns.

83 Fort St. George 28th Decr 1772

Pursuant to the Resolution of last Committee the following Letters were this Day wrote.

To the Honble William Hornby Esq^r
President & Governor &c^a Gentlemen of the Select Committee
at Bombay
Honble Sir & Sirs

Our Honble Masters in their Commands of this Season have thought fit to communicate to Us the Purport of their Instructions to your Honor &c^a relative to the Intercourse with and the Conduct they wish you to hold towards the Mahrattas and Hyder Ally Cawn. Their Commands to us are of the same Nature; and it is our full and firm Intention to observe them inviolably. The Tenor & Spirit of them enjoin the Observance of a strict Neutrality, and defensive Conduct. We observe that in their Instructions to your Honor &c^a which they communicate to Us in the enclosed Paragraph they are desirous of obtaining the Possession of Salset and Bassaim and that they hope to effect it by a good Understanding to be cultivated with Madavarow, by the Means of a Resident to be sent on your Part to Poornah. Their Instructions to us are to be assisting to your Honor &c^a in your Plans so far as they may not thwart the Political System of this Coast, or be repugnant to that steady and uniform Neutrality which they are anxious to maintain throughout all Indostan.

The Appointment of a Resident at Poornah having reached the Nabob of Arcott, he expressed

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expressed to us much Anxiety lest any Measures or
Connexions should be formed, repugnant to the
Interests of the Carnatic - It has been our Endeavor to
remove these Impressions by assuring him that the In-
tentions of the Honble Court, in appointing M^r. Mostyn
to proceed to Poona, comprehended the Interests of the
Carnatic as well as those of your Presidency, and had for
their principal Object the establishing a firm Peace with
the Mahrattas for both - Nevertheless the Nabob having
lately received Advice from Poona of the Arrival of
M^r. Mostyn there, his Apprehensions have returned
and he addresses to our President a Letter on the Sub-
ject, of which We enclose a Copy for your Information,
In a few Words his Apprehensions are that in order
to obtain Advantages to the Honble Company under
your Presidency, the Interests of the Carnatic may
not be so fully attended to as they would be if Negoci-
ations were carried on directly from this Presidency
and particularly that the Pretensions of the Mahrattas
to their Choute on the Carnatic may not be effectually
opposed - It is in vain that We assure him that whether
Negociations be carried on by your Honor &c or by Us,
the Object is the same, that is to say the Interests of the
Company, consistently with the Interests of their Friends
and Allies; and as your Honor &c are perfectly ac-
quainted with the Interest the Company have in the
Peace & Prosperity of the Carnatic, it is not possible your
Honor &c should ever accede to any Measures derogatory
thereto. We have only to add that such Assurances on
your Part will enable Us to give more perfect Satisfac-
tion

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tion to the Nabob: and for the rest your Honor &c will always find Us ready to co-operate with you for the general Good.

We submit it to your Honor &c whether it may not be proper that M^r. Mostyn should not be instructed to advise Us if any thing material which may arise in his Negotiations, respecting the Hon^{ble} Company's Interests on this Coast - If you should think this necessary We request you will be pleased to forward to Us a Copy of the Cypher in which you correspond with M^r. Mostyn. We are with Esteem,

Hon^{ble} Sir & Sirs

Fort St. George
28th Decemb. 1772

your most obedient humble serv^{ts}
Josias Du Pré

&c^a Committee

To Peter Elwin Wrench Esq^r
Chief &c^a Factors at Anjengo
Gentlemen

We request you will be pleased to forward the Accompanying Packet to the Select Committee at Bombay with all Expedition. We are

Gentlemen

Fort St. George
28th Decemb. 1772

your most obedient humble serv^{ts}
Josias Du Pré

&c^a Committee

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vising of the Return of the Mahrattas into the Balaghaut &
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Appointed Member of the Committee 58.

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Monday
6th January

At a Committee Present
Josias Du Pré Esq^r Governor President
Warren Hastings, Samuel Ardley

The following Letters were this Day
signed & dispatched.

To the Hon^{ble} William Hornby Esq^r
President & Governor, &c^a Gentlemen of the
Select Committee at Bombay
Hon^{ble} Sir & Sirs

Letter to Select Com-
mittee at Bombay ad-
vising them of the Sen-
timents & Orders of the
Company on the pre-
sent State of Affairs.

In our Letter of the 10th Ultimo, a Dupli-
cate of which comes herewith, We advised you of the Motions
of the Mahrattas, of their Demands of Assistance, of the
Nabob's Desire that we should comply therewith, of the Ex-
pectation we were in of receiving Orders from the Company
with Respect to the Measures to be taken: and of our Reso-
lution in the mean time to hold ourselves in Readiness, but
to ^{stop} ~~wait~~ until those Orders arrived, unless the
Fort was actually attacked. We are now to acquaint
you that the long expected Orders are arrived, & it is with
Pleasure We find that the temporizing Conduct We have
observed with Respect to the Mahrattas & Hyder Ally is en-
tirely approved by the Court of Directors — they earnestly re-
commend that we continue to avoid, if possible taking part
with either, and to confine ourselves solely to the Protection of
the Carnatic & the Company's Possessions in it. Under these
Circumstances we have it not in our power to afford any
Assistance to Hyder Ally, and altho' We much dread the
Consequences of his entire Reduction by the Mahrattas.

We

Fort St. George 6th Jan^y 1772

We cannot be justified in interfering in their Quarrel

We hope this Letter may reach you, before you shall have come to any final Determination upon the Answer you may receive from Hyder Ally, or at least before you shall have taken any Measures or given him any Assurances in Consequence for altho' the Company's Orders to you & the State of your affairs might justify your opposing the Mahrattas by assisting Hyder Ally against them yet it is possible that you would be obliged to assist after having begun for we must inform you that His Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary has communicated to us his Intention of averting the Distress with which the Mahrattas threaten this Province by a Negotiation with them, which may possibly end in a National Treaty of Peace & Friendship, and we are of opinion that in Case such a Treaty should take place the Company cannot lawfully appear in Arms against them. We shall advise you constantly of the progress of this Negotiation, for if it should not terminate in such a Peace, it must end in an Invasion of this Province. In such an Event, as it would be impossible for us to prevent the Ravage of this Province even with all our Forces, and we cannot from hence carry the war into the Mahratta Country. We think a respectable Part of our Forces sent round to you might in Conjunction with yours, and assisted by His Majesty's Squadron, be employed to advantage; it would be Presumption in us to propose a Plan as you must be more competent Judges of what may be effected on your Side. — but we have suffered ourselves to think that the Mahrattas might be distressed in their Navy & Shaports and as their Capital is not many Days March from your Coast — perhaps even that, might not

be