2. Da
3. Init

82/428

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

9/7-7-1942

Fort St George 3rd January 1774

Force of the Dutch at Nagapatnam —

By Accounts which We believe may be depended on, there were in Nagapatnam when Our Army marched from Nagore Eleven hundred Europeans Sick for Duty, & Invalids & Burghers, about four hundred besides nine hundred Malays, & about 1500 Sepoys —

We are informed that the usual Garrison in Nagapatnam consisted only of about 400 Europeans & Topasses, two thirds of which were Europeans & one third Topasses, besides about four hundred Sepoys & Malays, most of the additional Troops are said to have arrived from Ceylon. Their Establishment, & their Subordinate Settlements on the Coast, is very inconsiderable & hath not that We have heard, been increased — We understand that some Guns & Military Stores have been lately received at Nagapatnam, but We have not been able to ascertain the exact Quantity —

A Report prevails that five Dutch Ships have been seen off Nagapatnam, supposed to have on Board a large Reinforcement, to their Indian Establishment on this Coast, should this Report prove true, We shall not fail to advise You of it

We have the Honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient & most humble Servants

Alex Wynch & Council

Read a Letter from the Nabob as No 1 on Record in Country Correspondence, with Copies of Letters from Ragonaut Row, Pundit Purdhaun & Mauduroo Sadasheva to him — & Copies of Letter from the many

Letter from the Nabob No 1 with Copies of Letters from the Maharatta Chiefs

5 Fort St. George 3d January 1774.

to Anandarow, Jagonauthrow & Cockel, together with the Copies of several other Letters, as entered in Country Correspondence after No 2.

The Substance of the said Letters,

The Maharattas require assistance against Hyder Ally Cawn or the Arrears of Chout and the Restoration of Tanjore

from the Maharattas seems to be, a requisition of assistance against Hyder Ally Cawn, or the Payment of the Arrears of Chouth, together with the Restoration of the Tanjore Country. It is not indeed clear from the Letters, whether the Restoration of Tanjore is not required at all Events.

The Board determine to observe a strict Neutrality

However much the Board is desirous of avoiding a Quarrel with the Maharattas, yet the Situation of this Government from its Engagements with Hyder Ally Cawn is such, & the Directions of the Court of Directors so clear & explicit, that unless very particular & unforseen Circumstances arise, it is impossible for the Board, to yield any assistance to the Maharattas. The Sentiments of the Company & the Resolutions of the Board on this Head, were fully explained to the Nabob by the late President, in a Conference he had with him as related in Consultation the 15th Decem.r 1773. As to the Payment of the Chouth to the Maharattas, the Nabob is Master of his own Money & may do in this respect as he thinks proper, but it must be recommended to him to preserve sufficient Resources for reimbursing the Company, the Money due to them & for the Discharge of their Expence attending the Defence of the Carnatick.

As to the Restoration of Tanjore to the Rajah, the Board are convinced the Nabob regards

regards that Conquests as too Capital an Object, to be easily induced to Yield it up, on the Requisition or the threats of the Maharattaes—

Corn.t Ratzell Dies at Tranquebar—

The Presidents Reports the Death of Comet Ratzel at Tranquebar—

The Draft of an Answer to Bo.t Stratton's Letter of the 22 Ult.o as entered Yesterday having been prepared, was read & Approved & ordered to be wrote fair, when the following Letters came in from Vizagapatam.

Sir.

Letter from M.r Stratton Disturbances in the Circar—

It is with much concern I am to acquaint You, that Yesterday Evening I received Intelligence, from Salmon of Ensign Wootten being cutt of at Chimmedy, with the Party which accompanied him to Guzzepatdoo & this Morning the same was confirmed to me by Letter received from Capt.n Candler— I have the Honor to enclose You Translates of my two last Letters to Guzzepatdoo, with the Precautions I had taken to Secure them— also Copies of the above Intelligence, with the Orders I have given in consequence, all which I should be happy to find meet with Your Approbation— I shall continue to acquaint You with every occurrence & the Steps I may find it necessary to take, not only to quiet the Disturbances there, but to prevent them if Possible in future, whereby the Company's Revenues may be effectually secured, Paying every Attention to the Orders You may send me—

I had the Honor of writing to You the 21st Inst. since which I am informed by

7 Fort St. George 3rd January 1774

by Any Mercarahs, that Sivatcheranze has stopped some Provisions, which the Rajah was sending to his People at Saungakea Tap & is making vergial Barrees in the Pallour Country, to prevent his having any Communication with Them, which convinces One of his bad Intentions & confirms Me in the Opinion, He ought to be punished, but Sitteramanze cannot Do this, without the Assistance of some of the Company's Sepoys, which I shall not grant to him, without first having Your Orders.

I have the Honor to remain with Respect Sir

Your most Obedient humble Servant

Geo: Stratton

Vizagapatam
the 26th Decem. 73.

The Honble Alex. Wynch Esq.

To Guzzepatdoo Zemindar of Chimmedy

4th Decem. 1773.

for Wm. Stratton to Guzzepatdoo ordering him to repair to Vizagapatam

The Serjeant Major has wrote to Me the Purport of what You have been speaking to him, namely that on the Serjeant Major asking You, the reason of Your keeping a Guard at the Tap of Saravacotah, You replied that You did it not on Account of the Company, but for fear of Sitteramanze - & that You would remove them if it was thought proper - It is well - & if it is Any Benefit that You not only remove that Guard, but also that You discharge the Troops that You have entertained in Your Service - if You act in this manner, I shall be induced to think that You are not desirous of the Company's favor, You say that it is this fear of Sitteramanze, that You have entertained these Troops - You must be sensible that Sitteramanze is not Master of this Country - He is only a

Fort St. George 3rd January 1774

Reminda you like Yourself & without any Permission how can he invade Your Territory - If You have Disputes with each other You should prefer Your Complaint to the Company & not spend Your Money in raising Troops for Your Defence, that is not the Method - If You conduct Yourself in a proper Manner towards the Company You need not fear any thing - As soon as You see this Letter You will discharge all Your Peons & Cattah You have Retained, repair to this Place to settle Your Business with the Company, if You do not & should make any delay I shall have cause to think You do not want the Company favor - You know the trouble Your Father brought on himself by being refractory & I am surprized You should think of entertaining any Forces - Should the Company be displeased with You, what would Your Force avail You - therefore what ready Money You have collected pay in part of Your Debt to the Company & either come here Yourself or send Your Uncle Pagan

repeat that I expect an immediate compliance with these Orders -

G S -

To Veerapermaul & Souba Row

The Serjeant at Chunnedy writes, acquainting me, that Guzzepatdoo, would discharge his Troops he had posted at the Barrier at Sarauy cotah, if I thought proper, & I have accordingly wrote to Guzzepatdoo, not only to remove those Troops, but to discharge his whole Peons. Besides which I have desired that either Pagatdoo or Guzzepatdoo would come here to settle the Company's Pennamabundy, You must therefore take care & forward this

To Veerapermaul & Souba Row in Consequence of the Letter to Guzzepatdoo

Fort St George 3rd January 1774

This Business without loss of time. You best know the proper Methods to be taken, to recover the Company's Money - whenever You collect any from the People, send it immediately to the Sowcar & advise me.

To Guzzee Jewdoo

21st Decemr 1773.

To Guzzee Jewdoo delivered by Ensign Wootton

The Letter You have sent me has been received, & I understand well the Contents - I wrote to You to come hither - & Your Answer to me was, that You wanted the Company's favor, that You would be glad, to send Your Uncle Vetaubdoo, but on Account of Your Enemies Who are Powerful You do not chuse to do it - that if on the side, we would send Our Dubash Juggarow, You say, on Your side You will send Vetaubdoo - to send Juggarow now I cannot, having occasion for him at this Place; I have however wrote to my Officer Mr. Wootton, to assure You of Your safety, in whatever manner You may desire & them to accompany You down here - When You & Mr. Wootton confer together, You will know the particulars of every thing, I do not therefore write You particularly - speak to Mr. Wootton without Delay & repair hither as soon as possible - As You cannot be much versed in Business on Account of Your Youth & Inexperience, bring Your Uncle with You or any one else You think proper - don't let anything disturb You, but make Yourself perfectly easy, As You & all the World know the Company's Charitable Disposition, therefore let nothing hinder You from coming. Not thinking the two Companies already at Pimmondy sufficient for the purpose of collecting & watching the

10 Fort St. George 3d January 1774

The Grain is the Reason I have ordered two more there, & You must give some of Your People also to Convey & Guard him every Assistance on this Account & if We settle Your Business, Our Sepoys shall all be ordered back from Your Country, but while there is any necessary on the Company's Account, that they should be there, therefore come as soon as possible

&c.

To Ensign Wootten

Sir.

Vizagapatam Dec. 24. 73.

To Ensign Wootten accompanying the former to Guzzepatdoo directed to offer himself Security for his Person and to urge his Compliance with the Orders of the Company.

The accompanying Letter to Guzzepatdoo, You will be pleased to Deliver to him, in doing of which You will make use of every Argument in Your Power to prevail on him & his Uncle, Vetaubdoo, to proceed to this Place, in consequence of my repeated Orders, assuring them at the same time that they need not be under any Apprehensions whatever, for the safety of their Persons, as a Proof of which You will offer to be their Security & will accompany them with a proper escort to this Place. Sincerely wish Your Endeavours may be attended with Success, as it is the farthest from my Intention, to give them the least Molestation, of which I now give Guzzepatdoo every Assurance, as I have also done in my former Letters to him, You will lose no time in acquainting me & Govdie, how far You have succeeded. He has my Orders to proceed with the two Companies of Sepoys to Simmedy, as I understand from Verago Pennaul, the Force You have there is not sufficient, to secure the collection of the Revenues.

From Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

&c

To

In Fort St. George 3rd January 1774.

Vizagapatam 21st Decemr 1773.

To Lieutenant Gowdie
Commanding at Selmore.

Sir

To Lieutenant Gowdie to March to Kimmedy with two Companies of Sepoys and to seize Guzzepultoo if Longer Woolens Endeavours fail.

I have received Your Letter dated the 15th & 18th Inst. inclosing those You mention from Ens: Wootten, Commandt & the Guard at Yanamundalum as the Persons sent to Kimmedy represent the Force at that Place, as insufficient for the collection of the Revenues, I am to desire You will March Wootten with two more Companies of Sepoys, giving every effectual assistance to those placed there on behalf of the Company — It will be necessary that You issue 20 Rounds of Ammunition to each Seapoy, giving Orders that a further Quantity be in readiness, to be sent after You, on the shortest Notice, as I think every precaution ought to be taken, against any Troubles that may happen at Kimmedy —

The Inclosed Letter under a flying Seal to Ensign Wootten, You will be pleased to forward immediately to him, & I sincerely wish the Plan I have there laid down to him, may be attended with Success, but should he acquaint You on Your Arrival at Kimmedy, that Guzzepultoo will not accept of him as his Security & thereby refuse to come down to this Place, You will in this case take on the most effectual Means of securing Guzzepultoo & his Uncle Putaubdoo, whom You will send hither under a proper Guard — You must be careful not to let any Intentions be known to any Person whatever for tho' You may find it necessary to consult with

Lieutt

12 Fort St George 3rd January 1774

Vermault, on the proper Plan for securing him, while I would not have You let him know that You have any Instructions from me; for doing so, until You are on the point of putting the same into Execution, when You will keep Vermault with You & not suffer him to go out of Your sight, least he give Guzzeputdoo Intimation thereof. You will give me the most early & constant Intelligence of Your Proceedings & that I may receive Your Letters as soon as possible. You will place two or three Persons more between Pelmore & Chicacole, having wrote to Lieut: Lecher to forward them immediately from thence. I have directed Capt Barclay to send two Thousand Musquet Cartridges to Pelmore.

I have acquainted Capt Mathews with the Orders I now send You to march to Chimmidy & should the nature of the Service make it necessary, as to require an additional Force, I have directed him to afford You this Assistance on Your Application to him.

I am Sir
Your most Obedient Servant
G S...

To Capt Mathews
Commanding at Chicacole
Sir.

Vizagapatam 25th Decemr 1773.

To Captain Mathews
Directing to afford Lt
Gowdie if required

It having been represented to me, that the Force at Chimmedy is not sufficient to secure the Revenues there of I have thought it expedient to order Lieut Gowdie to march thither with two Companies more, which I hope will answer the purpose Intended, but as Guzzeputdoo may raise Troubles in that District & thereby oblige Lt

Lt. Gowdie, to proceed against him he may in this case want an additional Force, which on his Applic-ation You will send to him & if necessary take the Command Yourself of the whole Detatchment, I have often wrote to Guzzee-Jun Boo to come here & disband the Troops he has lately taken into his Service, but hitherto, he has paid no attention to any Orders & makes it therefore the more necessary that Poland take every precaution to secure the Revenues of Pummedy for the Company. I now write to Mr Barclay to send 10000 Chuckrah Ammunition to Pellmore.

I am Sir
Your most Obedt Servant
G S

Received 25 Decem. at 12 O'Clk.

Pellmore 24th Decem. 1773 at 4 Oclk.

Sir.

From Capt. Candler to Lt. Stratton appre-hensive that Gowdie is not strong enough to oppose the Rajah and inclosing—

I am afflicted to the last Degree, at the enclosed which this moment arrived. I have sent to Chicacole for the assistance of more Companies, as I am afraid Gowdie will not be able to stand his Ground, the Rajah being very strong & the Company's very weak, Guns will now be absolutely necessary.

I am Sir with Respect
Your very Obdt Servant
S Candler.

Received 25th Decem. at 12 O'Clk.
From Lieut. Gowdie—

No Date to this Letter—

Letter from Lt. Gowdie to Capt. Candler requiring assistance & accompanying the following—

From the enclosed Intelligence I need not tell You, how necessary more assistance will be. I think You ought to send me the Ammunition under a strong Guard on Receipt of this—

S

Fort St. George 3rd Janry 1773

I shall take all the Men from this but One
Guard with an Havildar to whom I shall give Orders
if attacked to make the best of their way to Pellmore.

Yours Francis Gowdie.

Received the 25th Decemr at 2 P.M.
To Lieut: Gowdie.
Sir.

PS I shall be at Kammedy by Day light
I hope soon enough to save Ammon, pray make
haste with the Ammunition.

23d Decemr 73. at 6 P.M.

Intelligence from Serjeant Ammon to Lt: Gowdie apprehensive for the safety of Ens: Wooten and his Party.

Mr Wooten & Vermaul went to the Rajahs this day, by the Clock in the Afternoon with 1 Havildar 1 Naigue & 12 Sepoys & by 3 O'Clock I was informed, as that, the Rajahs Troops had surrounded the Place where Mr Wooten & Vermaul sat with the Rajah & that there was One Naigue's Guard & when Mr Wooten left this he ordered One to send out 3 Sepoys & post them on the Road, & when he should send to One for 30 Sepoys to send them immediately & come Myself, but I suppose as that Mr Wooten had no Opportunity to send a Message, for there came none to me, but I am afraid Mr Wooten & Vermaul are killed or Prisoners, the Country People are all in an Uproar.

Received the 25 Decemr at 2 P.M.
To the Commanding Officer at Pellmore.

Sir: Ammon

Kammedy 23d Decemr 73 at 7 P.M.

A Letter from Serjeant Ammon advising of the Hapless of Ens: Wooten Vermaul and twelve Sepoys.

Just as I dispatched the last News of this dismal Affair, I was informed as that Mr. Wooten & Vermaul with the 12 Sepoys that went to the Rajahs, were all killed, before We know any thing of what happened, & we could not send any Party to upon time enough to from hence, being near 5 Miles from this to the Rajahs where it happened & I not

morning

15 Fort St. George 3rd Janry 1774.

receiving any Orders nor Intelligence, so I did not know what to do, but keep myself with what few men I got under Arms - There is only 90 Men with me present there being so many sent out on Command, & at a great distance, some 12 Cos from hence - It is reported as that the Rajah killed Mr. Wooten with his own hand & all his men with him were killed in a Minutes time & that there was but one Musquet fired, our Men's Firelocks being not loaded, nor Primed. & the Rajah's Men which were there, all armed with Swords with them - I send the Bearer by a By way, as I do not know a Step the Barrier on this side of Our Guard at Saravacotah be clear, as there is two Barriers & Only One Guarded by Our Sepoys - The Rajah with his Men are all under Arms near his Quarters & We are under Arms likewise, waiting for Orders from You, which You will please to send as soon as possible - I am Sir

Your humble Servant

Sos Ammon

Chinacole 24th Decem 73 at 9 AM

Received 25th Decem at 2 PM

To George Stratton Esqr

Sir.

I received a Letter this Morning from Capt Caudler, desiring 4 or 5 Companies immediately to assist those already at Kimmedy however as I had no Orders from You to that Purpose I have deferred sending them until I hear from You. I shall have the Grenadiers Companies immediately compleated, there are but 4 European Officers here at present - If a Detachment should go from hence, I should be glad to know what Officer should go -

Letter from Lt. Locke to Mr. Stratton waits for his Orders to assist Capt. Caudler

16 Fort St George 3rd January 1774

I am Sir
Yours to command
Tho.s Leeke

To Lieutenant Leeke
Sir

Vizg.m 25th Decem.r 73 at 2 P.M.

from Mr. Stratton to Lt. Leeke supposed at this delay and orders him to send 5 Companies immediately

I have this Instant received Your Letter dated Yesterday & am much surprized You did not comply with Capt.n Caulders request in sending him a Serjeants Guard when he wrote to You so pressingly for it—

It is my Orders that on Receipt of this if You have not done it already You order 5 Companies the shortest Route to Vizianagy under the Command of the eldest Officer & forward the accompanying Letter of Instructions to Capt.n Matthews at Voonday leaving Therein given him Orders to proceed immediately & take upon him the Command of the Troops at Vizianagy—

I need not tell You how necessary it is to send a proper Quantity of Ammunition with the Sepoys—

I am Sir
Your most Obedient Servant
G Stratton

Lt. O'Neal will proceed to Chicacole immediately.

To Capt.n Matthews.

Vizagapatam 25th Decem.r 1773 at 6 P.M.

Sir

Letter from Mr. Stratton to Capt.n Matthews to proceed to Vizianagy and to take the Command of the Troops there.

I send You herewith Copies of the Letter I have this Instant received from Vizianagy with the One from Lt. Leeke at Chicacole, whom I have directed to send Lt. Gowdie away Expeditiously endeavouring 5 Companies to march instantly to Vizianagy under the Command of the Eldest Officer there—On the Receipt of this You will also proceed to Vizianagy & take upon You the Command of the Troops at that Place

Fort St. George 3rd January 1774

Place, & fall on the most effectual means of quelling the Troubles there. I propose ordering from hence two Three Pounders this afternoon, with a Company of Sepoys under the Command of Ensign Read, Whom will have Orders to march with the greatest Expedition to Chicacole & from thence to Vizimmedy, —

I am Sir.

Your most Obedient Servant.

Lt Lecke will proceed to Chicacole from hence directly —

To the Commanding Officer at Chicacole —

Sir.

Selimore 24th Decem. 73 — 9 oClock.
Received at Vizag at 4 PM

from Capt. Candler the People at Vizimmedy in danger of being over powered —

For Gods sake hasten the Detachment as I am in the utmost fear of all my People at Vizimmedy being Massacred — Send Muzquet Ammunition in plenty with them & let Capt Mathews know of this Business with the utmost dispatch — I am Sir

Your very humble Servant.

J Candler.

Received at Vizag: the 25th Decem with the above } Chicacole Decr 24th — 73 —

To George Stratton Esqr

Sir.

By the enclosed Letter You will see the danger the Detachment at Vizimmedy is in, & the necessity for immediate assistance, I am therefore just going to march with my own & the two Sepoy Companies with Ensign Goddard & Rupelle —

I am Sir

Your most Obedient humble Servt.

Thos Lecke

from Lt. Lecke to Mr. Stratton inclosing the former from Capt. Candler

Sir —

Since writing to You this forenoon, I have received Letters from Selimore of which I enclose You Copies & am with much Respect. Sir

In Fort St. George 3rd January 1774

Vizagapatam
26th Decem. 73.
5 P.M.

The Honble Alexr Wynch Esqr.

To Geo: Stratton Esqr
Chief of Vizagapatam

Sir

Your most Obedient humble Servt.
Geo: Stratton.

Pellimore 24th Decem 73. a 6 in the Evening.

Copies of Letters to & from Capt. Candler

Candler

Letter from Capt. Candler to Mr. Stratton the Enemy in Possession of Sarracotah Pass Lt. Gowdie Surrounded

Enclosed I send You a Chit just received from Lt. Gowdie since which the Guards at Sarracottah Pass have been obliged to retreat & the Enemy are in Possession of it, so that now Lt. Gowdie is entirely surrounded & in want of Provision & cannot hold out above forty eight hours longer, I sent a Pattah immediately. I have wrote four Letters to Mr. Leche for Aid yet while no Answer, For Gods sake Sir be expeditious otherwise the poor People will be all lost.

John Candler

To Capt. Candler

Dear Captain

from Lt. Gowdie to Capt. Candler obliged to act upon the Defensive and for Want of Provision upon an Account of the Passes are by a Wounded Sepoy.

I arrived here about 5 O'Clock: but on my Approachment with Sergeant Brunton, I was obliged to quit his Post as he was attacked by the Evening & had Intelligence that Gurzepundoo had sent three Thousand Men round the Hills to the Sarracottah Barrier to intercept his Progress, my March & cut off his Retreat, by this Step he has lost Many things however I think he did what he ought to do, Your Tents are all burnt likewise all the Stuff & Provisant of Cooking Utensils Officers Baggage, all but his Escritoire is lost. I have by no means Men enough to act in the Offensive, for which

19 Fort St. George 3rd January 1774.

which Reason I must stay where I am, Vile I am Rein-
forced - I Believe that all the Sepoys are put to Death, that
were out on Command - another thing I shall have no
Rice for the Sepoys, but will continue here as long as
possible & when obliged to quit the Place, retreat no
farther than the Pass, there I hope You will let me find
every necessary, for the Refreshment of the Sepoys, I
have One of the Poor Sepoys that is wounded here, he
is shot in the Right Breast, I wish I could send him
to You, he says that Mr. Wootton was shot before him,
in two Places, the side & the breast, & that all was done
in a Minutes time, on the Rajah making a signal &
that the Rajah & Wootton were talking in a very friendly
manner just before - I wish You would let me have the
earliest Notice of any Reinforcement, as You know that
Sepoys don't fight well when their Bellies are empty -
I have nothing else to say, but You know I have no
more Ammunition than is in the Pouches -

Yours
Kennedy Dec. 24th 1773. Francis Gowdie -

P.S. I shall keep the strictest look out, & not fire a
Shot, Vile I have them at a short distance -

To George Stratton Esq. Sellmore 24th Decem. 11 Clock at Nights.
Chief of Vizagapatam.

Sir,

from Capt. Gordon to Mr. Stratton Lt. Locke arrived with 3 Companies dispatched to assist Lt. Gowdie -

A Little time ago Lt. Locke arrived
with three Companies of Capt. Mathews's Batt. & I
immediately dispatched him, to the assistance of Lieut.
Gowdie, with Orders in his Route to retake the Paracotah
Barrier & to place in it a Serjeant a Subidar & 60
Sepoys

20 Fort St. George 3rd Janry 1774.

Sepoys directing them to maintain it to the last extremity, it being a Pass of vast importance — when any thing further happens You shall be acquainted therewith —

John Candler.

True Copia
T. Norris —

To George Stratton Esqr.
Chief of Vizagapatam —
Sir.

Fellmore 24 Decemr 1773
10 Clock A. M.

from Capt.n Candler to Serjeant Ammon if 90 Men makes his Retreat good before the Whole Force of the Rajah anxious for the fate of the detacht Guards —

I have just learnt a few particulars of this dreadful Event, which I beg leave to trouble You with — Yesterday morning the Rajah made a Present of a Horse, desiring him to come to him at 7 in the Evening. He accordingly went attended by a Havildar, Naigue, & 12 Sepoys, with Permaul a little after they arrived they were surrounded & massacred to a Man. The Serjeant had only 90 Men left out of two Companys the rest being detached in small Guards round the Country, all the Rajahs Forces made an Attack upon him, at 12 at Night — he made a judicious Retreat towards the Pass & in the Road was met by Lt Gowdie, who took the whole under his Command & returned immediately to repossess himself of the Village — what has happened since I cannot be acquainted with, but fear those detached Guards & the sick left in the Village, must all have suffered, to the amount of 50 or 60 People —

A Reinforcement from Digapoody will now appear more necessary, as this Precedent has reduced my People to almost nothing —

I am Sir with Respect
Your very Obedient Servant
John Candler

Extract

21 Fort St. George 3d January 1774

Extract of a Letter from Capt. Candler to Geo: Stratton Esqr. Dated 24 Decemr. 1773 at Ft St. Geo.

Extract of a Letter from Candler describe the spirit and abilities of Lt: Gowdie

Mr. Lloyd who has now a Commission in the Infantry, I've ordered to act as an Ensign, till Your Pleasure be known, & shall send him to Vizagapatam — in this particular, I have not acted amiss —

The moment I can use my Legs to any purpose, for as yet I can hardly crawl, I shall go thither, however Lieut: Gowdie's Spirit & Abilities may implicitly be relied on — but if he is not timely assisted, the Company's will stand a chance of being disgraced —

Depend on hearing from me every 5 or 6 Hours

I am Sir with Respect
Your very hble Servant
John Candler

The Chief & Council ordered to take Possession of the Circars on the Company's Account

The Board are much concerned to hear of the Revolt of Guzzepuddoo & of the Troubles which are likely to ensue in the Circars. At present from the general Information they have received, they will not pretend to give a Judgement on the causes which have impelled Guzzepuddoo to so rash an Action as the Murder of Ensign Stratton & his Party of Sepoys, But as such treacherous Conduct has undoubtedly rendered him unworthy of any future favor from the Company, It is resolved that Directions be sent to the Gentlemen at Vizagapatam, to take & keep Possession of the Shimoogdy Country, on the Company's Account, until they receive further Orders on this Head, from the Board & in the mean time that they take the most effectual Measures for restoring Peace in the Country & if possible to secure the Person of Guzzepuddoo, whose Conduct in this Affair appears so extraordinary that the Board think it necessary to enquire from the Chief & Council of Vizagapatam the

Fort St. George 3d January 1774

three most particular Information of this Matter.

To George Stratton Esqr
Chief &c Council at Vizagapatam.
Gentlemen.

Letter to Vizagapatam on the Troubles in the Circar the Revolt of Guzzapaty Doo on Murder of Ensign Wooten.

The President has duly received Mr. Strattons Letter, dated the 22d Ult. giving Intelligence that there is some Reason to Apprehend the Mahrattas intend entering the Cicacole Circar, thro' the Pass leading into the Munda poram Country called Sauraka coorocootoo.

We have considered the Contents of the above Letter, but are not able from it, to Comprehend from what Motives Vickeramdoo & Sanasheranze should be induced to bring the Morattas into their Countries, seeing such a Measure can bring nothing but Ruin & Devastation with it to themselves.

Your Chief having omitted to treat on this matter with sufficient Clearness, We are compelled to form the best judgement on the case, We are able, from the Knowledge we Have in the Affairs under Your Management, We must however observe, that a more satisfactory Account of this Matter, might have been expected from Mr. Stratton, Who being in a situation in all respects favorable for obtaining such particulars as can be depended on, ought not to have neglected mentioning mentioning them, with his Sentiments thereon, as being absolutely necessary for our Information.

We have never heard that either Vickeramdoo of Vizianagaram or Sanasheranze of Salloor, have any Interest considerable at Chagroon, but on the other hand We have heard & have reason to think that Sheranzee has, & maintains a constant Correspondence with the Principal Persons in Authority there. When We consider at the

the same time, how much greater his Consequence is, in the Circacole Province, than that of any other Zemindar, & that he is in possession of the Teada Country & the principal Pagoda therein called Sameacca Coroocoolo. We are at a loss to comprehend how Vickeramdoo & Sanaitheramayze could raise the Maharattas against Sitteramayze & equally surprized that Sitteramayze should remain ignorant of a Design so very prejudicial to his own Interest, as well as that of the Company, until it was ripe for Execution, for doubtless he ought to have heard of it when it was in Agetation at Nagpoor.

Suggamaut ramze the Vackeel of Sitteramayze now here, informs the Board that he has received a Letter from his Master acquainting him that the Force now collected at Caula Chundy, is about 8000 Horse; but says nothing of their Intentions.

If the Maharattas are really invited into the Circar by Vickeramdoo & Sanaitheramayze, We may reasonably suppose, they must be drawn to it, to free themselves from the Oppression of Sitteramayze & which must be very grievous, to require so desperate a Remedy. On the other hand it may be only a Pretence made by Sitteramayze, that He may have a Plea for getting into his own hands all the Nundapooram Country & which he has no colour of excuse for attempting, but by throwing some Blame on the Zemindars now holding Possession, to prove them unworthy — so that whichever way this Matter is considered Appearances are against Sitteramayze —

Without some Proof We cannot suppose that Sitteramayze himself would bring the Maharattas into the Circar, but if there was any foundation for such a Suspicion

2d Fort St. George 3rd January 1771

Suspicion, We should judge it much more probable to be a Work of his, rather those of Vickeramdoo, from his never having mentioned his Fears, & moreover as the means for accomplishing it, are much more in his Power. We are rather inclined to suppose, it is only a Pretence of his to get the whole Country of Ramdaporam into his own hands.

Pallicon it is certain by its Situation may Distress the Troops of Sitteramanaig stationed at the Pass, but that Place itself is also liable to the same Inconveniency, from the Troops of Sitteramanaig & the strongest in the Field will have the Advantage which Sitteramanaig doubtless has, he being stronger & has in his hands as We are informed the greatest part of the Pallicon Country; very little more than the Fort remaining to Sanashenaig: He is therefore the Person, who has most to fear, which is confirmed by his leaving a Jaidar in Pallicon, & retiring to Narrainpatam a Place of greater safety, as not being so much within the reach of Sitteramanaig.

Should the Marrattas invade the Circar, We depend upon Your taking every Precaution in Your Power to save the Country from being ravaged. & in the meantime to dispose of the Detachment acting under Your Orders in the best manner that time and Circumstances will permit drawing from Tellicherry & Your other Garrisons, as much Force as You can conveniently, without Risque. By Mr Stratton We perceive Sancacca, to be very strong We should suppose that Sitteramanaig would be able with his own Troops to guard it. But this circumstance We think requires Your particular Attention. If You are clearly of Opinion that the

Fort St George 3rd January 1774

the Mahrattas will actually make an Attempt, to enter the Country, it appears to Us that Sallore would be a good Station, for Your Detachment, as from thence the Troops at the Bar, can be supported & supplied with Provisions & also should the Marrattas attempt to enter by any other Route, You will be well situated to oppose them, without loosing time —

If this Report should on the end turn out to be nothing more than an Artifice of Sitteramrauze; for drawing Our Troops into the Field, to support him, in what he may chuse to undertake, We direct, that You will put an unexceptionable Bar to such Proceedings, as being highly prejudicial to the Honor & Interest of the Company. We are very clear in Our Opinion, how far the Authority of Vizeramrauze extends in the Zemindary of Cundapooram, on which Subject We shall not enter further at present, than to declare Our Disapprobation of every Measure, which may have a Tendency towards encreasing his Authority there & We desire Your Chief will inform Sitteramrauze, that he is not to expect to have the Sanction of the Company, for committing Acts of Oppression, to the Detriment of the other Zemindars, but on the contrary that We are determined, to support them all in their just Rights — & in the present Case we desire You signify to him, with Our Troops, We direct that He be not permitted to commence Hostilities against Vickeramdoo, by marching any of his own Forces into his Country, or in any other Shape molesting him —

As Your Chief represents, that he apprehends Vickeramdoo & Sanasherduze are endeavouring to bring the Mahrattas into the Circar — We direct

that

26 Fort St George 3rd January 1774

that those Inhabitants be made acquainted with the above Report, & if they do demand their Reasons for such Conduct. Since Writing thus far the President has communicated to us Mr. Stratton's Letter of the 26th Inst. We can only at present say that the Treacherous Conduct of Guzzeputdoo, has rendered him unworthy of any further favor from the Company & We therefore direct that You do immediately take & keep Possession of the Country of Chinnapatty on the Company's Account, until We can send You Our further Orders - In the meantime We recommend that the most Effectual Measures be taken for restoring Peace in the Country & if possible to secure the Person of Guzzeputdoo, whose conduct in this Affair appears so extraordinary that it is necessary We should have the best Information, You may be able to obtain, of the Motives which could induce him to so rash an Action -

We are Gentlemen
Your Affectionate Friends
Alexander Wynch & Council

Fort St George
3rd January 1774.

The foregoing Letter having been transcribed & Signed was immediately Dispatched -

Wynch

Co. Dalton
Henry Brooke
Jno. Fakeoder
Lt. Wood
Tracy

27 Fort St. George 3rd Janry 1774.

3d This day the following Letters were received—

To the Honble Alex.r Wynch Esq.r
Governor & President of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir.

Letter from Capt Marcellen—

I had the honor of receiving Your Letter Yesterday morning, Capt Hopkins with the first Battalion of Sepoys did not march with the 500 Pagodas Pechinoply, but is within one days march of the, immediately on receipt of Your Orders, dispatched a Letter to him signifying him thereof with & that I should halt here this day, for his joining me & to make all possible haste, I expect him on to day, when I shall proceed agreable to Your Orders, for Vellour, Capt Mackay will likewise proceed with the remainder of the Battallion for Madras— I remain

Honble Sir with the greatest Respect
Your most Obedient humble Servant.
Henry Marcell—

Camp near Vickery pandy Decem.r 29th 1773.

Honble Sir.

Letter from Col: Bonjour—

I have received Your Letters of the 25th & 27th Instant, in consequence of which I have Ordered the Forces You desire to be in readiness, to take the Field the first Detachment I hope will march the 2d or 3d of the next Month & the 10 Battalion of Sepoys he will proceed the next day, I could not dispatch them sooner on Account of some difficulties for to procure the Bullocks necessary—

2 Lt Tinkler Davis of the 4th Batt.n of Sepoys died at this Place the 26th Inst.t accept Any Compliments of the approaching Season, having the honor to be with Any best Wishes for Your Health & Prosperity

Honble Sir
Your most humble &
most Obedient Servant.
A. St Bonjour—
Colonel

Trichinopoly
the 31st Decem.r 1773.

20 Fort St George 4th January 1774

4th Colonel Ross Lang being ordered to join the Troops encamped near Vellour The following Orders were this day delivered to him —

To Colonel Ross Lang.

Sir.

Letter to Col: Lang to take the Command of the Troops near Vellour —

You are hereby appointed to the Command of a Detachment of Troops encamped near Vellour. You are therefore to proceed with convenient Expedition to take upon You the Command thereof & upon Your Arrival You will deliver the accompanying Letter to Major Harper

I am Sir
Your most Obedient Servant
A Wynch —

Fort St George
6th January 1774.

The same day the following Orders were sent to Major Harper —

To Major Humphrey Harper
Commanding Officer of the Troops encamped near Vellour.

Sir.

Letter to Major Harper to deliver over the Command of the Troops to Col: Ross Lang —

You are hereby directed to deliver over the Command of the Troops to Col: Ross Lang on his Arrival at Vellour with such Orders as You shall receive from me, respecting the Detachment.

I am Sir
Your most Obedient Servant
A Wynch —

Fort St George
6th January 1774.

To Lieut: Henry Lyttleton
Commanding at Carricoil

Sir.

Letter to Lt Lyttleton to deliver over the Command of Carricoil to the Nabobs Officer & join his Battalion at Vellum —

You are hereby directed to deliver over the Fort of Carricoil, to Capt Bilderbeck in the Nabobs Service & deliver to him the enclosed Letter. You will then March with the three Companies of Sepoys under

29 Fort St George 5th January 1774.

under Your Command & joins Capt. Brown at Vellam

Fort St George
January 4th 1774

Sam Sir
Your most Obedt & Servt
A Wynch

At a Consultation Present
Alexander Wynch Esq. Governor Presidt
Joseph Smith
Henry Brooke
Wednesday 5th January — Charles Smith — Samuel Johnson
Jos Mark Stone — Edward Stracey
Edward Coltsford

Messrs John Smith & Dawson Indisposed

The Minutes of last Consultation read & approved

Letter to the Nabob respecting Hyders Propositions

Read Draft of a Letter to the Nabob, as entered in Country Correspondence N° 2 in reply to his of the 29th Decemr respecting Hyder Ally's Propositions for an Alliance with the Carnatick (Vide Con: 31st 1773) Approved & Ordered to be sent

Letter to the Nabob respecting the requisition of the Mahrattas

Read likewise Draft of an Answer to the Nabobs Letter of the 1st Inst as entered in Country Correspondence N° 3 respecting the Requisition of the Mahrattas, for assistance against Hyder Ally Cawn, on the Arrears of Chouts & the Restoration of Tanjour (Vid: Cons: of Consult: 3d Inst) Approved & Ordered to be sent

The Messengers informs the Board that the Nabob this Morning gave him to understand that Nagonaut Row was in expectation of being able to settle Matters, with Sabaje Bhoonsala, thro' the Mediation of Hussun ul Doulah & if he accomplishes this, it is said he & the Subah intend to enter the Carnatick

Read the following Letter from

Charles
John

2.

30 Fort St George 5th January 1774.

from Bombay enclosing Copy of a Letter from Mr Townsend at Cyringapatam —

To the Honble Alexr Wynch Esq
President & Governor &c Council at Fort St George.

Honble Sir & Gentlemen.

Letter from Bombay.

Having received a Letter from Mr Townsend a Gentleman on this Establishment, who is at present with the Nabob Hyder Alley at Cyringapatam & not knowing whether he has communicated to Your Honor &c the Intelligence it contains, We now enclose a Copy of it for Your Notice —

We have been duly favored with Your Letter of the 5th Instant,

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Your most Obedt humble Servants.

Wm Hornby
D Draper
W Ferris
N Stackhouse
S Watson
B Fletcher
Wm Taylor
R. Gansell.

Bombay Castle.
9th Decr 1773.

To the Honble William Hornby Esq
President & Governor &c Council in Bombay

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Letter from Mr Townsend advising of Mr Rapelle's negociation on the part of the French with Hyder Alley

In consequence of what advised Your Honor &c in the Dispatches from Anjar, I had a meeting with the Nabob at this Place on the 17th Ult.o but the Preparations which have been for some time making for the Wedding of his Son Sippoo Saib has prevented any Publick Business being done in the Durbar —

Mr.

Fort St George 5th January 1774

Mr Rupelle a French Capt. Who succeeded Mr Eagle in the Command of the European Cavalry here, is now negociating with the Nabob, by Directions from Pondicherry, for assisting him with a Body of three thousand Europeans, including Officers with their Arms — Mr Rupelle demands the Sum of ten Lacks of Pagodas, to be paid down, which the Nabob objects to, unless the French will first give Security, that they will punctually fulfill their Engagement. This Affair has been in Agitation, seven or eight Days & the Nabob at last has empowered Mr Rupelle, to write to Pondicherry on the Subject, for the Nabob makes no other Negotiation, to accepting the offer, than the fear of being deceived by them, after he has paid the Money — This Body of Men Mr Law is to permit to take the Nabobs Service, by Leave Mr Law says from the French King as he has not Employment for them in India, The Commanding Officer is to have 5000 Rupees p Month the rest of the Officers in proportion & the Common Men thirty (30) Rupees p Month besides an Allowance to be made for each Musquet they may bring with them —

I shall continue to advise Your Honor &c during my stay here of what may further pass on this Subject, as being a Matter that very nearly concerns the Honble Companys Interests in this Country — I remain with the greatest Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient & most humble Servt

William Townsend —

Servg Sultan.
6th Nov. 1773.

A true Copy
Geo. Thos Secr.

Read the following Letter which was received Yesterday from Sir Robt Maitland —

Gentlemen

32 Fort St George 5th January 1772.

Fort St George 4th Jan.y 1772

Gentlemen

Letter to Sir Robert Harland, the Rulet thereunto at Negapr. if thought necessary, to write remonstrate against their keeping out a Force on the Coast

Yesterday I received Your Letter of the 3d. for which I am obliged to You, I am now to ask You whether it does not appear very extraordinary, that after all Disputes were understood to have been finally settled, between the Nabob & the Dutch there should still be such a Military Force maintained at Nagapatam. That Every thing should still be landing Arms, Ammunition, making Tents & Gun Carriages, training & disciplining Soldiers, Sepoys & Artillery & increasing their Military Establishment on the Coast, beyond all Example; insomuch, that Europeans as I understand exceed the Number of Soldiers which this Presidency can bring into the Field.

This Appears to me to be a Matter of very great Importance, therefore I beg leave to recommend it to Your serious Consideration, & should You think that those Warlike Preparations, indicate any Hostile Intentions which may be Interrupted, or the Companys Interest in Bengal endangered, either by the Dutch joining a French Army, or any other Hostile Power, Who may appear in those Parts; I shall be ready to remonstrate against their keeping such a Force on the Coast, that We may by that means bring the Dutch to an Explanation of their Designs.

I shall be glad to receive Your Sentiments on this Subject fully as soon as convenient.

I have the Honor to be Gentlemen

Your most Obedient & most humble Servant.

R.t Harland.

Alex.r Wynch Esq.r
President & Council Fort St George.

The Board are Obliged to Sir Robert Harland, for the Readiness which he expresses to

Fort St George 5th Janry 1774 —

to consult with them on Measures tending to the Publick Utility — However at present the Board have no reason to imagine that the Dutch by their late Warlike Preparations mean to disturb the Peace & Tranquility of the Carnatick — or to adopt any Plan which may endanger the Company's Interest. We have some Reason to believe that the Force, which they lately assembled at Negapatam, was intended either to assist the Rajah of Tanjore, or to support themselves in their Disputes with the Nabob. Now that these Disputes are terminated, should the Dutch keep up so great a Military Establishment at Negapatam much longer & shew no Intention of returning their Troops to Ceylon & the other Places from whence they came, there may then be some Reason to imagine, that they carry their Views further than merely to the Defence & Security of their Ancient Possessions —

the Board think a remonstrate at present not Necessary.

shew

A Draft of an Answer is now prepared to the foregoing Letter as entered in the Subsequent Diary —

A Wynch
Joseph Smith
Geo Dawson
Henry Brooke
Sam. Johnston
Cliff Jones
Ch Stracey

34 Fort St. George 6th January 1774.

6th. The following Letter Draft of which was agreed on in Yesterdays Consultation was this day sent to Sir Robert Harland.

To Sir Robert Harland Bart.
Rear Admiral of the Blue & Commander in Chief of his Majestys Ships in India & his Minister Plenipotentiary

Sir.

Letter to Sir Robt Harland regarding the Dutch at Negapatam.

We have received Your Letter of the 4th Instant & return You thanks for the readiness You express to Consult with us in every Measure tending to the Publick Good.

At present as well as We can judge, We have no reason to believe that the Dutch by their late Preparations at Negapatnam, intend to distrub the Peace & Tranquility of the Carnatick, or to pursue Measures which may endanger the Company's Interest. It is probable that the Force which they have at Negapatnam was collected there either to aprs the disposed Rajah of Tanjore, or to support themselves in their late Disputes with the Nabob, but as these Disputes are now finally settled & as they have no longer any Pretence for maintaining so considerable a Military Force, at Negapatnam; should they delay sending back their Troops, to the Places from whence they came, after they have had an Opportunity of doing so, We shall then be of Opinion that there may be some Reason to imagine, that the Dutch have other Designs besides the Defence & Security of their own Possessions, in which Case We shall be happy, to cooperate with You in every Measure, which may counteract their Views

We have the honor to be Sir
Your most Obedient & humble Servants.
Alex. Wynch & Council

Fort St. George
January 6th 1774.

35 Fort St George 6th January 1774.

At a Consultation Present.

Thursday 6th Janry

Alexander Wynch Esq. Governor President.
Joseph Smith
George Dawson — Henry Brooke
Charles Smith — Samuel Johnson
John Macdonald — Edward Stracey
Edward Cotsford.
Mr John Smith Indisposed.

The Minutes of last Consultation read & approved.

The following Letter having been received this Afternoon from Sir Robert Harland, the President thought proper to summon an extraordinary Council this Evening in order to take the same into Consideration.

Letter from Sir Robt. Harland proposing Writing to the Mahrattas and Nizr. evincing them with national Resentment if they Invade the Carnatic.

Fort St George 6th Janry 1774.

Gentlemen.

I never chuse to interfere in Your Concerns, nor do I mean to give You any trouble about the Political Arrangements of this Country, but when my Duty immediately requires it, or when I think the Character I am invested with or the Forces which I command, may be employed to advantage, You are well acquainted with the Situation of this Country, & as I am inclined to believe, You are not well disposed to acquiesce in the Terms of Friendship, which the Mahrattas have proposed, You will allow I suppose of a possibility at least of an Invasion, while their Army remains on Your Frontiers. This however I only mention by conjecture, if I am wrong You will forgive me, as I am perfectly ignorant of Your Views or Intentions.

However I consider the Interests of the Carnatick & of the Company, to be the same, & that

We

Fort St George 6th Janry 1774.

It is impossible for this Country to suffer, but it must affect their Interests, in a very material manner, for unless Peace can be maintained in this Country for a time, besides the present losses, unseperable from a War, I can conceive an Absolute impossibility for the Nabob to fulfill his Engagements with the Company, or to Individuals, I am willing therefore to believe that You will be ready to acquiesce, in any Scheme, for the common advantage even altho' the National Force under Your Command should be made use of, either to intimidate or to act vigorously against any Enemy threatning the Peace of the Carnatick, or endangering the Safety, Interest or Influence of the Company.

I have therefore taken the liberty to propose, that If You be under any such Apprehensions, from the Maharattas, as I have mentioned, both You & I should write to that Power, representing in the strongest Terms, the Inclination the English have to live at Peace with them, & to preserve an that uninterrupted Friendship with their Nation, which has subsisted for so many Years, which We should be sorry to break tho' or interrupt, however both as His Majesty & the Company considered the Carnatick to be, under their immediate Protection, & were deeply interested in its Welfare, should a Maharatta Army enter this Country, in a Hostile Manner & burn a single House, or wound a single Inhabitant in it, the Injury should be considered as done to the English, as a Nation, and resented accordingly by all their Force & Influence in India.

O I

37 Fort St George 6th Janry 1774

I know the Independant Constitution of Your three Presidencies do not suffer You, to expect at all this to take Place; nevertheless the Supposition may be useful, & may perhaps make the Mahrattas, turn their thoughts to Peace. But should they enter the Carnatick, notwithstanding such Representations, I am ready to execute my part & if You will heartily Cooperate with me, as the Squadron under my Command is now at Tricomale, I should think it a glorious Opportunity of teaching the most Powerful Indian Nation to respect an English Application, for Friendships, as We might on the yet unsettled State of the Maharatta Government, not only make an acquisition of Salsette, which has been long an object of Desire to the Company, but also We might Penetrate into the Heart of the Poonah Country, which would soon draw their Army, from hence, if it had no further advantageous Consequences—

Thus I have taken the Liberty to propose to You Gentlemen, as the foundation of a Plan, in which the National Force under my Command might be employed to advantage, to obtain Peace, if possible by the Influence of their Name joined with Yours or to prosecute the best Method of defending Yourselves at the expence of the Enemy—

If You should approve of this Proposal, or of You should chuse to make any alteration or amendment in it, which may be more suitable to Your Circumstances, You have only to express Your Wishes to me & as I have no other Views but the Publick good, You may depend on every assistance in my Power to give You, but if this Plan is to take Place at all, I suppose no time is to be lost, Your

wile

30 Fort St. George 6th Janry 1774

write therefore see the necessity I am under to
request Your immediate Answer

I have the honor to be,
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient & most hble Servt
R. Harland

Alex Wynch Esqr
President & Council
Fort St George

The Board, having maturely, con-
sidered the Substance of the foregoing Letter they think
it necessary to make the following Remarks thereon

Remarks thereon

By the Motions of the Mahrattas
& every Information which We have received, it does not
appear certain that they intend to commit Hostilities
in the Carnatick, but allowing that such is really
their Intention, will our writing to them, in the man-
ner proposed by Sir Robert Harland, prevent it? or ra-
ther may not our denouncing Vengeance against the
Mahrattas, for Injuries which he perhaps does not
intend to commit, urge him to those very measures
which We are so desirous to prevent? To threaten with-
out the power to carry into execution, betrays
Weakness & Apprehension, & therefore believe those
Who are intrusted with the Management of Publick
Affairs, to consider well, how far they can act, before
they venture to make use of Threats. Should the
Mahrattas after such Menaces enter the Nabobs
Country, what means have We for making such a
Vigorous Opposition? We have at present but a
very small Sum of Money in Our Treasury & We do
not believe that Bengal is in a condition to supply
Us with such immense Sums, as no doubt we shall
would require, & the Situation of the Gentlemen in
Bombay for want of Money is so distressing that We
fear they will find it very difficult, even with large

Instances

Fort St. George 6th. Janry 1774.

Supplies from Bengal, to defray the necessary Expences of their Establishment, in time of Peace — To whom their are We to apply? To the Nabob — Our Records shew that We are not to expect any thing considerable, from him even if his Country is in a State of Tranquility, & in case of an Invasion he declares his Inability to make us any further Payments — If the Province is Invaded by the Maharattas We shall certainly oppose them, in the most vigorous manner, Our Resources will allow of, but as the Resources must depend principally upon the Nabob, Our President is desired to wait upon him in order to find out what Supplies of Money & Provisions We may expect, if Our Army takes the Field, in consequence of an Invasion by the Maharattas, & likewise what Stock of Grain & Provisions is laid up in the several Forts —

We cannot help remarking that there are certain Insinuations conveyed in some parts of Sir Robert Harlands Letter, which appears to Us equally unjust as they are unmerited — In corresponding with Sir Robert on the late Subjects, which have come under Our joint Consideration, We have invariably manifested not only Our unwearied Zeal, to support the Nabob in his Government, but likewise, the greatest Readiness to consult with Sir Robt Harland, upon all Occasions, wherein the National Force under his Command, could be employed to the Publick Advantage, how then have We deserved the Reflection couched under the following Words — "I am willing therefore to believe, that You will be ready to acquiesce in any Scheme for the Publick advantage, even all the the National Force, under my Command should be made use of either to intimidate, or to act Vigorously against any Enemy, threatning the Peace of the Carnatick,

to Fort St George 6th Janry 1774

Carnatick We or rather how can Sir Robert Harland reconcile, such an Insinuation, with his Ideas of Candor & Justice. But as We are determined at all Events to avoid an exasperating Correspondence, with Sir Robert, & as it does not appear to Us, by any means necessary for our Justification, to reply to such Vague & groundless Insinuations, which perhaps have no other meaning than to gratify some latent Resentment or to draw Us into an Irksome Correspondence which might take away Our Attention from Affairs of much greater Moment, We agreed to pass over in Our Silence, all remarks on the foregoing Letter & only Reply to Sir Robert's Proposal of a joint Address to the Marattas in the Manner he recommends, giving him Our Sentiments candidly, on the inefficiency of such a Measure.

Wynch

Geo. Dawson

Henry Brooke

Jam! Pechell

Robt

Gray

At Fort St. George 7th Janry 1779.

7th The following Letter conformable to the Resolution of Yesterday was this day sent to Sir Robert Harland —

To Sir Robert Harland Bart:
his Majestys Minister Plenipotentiary
& Commander in Chief of His Majestys Ships in India

Sir

Letter to Sir Robt Harland regarding his Proposal of writing to the Mahrattas —

We have received Your Letter of Yesterday. In consequence of the Advices received respecting the Motions of the Mahrattas, Our President was lately desired to confer with You, & to acquaint You that in case of a certainty of their Designs being to enter the Carnatick, We should be glad to consult with You, on the Manner in which his Majestys Ships under Your Command could be employed for distressing the Mahrattas, in the most effectual Manner & it was with Satisfaction We understood from Our President, the readiness You expressed to cooperate with Us, in any measures wherein the National Force under Your Command, might be advantageously employed —

With respect to the Proposal You are pleased to make; that You & We should write to the Mahratta Power, in the manner You mention, We are clearly of Opinion that such a step at this present Juncture, would answer no good Purpose, & might possibly tend to urge the Maharatta, to those very Measures which You & We are so desirous to prevent. The Mahrattas have not yet committed any Hostilities, against the Dominions of the Nabob, or the Company, nor are We certain, that they mean to Invade the Carnatick & while Matters are thus situated, We conceive it would be too precipitate to threaten them with the English Resentment, for Measures which Perhaps

to Fort St George 6th Janry 1774.

Carnatick Be or rather how can Sir Robert Harland reconcile, such an Insinuation, with his Ideas of Candor & Justice. But as We are determined at all Events to avoid an exasperating Correspondence, with Sir Robert, & as it does not appear to Us, by any means necessary for our Justification, to reply to such Vague & groundless Insinuations, which perhaps have no other meaning than to gratify some latent Resentment or to draw Us into an Irksome Correspondence which might take away Our Attention from Affairs of much greater Moment, We agreed to pass over in Our Silence, all such parts of the foregoing Letter & only Reply to Sir Robert's Proposal of a joint Address to the Marrattas in the Manner he recommends, giving him Our Sentiments candidly, on the inefficiency of such a Measure.

Wm Aldercron

Geo. Dawson

Henry Brooke

Jam.s Johnston

R Wood

G Gray

At Fort St. George 7th Janry 1779.

7th The following Letter conformable to the Resolution of Yesterday was this day sent to Sir Robert Harland —

To Sir Robert Harland Bart:
his Majestys Minister Plenipotentiary
& Commander in Chief of His Majestys Ships in India

Sir

We have received Your Letter of Yesterday.

In consequence of the Advices received respecting the Motions of the Mahrattas, Our President was lately desired to confer with You, & to acquaint You that in case of a certainty of their Designs being to enter the Carnatick, We should be glad to consult with You, on the Manner in which his Majestys Ships under Your Command could be employed for distressing the Mahrattas, in the most effectual Manner & It was with Satisfaction We understood from Our President, the readiness You expressed to cooperate with Us, in any measures wherein the National Force under Your Command, might be advantageously employed —

With respect to the Proposal You are pleased to make; that You & We should write to the Maharatta Power, in the manner You mention, We are clearly of Opinion that such a step at this present Juncture, would answer no good Purpose, & might possibly tend to urge the Maharatta, to those very measures which You & We are so desirous to prevent. The Mahrattas have not yet committed any Hostilities, against the Dominions of the Nabob, or the Company; nor are We certain, that they mean to Invade the Carnatick & while matters are thus situated, We conceive it would be too precipitate to threaten them with the English Resentment, for measures which perhaps

Letter to Sir Robt Harland regarding his Proposal of writing to the Mahrattas —

42 Fort St. George 7th Janry 1774.

perhaps they mean not to pursue—

But as the Route which they have taken since their Peace with the Soubah, rather indicates a March towards those Parts, than a Return home & as Reports give great room to imagine that their Designs, may be hostile to the Carnatick, We have the necessary Measures by assembling in a central Position a respectable Force to watch their Motions & prevent as far as possible their ravaging the Coast & as We are convinced that the Mahrattas may be with great Advantage on the Malabar Coast; agreeable to what We had the Honor of representing to You, in our Letter of the 20th Decemr 1773 / We have deemed the Gentlemen at Bombay to transmit Us the most particular Information respecting the strength & Situation of the Mahrattas, on that side of India & in the mean time We submit it to Your Consideration whether it may not be adviseable, to hold the Squadron in readiness to act accordingly upon the Coast—

taken & since attacks

We have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient humble Servts
Alexr Wynch &c Council

Fort St George
7th January 1773.

At a Consultation Present—

Friday the 7th January —

Alexander Wynch Esqr Governor & President.
Joseph Smith
Henry Brooke
Samuel Johnson
Edward Stracey
Edward Cotsford
Messrs John Smith & Dawson Indisposed—

Charles Smith
John Mar.d Stone

The Minutes of Yesterday's Consultation read & Approved—

The

Fort St. George 9th January 1774

The President reports that he called upon the Nabob this morning to confer with him on the Subject of Supplies of Money & Provisions for the Army should it be ordered into the Field & likewise to desire Information of the quantity of Provisions laid up in the several Forts in the Carnatick.- The Nabob being much indisposed, declined entering upon Business, but said that he would shortly write fully on all those Subjects.-

Intelligence of the Mahrattas

By the latest Intelligence received of the Mahrattas they were encamped within 25 Cos of the River Kistnah, & it is said were determined to cross it in a very few days & to direct their March towards Sirsy.- The Soubahs Troops were with the Mahrattas & also intended to cross the River.- It was the Report in their Camp, that Ragonaut Row will march towards the Payen Ghaut.- The same Intelligence adds that if they cross the Kistnah at the Ford of Rachore, & continue their March they can arrive at Sirsy in six or seven days & from thence to the Ghauts, or Passes leading into the Carnatick, in seven or eight days more.- It is also reported that Ragonaut Row has sent to the Nabobs of Cudapah & Cardamer to join him with their Forces in his Expedition to the Carnatick.-

Wynch
Josh Smith
Geo. Dalton
Henry Brooke
Jam.s Johnston
Lt. Wm Young
Wm Tracy

Fort St. George 7th Janry 1774.

perhaps they mean not to pursue—

But as the Route which they have taken since their Peace with the Soubah rather indicates a March towards those Parts, than a Return home & as Reports give great room to imagine that their Designs, may be hostile to the Carnatick, We have taken the necessary Measures by assembling in a central Position a respectable Force to watch their Motions & prevent as far as possible their ravaging the Province— & as We are convinced that the Mahrattas may be attacked with great Advantage on the Malabar Coast, agreeable to what We had the Honor of representing to You, in our Letter of the 20th Decemr 1773 / We have desired the Gentlemen at Bombay to transmit Us the most particular Information respecting the strength & Situation of the Mahrattas, on that side of India & in the mean time We submit it to Your Consideration, whether it may not be adviseable, to hold the Squadron in readiness to act accordingly upon the Coast—

We have the Honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient humble Servts
Alexr Wynch &c Council

Fort St. George
7th January 1773.

4.

At a Consultation Present—

Friday the 7th Janry—

Alexander Wynch Esqr Governor President—
Joseph Smith—
Henry Brooke
Samuel Johnson—
Edward Stracey—
Edward Cotsford
Charles Smith
John Maxwell Stone
Mssrs John Smith & Dawson Indisposed—

The Minutes of Yesterday's Consultation read & Approved—

The

Fort St. George 9th January 1774

The President reports that he called upon the Nabob this Morning to confer with him on the Subject of Supplies of Money & Provisions for the Army should it be ordered into the Field & likewise to desire Information of the quantity of Provisions laid up in the several Forts in the Carna. tick.— The Nabob being much Indisposed declined entering upon Business, but said that he would shortly write fully on all those Subjects—

Intelligence of the Mahrattas

By the latest Intelligence received of the Mahrattas they were encamped within 25 Cos of the River Kistnah, & it is said were determined to cross it in a very few Days & to direct their March towards Sirpy— The Soubahs Troops were with the Mahrattas, & also intended to cross the River.— It was the Report in their Camp, that Ragonaut Row will march towards the Payen Ghaut. The same Intelligence adds that if they cross the Kistnah at the Yard of Rachore, & continue their March they can arrive at Sirpy in six or seven Days & from thence to the Ghauts, or Passes leading into the Carnatick, in seven or eight days more.— It is also reported that Ragonaut Row has sent to the Nabobs of Cudapah & Cardamen to join him with their Forces on his Expedition to the Carnatick—

Wm Aldercron
Josh Smith
Geo. Dawson
Henry Brooke
Jam.s Johnston
Jeffery
Geo. Gray

44 Fort St. George 8th January 1774

8th This Day the following Letters were dispatched —

To Rawson Hart Boddam Esqr.
Chief at Tillicherry

Sir

Your favors of the 1st Nov. & 8th Decr.
I have duly received enclosing Letters from Mr. Towsend,
on the Subject of the Articles provided for the Honble
Company in Hyder Ally Cawn Dominions & respecting
the English Prisoners, who alledge they are ill detained
I beg leave to enclose to You my Answer to Mr. Townsend
under a flying Seal for Your perusal & which Request
You will forward to him with all Expedition —
I am with Esteem
Sir
Your most Obedient humble Servant
— A Wynch —

Fort St George
8th January 1774.

To William Townsend
Resident at Onore —
Sir

Letters to Mr. Townsend regarding the Representation to Hyder Ally's Vackeel —

I have duly received Your two Letters of the 13th October & 2nd Decr. Transmitted to me by Mr. Boddam at Tillicherry —
I have conversed with Hyder Ally Cawns Vackeel on the Subject of the Trade of the Honble Company, in his Masters Dominions & have represented in the strongest Terms the justness & Reasonableness of the Companys enjoying all the Privileges therein which by the Treaty they are entitled unto. — I also mentioned to him the European Prisoners, which still remain with Hyder Ally Cawn. He promised to write to his Master fully on this Subject & seemed to think there would be no difficulty in adjusting Matters; he however observed, with Regard to the Prisoners, that if any such there were, it was surprizing

Fort St George 10th Janry. 1774.

our Seizing, they were not demanded before, to which it is
was answered that We knew not till now of there being
any remaining — I have also prepared a Letter to Hyder
Ally Cawn himself, to go by this Vackeel, Who will soon
return, in which I have represented, those Matters
to him & which I sincerely wish may be attended
with the desired Effect —

I am Sir
Your most Obedient & humble Servt
A Wynch —

Fort St George
10th Janry 1774 —

At a Consultation present.
Alexander Wynch Esq. Governor & President
& Joseph Smith.
George Dawson — & Henry Brooke.
Charles Smith — & Samuel Johnston
John Maxl. Stone — & Edward Stracey.
Edward Colsford —

Mr. John Smith Indisposed —
The Minutes of last Consultation read & Approved —

The President lays before the Board the following
Letters of the 27th & 28th Inst. from Mr. Stratton at Vizagapatam, & likewise Extract from a Publick Letter to the
other Department from the Chief & Council dated 31st. Ult.

Monday
10th January.

Sir

Two Letters Yesterday
& Sapparls. The enclosed Intelligence respecting the Affairs
at Chimmedy, I have since received & am with much

Respect —

Letter from Mr
Stratton with In-
telligence respecting
the Affairs at Chimmedy —

Horble Sir
Your most Obedient humble Servt.
George Stratton —

Vizagapatam.
27th Decmr. 1773. 7 P.M. —

To George Stratton Esq. Chief of Vizagapatam. . . Sir

I had the honor to write to You
which I dispatched by different
I have since received & am with much

46 Fort St. George 10th Janry 1774.

Sir.

Pellamore 26th Decem.r at 5 AM.

Inclosed Youll receive a Letter from Mr. Gowdie, this Moment came to hand—

I have advised him by no means to think of another Attack, but to be quiet with Mr Leech till the Arrival of Capt.n Matthews, Whom I expect from Chicacole, with a Reinforcement, Youll now I presume Sir, perceive the absolute necessity of sending Guns & getting a Detachment from the Ganjam District, as all the Sepoys Capt.n Matthews & I can possibly muster, will be entirely insufficient to crush this Aspasin—

The Bearer of Mr. Gowdie's Dispatch says, that as he was leaving Chimmedy, the Rajah & all his People, were returning out of the Jungals to renew the Attack & that a little after he heard firing—

Doctor Martin I presume Sir will be greatly wanted with the Detachment—

I shall endeavour to comply with all Mr. Gowdie's wants, but here is hardly any Rice & if an immediate Supply does not arrive, the Consequence may prove very unhappy—

I am with Respect Sir
Your very Obedient humble Servt.
Jno. Candler.

Chimmedy 25th Decem.r at 8 PM.

To Capt.n Candler

Dear Sir Captain—

Mr. Leech with the Companys under his Command, came here about 10 O Clock, & about two hours a Woman came into the Camp, with the Intelligence of Mr. Wootton not being dead, & at the same time brought me a Letter from the Rajah, where he says, it was not his fault that Mr. Wootton was killed, there is something more, but I cannot get it explained—On this Intelligence I got Mr. Leech's Commission to march with my own Men, against the Rajah, which he gave me, & at the same time

Lt: Gowdie defeats the Rajahs forces who burned the Town & Palace—

...s of Letters to ...stration from ...n. Matthews & ...n. Candler & ...n Lt: Gowdie ...apt.n Candler ...ending the Troubles ...the Zemindry ...ntry and the ...hat which have ...n taken against ...zzeput Dora—

Fort St. George 10th January 1771.

time he kept his men in readiness to March after me, I marched down in eight Divisions & when I came to the Bank of a large Tank, was opposed by a very large Body of the Enemy, Who I put to flight with a few Platoons & the Commandant dangerously wounded, with some more Sepoys — I then marched all along the Village of Chimmedy in the Paddy Fields which are dry, till I came opposite the Palace, Where they made another stand, but I soon drove them from it, & as they went off, they set the Palace & the whole Town in Flames & took to the Jungals, from whence they kept up a very heavy Fire in which Leg.t Ammon was unfortunately killed, with some more of the Sepoys & some more Wounded. I found Mr. Woottens Body & all those of the Sepoys with Turnauls, but then I found that the Woman had told me a falsehood, for the Body's are much Putrified — I have a notion that it was a Scheme to see, what they could make of us, by which I think they have got nothing to their Credit, for I have with my small Party drove his whole Force before me, however I do assure You, they behaved with more Bravery than I ever saw Black People before — I do not think the whole Men that are here, ought to go into the Jungals after so many Men that are Armed in the Manner that those are — I dont think the Accounts I sent You in the Morning was exagerated — I staid in the burnt Village till the Evening & then returned to Mr.o Leech, without having a Shot fired at me in the Retreat — I have brought Woottens Body & Turnauls with me, the latter the Pentoss of the Battalion, are now burning Wm Woottens Body, shall be buried in the Morning, with the Honours of War — Powder I shall furnish out of what I have, of my own, as I cannot spare any of my Ammunition, for there is a good deal of spended in this days

Work

40 Fort St George 10th January 1774

Work. We are in great want of a Great Gun or two, I believe Leech will not move from this, till he gets some Orders from Mr Stratton or Capt Matthews. I wish You would send Dooly's to carry the Wounded to Pallemcotta. I think if Sitteramnaigue with his Troops & the Rajahs Brother were here, it would bring many of the Head People from the Rajah. I have nothing more to say only that I am much fatigued & hope You won't take notice of the many Blunders in this Letter.

I am
Yours &c.
P Gowdie.

We shall be in great want of a Buzar, may we shall not be able to do without it. Pray send Gram. Yours
P Gowdie.

To George Stratton Esqr
Chief of Vizagapatam.

Sir

26th Decemr 73.

Having received this moment a Letter from Capt Candler, requesting Assistance in consequence of a Skirmish that has been at Vimmedy, I march this Afternoon with four Companies, having Sergeant Crabtree with me here, I should be glad I had a particular Instruction from You. Dd Dooly to set this Morning.

I am Sir
Your most Obedient & humble Servt
Richard Matthews.

P S. I have this Instant received Yours of Yesterday. I am going to do as I am directed Sir.

Letter from Mr Stratton Lieut Guzzeputdoss anzebag to settle matters in the Gunjeary Country.

The enclosed Intelligence respecting the Affairs at Vimmedy, I have just now received, the it proceeds what I had the honor of sending You Yesterday. I am in hopes that Capt Matthews has joined long before this

1

Fort St George 10th Janry 1774.

thus if by his Spirited Conduct has either secured Guyzepauddoo, & his Adherents, or drove him out of the Country.- I have sent Juggannaut doo & his Managr Ansibeg, to the Rummed y Country, being certain from my Information, that they will bring over to their Interest the principal part of Guyzepauddoo's Force & thereby Secure the Tranquillity of the Country. This Step meets with the Approbation of the Council here, Who are also of Opinion, that I should endeavour to settle a Commabundy, with Juggannaut doo, on which Subject a General Letter will be wrote tomorrow - I have the honor to remain with Respect -

Sir

Your most Obedient humble Servant

George Stratton -

Vizagapatam.
28 Decem. 1773: 5 P.M.

To George Stratton Esqr

Sir

Gowdie, just arrived, he wrote, he proposed attacking the Rajah with his small Force, till my Letter to him arrived, counselling him by no means to think of an Attack, to take Post, entrench himself, secure his Rear & Retreat, to the Pass, & in this Position to wait quietly for Assistance, with all which he complied to my great Satisfaction, as certainly the Disgrace would have been too great, three Companys against 6 or 7 Thousand & take the Passes in the Enemy's Possession -

Mr Stratton
Correspondence with
Capt: Candler -

Inclosed are two Letters from Mr Lt Leech had not joined him, when my next Letter arrived, I hope being interesting News as Lt Leech joined Mr Goodie at 10 O'Clock this Morning - I am Sir with Respect -

Your very Obedient Servant

John Candler -

To Captain Candler -

Dear

50 Fort St. George 10th January 1774

Thimmedy the 24th Dec. 2 P.M.

Dear Captain.

It is now Two O'Clock & the Ammunition You have sent is just arrived, which has made me think Myself strong enough to attack the Rajah, which I shall do in the Morning at day light, he has a great many men, however they have not given me any disturbance as yet, I dare say the next You hear from me, will be in his Palace, by the Intelligence I have, all the Women are sent to the Hills, which makes me think they intend, to make a stand, that my People may be in good Order & Spirits in the Morning, I have given them Liberty, to take some out Paddy, that is in my Rear, I hope they won't think this wronging the Company - Poor Wootons Fate is a most unlucky affair & in my Opinion We shall not lose less than 70 Sepoys as there is no less than 60 out now, that I can hear no Account of, Besides the two Havildars, one Naigue & thirteen Sepoys, that are already killed & the Man that is Wounded -

I am my Friend Candlers
Sincere Friend
Tha.s Gowdie

Dear Captain -

Thimmedy 25 Decem.r Morning -

Since my Letter to You of Yesterday Morning, I have had the Pleasure to receive from the Indorsed You will see it was my Intention, to have attacked the Rajah this Morning, but Your Letter advising me to the Contrary & the Intelligence I got in the Evening, has put that Scheme out of my Head - I by an Intelligent Sepoy, have the following Account of his Forces, He has at least 500 Men with Europ.n Arms, a great many with Matchlocks & a great many more, with Pikes, Bows & Arrows, the whole about 6000 I have this Account with

The Rajah has 6000 Men

many

Fort St. George 10th Janry 1774

Burns the Village of old Gimmedy

Additions from some Village People, that I have employed, but You know that they always exagerate in Matters of this kind, however at all Events it would be imprudent, to run any Risques that might hurt the Companys Affairs, but the Instant I am joined by the Chicacole Sepoys, I will beat up his Quarters,— They gave me a little Trouble last Night, by firing at my out Posts,— & set a fine Village, called Old Gimmedy on Fire, that is just opposite my Post across the River— I am much at a loss for Spies & Mircarahs, as the Man I mention above, was found out & pursued, till he came to my Guards, I wish You could find out some at Pellmore. There is not a Village Man to be had, none daring to stay, on Account of the Rajahs Orders—

I am Dear Sandie
Yours
Sinan & Gowdie

Extract of a Letter to the Publick Department from the Chief & Council of Vizagapatam Dated 31st Decr 1773—

Extract of a Letter from the Chief and Council at Vizag.m Revolt of Guzzapatdoo and the Measures which have been pursued since.

In Our Letter of the 23d We informed Your Honour &c that the Chief had wrote several Letters to Guzzapatdoo, desiring him to come down here to settle his Tribute, with the Company, whose favor & Protection he gave him the strongest assurances of but so far from complying therewith or shewing any Inclination to settle a Peace, he formed repeated excuses to gain time to strengthen himself & at last positively declined coming down, his enlisting Men in his Service & afterwards encreasing the Sum to 7000 Men & supporting them out of the Produce of the Country, gave us reason to apprehend the greatest part Thereof would be expended, if precautions were not forthwith taken, to prevent it, a Man on behalf of

of the Company was sent thereupon to Summon Q. Ens: Wootten some time after ordered there with two Company of Sepoys, to prevent a further Dissipation of the Revenues, Tile this Reminder could be brought to Terms, Those Measures proving ineffectual it was necessary others should be fallen on, without loss of time, but in order to avoid proceeding to extremities with him, tile absolute necessity obliged Us to it, it was agreed that the Chief should write to him, one more, repeating in the strongest manner, his assurances of the Company's Protection & that he need not be under any Apprehension whatever from Pittearamrauze, to whom he was not subject, resolving that should he pay no more regard to this than he had done to the former Letters, to fall on the means of securing him agreable to Your Honours & Co. Orders, dated the 4th Instant, This Service was entrusted to Lt. Gowdie, Who had Orders at the same time to march with two Companies of Sepoys, which to avoid Suspicion were declared to be sent there to assist in the collection of the Revenues, on his way to Summon, he received Intelligence, that Ensign Wootten had been cut off with Virago Permaul, Several Sepoys, which We understand was effected by Guzzepatti doo's having invited Lieu: Wootten to visit him, Who on accepting the Invitation carried with him a Havildar & 30 Sepoys, this Gentlemen, suspecting no Treachery was not on his Guard against it, for he entered the Durbar with Guzzepatti doo & left most of his People without after conversing with him half an hour, to all Appearances in a friendly Manner,

Guzzipatti doo

Guzzipuddoo, went out & promised to return to him immediately
but he had not left him long before a Musquet was fired, as
a signal to attack Lieu. Wotten & his Guard, on which they
were all Murdered on an Instant, except One Sepoy that
escaped, dangerously Wounded. Guzzipuddoo, then attacked
the Remainder of the two Companies, who thro' the Prudent
Conduct of Serjeant Ammon, made their Retreat with the
loss of only a few men & joined Lt. Cowdell on his March
to Pellmore, on receiving this Intelligence Orders were
immediately sent to Capt. Mathews to march from
Chicacole, with a proper Force & one Company was
sent from hence with two three Pounders, two Non Commis-
sioned Officers & twelve Matrosses, which when joined wile
compleat the Detachment to 12 Companies of Sepoys with
which We hope he will reduce Guzzepuddoo & his Adhe-
rents & quel those Disturbances. The several Letters which
have passed on this Occasion, have been regularly
transmitted by the Chief to the Governor, Guzzepuddoo
having thus commenced Hostilities & by his cruel
unjustifiable Conduct, rendered himself unworthy
the Company's Protection, it was necessary that some
Measures should be immediately taken, not only to
secure him & those concerned in the Massacre, but
to prevent if possible further Troubles in the Country
Country, when We took this Subject under Consideration,
many difficulties occurred in adopting the proper
Pro. to that the Revenues might be secured to the
Co. & Co. Company, without putting them to the
great Expence of keeping up a large Force, for its
collection, to effect which We were informed it was
necessary to send Juggannaut doo Ramraindoo's Second
Son,

54 Fort St. George 30th Jany 1774

Son thither accompanied by Azeebed as his Duan &
he being much respected in that Country will greatly
contribute, to keep it in Tranquility, tho' We learn
his Influence would not be attended with Succefs,
unless one of the Family was at the Head & had the
Management thereof, for such is the Disposition of the
People there that frequent Depradations might be
expected from those residing on the Hills, for these
Reasons We determined on sending the above Person to
Thinnevelly, until We receive Your Honor &c Further
Orders & should their Presence answer the expected
Intent which will soon be known / We judge it would be
most for the Honble Company's Interest to settle a
Peramaboody with Paggananddoo....

In Justice to Sittarammayze
We take the Liberty to acquaint Your Honor &c, that
when the Chief first conversed with him on the Subject
of Thinnevelly, he told him that from Experience he
knew but little Confidence could be placed in the People
there, that this Country was offered to him just after
Ramanandoo's Revolt, & he declined accepting of it,
being sensible unless One of the Family was placed
there, He should not be able to collect his Revenues
on this Account he then proposed to send for
Ramanandoo's Son, Puzzapettdoo, for whom he stood
Security at the earnest Request of Mr. Andrews, a le
which Correspondence with the Accounts We have had
from others, & We are induced to believe he does not
wish to have any thing to say to the Country, this is
Your Orders He shall not & We will be careful that
He does not interfere in any respect in the
Management

Fort St. George 30th. January 1774

Management thereof—

A true Extract

Chas. Bakisley Secry

The Board disapprove sending Juggannaut Doss and Verzeebeg to Manage the Gimmedy Districts—

The Board are in hopes, that the Troubles in the Gimmedy District, have been occasioned by the Detachment under the Command of Capt. Mathews & that there has been no necessity for drawing any Reinforcements from the Ellore Country, however if such a step has been taken, it will be necessary to direct, that such Reinforcement be immediately returned as soon as the Service will permit. The Board are of Opinion that the sending Jagganaud Doss & Verzeebeg to the Management of the Gimmedy District, will be a measure very obnoxious to the Country People, & Prejudicial to the Company's Interest; those men being as We are informed immediately under the Influence of Sitteramauze & very unpopular among the Inhabitants The circumstance of their being under Sitteramauze's Influence & consequently ready to further his Views & to oppress the less Powerful Zemindars & Our having so often inculcated the bad Policy of this System, should have convinced the Gentlemen at Vizagapatam, that such a Resolution could never meet with Our Approbation— Draft of a Letter to be prepared to the Chief & Council of Vizagapatam, conformable to the foregoing Minute—.

Read the following Letter from

Lt. Edwards Ditto—

To The Honble Alex.r Wynch Esq.r
President & Governor &c.a Council
of Fort St. George

Honble

56 Fort St. George 10th January 1774

Letter from Dr Sears requesting leave to proceed to England to settle his Affairs.

Honble Sir & Sirs—

The Death of my Father & Family Concerns, of the greatest Consequence to me, rendering my Presence indispensibly necessary in England, I request Your Permission to proceed thither in the first Ship sailing from this Place, & I beg leave further to request that Your Honor &c will be pleased to recommend me to the Court of Directors, that I may be permitted to return to my Rank, on this Establishment after settling my Affairs in England—

I remain with the greatest Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient humble Servant
W. E. Sears

Fort St. George
January 10th 1774—

Granted—

Agreed that Dr. W. Sears be permitted to proceed to England Lt. General Smith speaks very favorably of him, that he be recommended to the Court of Directors, to return to the Establishment with his Rank—

Wynch
Joseph Smith
Geo. Darrell
Henry Brooke
Saml. Johnston
Stratton
Wm. Brady

57 Fort St. George 11th January 1774.

We Dispatched the following Letter, Draft of which having been Approved, to the Chief & Council at Vizagapatam.

To George Stratton Esqr.
Chief &c Council of Vizagapatam.

Gentlemen.

Letters to Vizagapatam respecting the Affairs in the Kimmedy District.

We have received Your Letter of the 28th Ultimo, & the President has laid before us several Letters from Your Chief, respecting the Disturbances in the Kimmedy District.

We flatter Ourselves that the Detachment under the Command of Capt. Mathews has already suppressed the Troubles in that District, without Your being Obliged to draw any assistance from the Bobbejoor Country however if You have been under the necessity of calling any Troops from that Quarter, We direct that they be immediately returned as soon as the Service will permit.

In Our Letters to You under Date the 3rd Instant, We directed You to take & keep Possession of the Kimmedy Country, on the Company's Account, until You should receive further Directions from us. From what We have learnt of Suggamaudoo & Ougeeboy, We are apprehensive that the Appointment of them, to the Management of that Country, would be prejudicial to the Company's Interest & prolong the Disturbances there, Being immediately as We are informed under the Influence of Sittramnauze, they would not fail to cooperate in Sittramnauze's Views of encreasing his Power, & of suppressing the last Powerful Zemindars. We have so often represented the bad Policy of this, that it appears to us unnecessary to say any thing further on this Subject. Indeed when We refer to Our Letter to You of the 3rd Instant, We shall be surprized if You did not on the Receipt

Receipt of the said Letter, lay aside all thoughts of employing Jaggannaut doo & Bezenbeg & adopt other Measures, for securing the Revenues of Hummedy to the Company

In Your future Letters to us, You will please to make a Distinction between such Subjects as come under Our Consideration in the Civil Department & such as are Political & Military.

We are

Gen.l Herman

Your affectionate Friends

Alex.r Wynch &c Council.

Fort St. George
January 11th 1774.

Dispatched the following Letter, the Draft of which was sent round, for the Approbation of the Board in Cypher to the President & Council on Bombay —

To the Honble William Hornby Esq.r
President & Governor &c Council on Bombay.
Honble Sir & Sirs

2.

Letter to Bombay
Con Apprehensions
from the Mahrattas
Application to the
Admiral for Informa-
tion of their Strength
&c.a of the Mahrattas
on their Side —

We addressed You under Date the 27th ult.o Duplicate whereof accompanies this — The Route which the Mahrattas have taken since their Peace, with the Soubah & the Intelligence We have of their Designs, give us now Reason to apprehend that it is their Intentions, to enter the Carnatick in which Case, We may soon be engaged in Hostilities with that Power, We have in Consequence thereof, Applied to the Admiral on the Expediency of holding the Squadron in readiness, to proceed to Your Side of India, We therefore repeat Our Request, that You will not fail to advise us, in the most expeditious Manner of every thing Material, that can in any Shape guide Or Influence Our Conduct with the Mahrattas —

We likewise desire that You will transmit Directions to Your Settlements on the Coast, to communicate

Fort St. George 13th January 1774.

communicate to the Commanders of any of his Majestys Ships, who may touch at those Places, in consequence of any Plan, that We may concert with Sir Robert Harland, the most particular Information, of the Maratta Force, & Your Ideas of the Manner in which they can be, most effectually distressed.—

We informed You in Our last, that We had assembled a Respectable Force, to watch the Motions of the Marattas & We make no doubt if necessary, but You will also make Preparations, for Cooperating with Us, as far as in Your Power.—

× By the latest Advices we are informed that the Maratta Army is still on the other Side of the Kistnah.—

Having received Advices from Mr. Townsend at Tyingpatam representing some Infringements on the Company's Trade by Hyder Alley Cawn, in his Dominions on the Malabar Coast, Our President has conversed with Hyder's Vackeel there on the Subject & urged in the strongest Terms the justness of the Company's Claim, to the Privileges, granted them by the Treaty. The Vackeel promised to write to his Master fully on this Subject, & seemed to think that the Matter, would be accommodated with very little difficulty, On the Departure of the Vackeel, Our President will address a Letter to Hyder Alley representing these Matters, which We heartily wish may be attended with the desired Effect.— We are with Esteem—

Fort St. George
January 11th 1774.

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient Humble Servants
Alex.r Wynch & Council.

At a Consultation Present—

Alexander Wynch Esq.r Governor & President
" Joseph Smith—
" Henry Brooke
" Edward Stracey
" Edward Cotsford—

Thursday 13th January.

George Dawson—
Charles Smith—
John Max.ll Stone—

Mr.s

Co Fort St. George 13th Janry 1775

Present John Smith & Johnson Presidt

The Minutes of last Consultation read & approved

Read the following Letter from Sir Robert Harland which was received this day

Gentlemen.

Letter from Sir Robt Harland in Defence of his Scheme, for writing to & threatning the Mahrattas — Animadverts on Our Letter of the 9th Inst —

On Wednesday the 29th ultimo, I had the honor of a Visit from Your President, at the desire of his Council as I understood, upon the Receipt of an Invasion, from the Mahrattas. I had employed Many Thoughts on that Subject before, & therefore I told him (if I remember right) I had heard the same thing, but that I could not perceive any great alarm in the Nabob, however if it should so happen I said, & should a War with the Mahrattas prove unavoidable, I thought very good use might be made of the Squadron, on the Malabar Coast. Salsette & Bassine were mentioned by me, as Objects, long Wished for by the Company, but I do not remember that any Proposal, was made to me, relative to employing the Squadron on the Malabar Coast, at that time nor the least Syllable upon that Subject, more than what came from me, at least I did not by any means understand, what Your President said in that light, otherwise I should certainly have taken the liberty to have addressed You on the Subject sooner than I did —

It has always been my Desire to make the Force under my Command, as subservient as possible to the Purposes, for which I have understood, its having been sent to India, therefore I told Your President, at the Conversation already mentioned, & I now tell You that You may be assured, I shall cooperate with You in distressing the Enemies of the Company & the Disturbers of the Tranquility of the Carnatick, in the most effectual Manner,

Fort St. George 13th Janry 1774

Manner. At the same time I shall take the liberty to give my Opinion freely, upon all such Measures, in which I am or may be concerned, & I shall never fail to represent with Candor, against all such as I shall hold to be pernicious: Therefore I have taken the liberty to tell You, that so soon as a threatned Danger shall become probable, circumstanced as the Nabob & the Company are at present, I should think every Honorable means of prevention, should be attempted first, but should those fail, We should always be prepared with a Rational Plan, of resisting the Danger, in the most spirited Manner, & with the greatest probability of Success.

The 1st Instant the Nabob communicated to me, the Contents of several Letters, which He had received from the Maharatta Chiefs & at the same time told me, that he had made or was to make the same Communications to You. This confirmed to me what Your President had before mentioned, as a Report only, & as I thought it probable, that some means would be speedily fallen upon, suitable to our present Circumstances, either to avert the threatned Danger, by a proper exertion of Our National Influence, or by a Plan of Operations in which the Assistance of His Majesty's Ships, would be comprehended, I waited in expectation of hearing from You, till the time drew near, when the Squadron had been ordered to leave Trincomale, for this Place, I considered that should their Services be wanted, on the Malabar Coast, I could easily join them when they now are, from whence We should soon be able to reach the Place of Action, but if they

should

should be suffered to leave Trincomale, their Operations might be retarded, for some Weeks, however much wanted—

This Situation of the Squadron, & the Nabobs Communications to Me, drew from Me my Letter to You of the 6th & had not those two concurring Circumstances made Me suppose the Situation of Affairs very critical, I should in all probability have waited, a little longer before I had addressed You, & I acknowledge it was from the greatest Confidence, in the Veracity of the Nabobs Representations, that I determined to make You, the Proposals contained in my Letter, with which I should hardly have troubled You, had common Report been my only Authority—

I have always considered the Mahrattas, as Powerful, Numerous & Warlike, from all which they have assumed, such a haughtiness & Superiority, over other Indian Nations, that they often treat them with Insolence & make Incroads into the Countries of their Neighbours, with very little Ceremony: yet from their constant Practice of writing to the Nabob before they enter his Country in a Hostile Manner; as well as from the Contents of their Letters, it appears to Me that they have a much greater Inclination to be Friends, than Enemies; & I was willing to Indulge the Idea, that the Reputation of the English Arms, & the Influence of Our Name all over India, with Our known connection with the Nabob, might in a great Measure be the Cause, of their Conduct to him, so different from their Manner of proceeding with other Nations—

As

63 Fort St George 13th Janry 1774

As I cannot even in Idea, seperate the Safety of the Carnatick, from the Interests of the Company- As I consider the Revenues arising from this Country to be the only Resources, which the Nabob has to enable him, to discharge his immense Engagements to the Company to the Army & to others- As I understand that neither the Company nor the Nabob have Money to enable them, to undertake a War- And as I have always been told, that altho' Your Army were assembled & ready for Action, it would not be in their Power to prevent the Mahrattas from plundering the Country all round, by which the Revenues of the Nabob must be demminished & the Resources of the Company of course must fail; These Considerations led me to think, that every method was to be tried, & nothing left unattempted to get rid of such an Enemy, before We embraced Measures which could not fail of making a War with them unavoidable.

It occurred to me, if the Mahrattas have that Respect for the English Power, which I think probable, the most effectual Method to prevent their embracing Hostile Measures against the Carnatick, would be to make the Nabobs Cause our own, & if this Reasoning be just, I had ground to believe the declaration of our Inclination to live at Peace & in Friendship with them, would not have been unacceptable, in their present Circumstances; nor can I suppose their being made acquainted with Our firm Resolution to embrace the most vigorous Measures against them, in case of their refusing Our Offers of Friendship, would have been without its Effect-

I have judged it necessary to give

64 Fort St George 13th Janry 1774

give You the Reasons which indaced me to make You the Proposal of writing to the Mahrattas, from Your Letter of the 7th in which You declare "that You are "clear of Opinion such a Step at this Juncture, "would answer no good purpose, & might tend to "urge the Mahrattas to those very Measures, which "You & I are so desirous to prevent". such a Measure, however I apprehend may be justified, by the Conduct of the ablest Statesmen & by the Example of the wisest Nations in all Ages. such a Step has been attended with the best consequences in Europe, even in our own Domains; & I believe You will find Examples in India, not many Years ago, when a spirited Declaration, from One Who has acquired great Reputation in the Company's Service, had very good Effects, even when addressed to a European Nation in One Instance & to a very great Indian Power in another. but what I should suppose would have the greatest Influence with You, I beg leave to refer You to Mr Ives Letter of the 20th of Decem.r 1773 for the following Words: "Altho' it does not "appear to us, that the Mahratta Threats are denounced "directly against the Company: but against the Nabob, "yet our long connection & inseparable Interests & the "Tenor of the Company's Injunctions, to us, for Years "past, oblige us to Consider a danger, to the Nabobs Countries "& Government, as a Danger to the Company's Possessions". After which You quote a Passage from the Injunctions of the Court of Directors, to the Presidency of Bombay- "When Mahadaroo informed You, that his Design was "to demand Chouth, of the Nabob of Arcott, preserving at the

B

"the same time the utmost good Will, towards the English
"You should have told him that those two things were
'incompatible, that the Nabob as he knows, was in
"firm Friendship with the English, & that any Demand
'made upon him, at the head of an Army, laying Waste
"his Country, would be answered by the English Forces
'in all parts of India'—

These Passages want no Comment but it is very Satisfactory to me to find, that the very Measure which, I had proposed, was consistent with the Idea's of the Company: had formerly been recommended by the Court of Directors, to their Servants in India, & that it had even been quoted by Yourselves in the very Letter to which You refer me, as a Rule for Your Conduct—

When I consider the present unsettled State of the Mahratta Government, I can hardly suppose that a spirited representation & a well timed Declaration, of vigorous Measures in case of Hostilities, could have induced the Mahrattas to have invaded the Carnatick & to have left his own Country exposed, when already liable to Disturbances, from many Powerful Chiefs, Who may be supposed very ready to embrace, such an Opportunity of taking Arms against him, especially when he knew & should be told, that the consequence of such Hostilities would "be answered by Nine of his Majesty's Ships, Six of "them of the Line & by all the Company's Forces both "Marine & Military in all parts of India". On Reflection I cannot help thinking still, that the Measure would have been good & that the Effect would have Answered Our Wishes. Besides if it had not, We lost nothing

Nothing,- so far the means of prevention would have been used, but it is not a time either to prevent a Danger, nor to concert a Plan of Operations in the presence of an Enemy.- However when I shall represent it to Administration, as the Opinion of Your Board, that the Reputation of the English Arms & the Influence of their Name, was held in so small Consideration in India, as to expect such a Message to the Mahrattas, in the Name of the whole National Power, would have been so far despised, as to have urged them to Hostilities instead of a favorable Answer, Times will appear to them to be greatly altered & the National Expence in maintaining such a Naval Force, to support their Influence & Authority in India, will be considered as employed to very little purpose indeed.-

This much I have thought necessary in Justification of the Measure, which I proposed & which I considered as a very effectual Method of quieting the Nabob & of securing his means of making good his Engagements to the Company. He must now be left to free his Country & himself of any Apprehensions from the Mahrattas, by the best means in his Power & I hope he will be successfull, For my part I have sent Orders to the Squadron to remain at Tricomale, to be ready in case of an Emergency, meanwhile I shall be glad to receive an Account from You, of the many Points & Valuable Inspections which in Your Letter of the 20th Decem.r 1773. You mention the Mahrattas to have on the Malabar Coast & also to know from You, the means by which You propose

to

make an Attack, upon them successfull, so that should it be necessary, We may be ready to act, so soon as Your Advices & Informations shall arrive from Bombay.

I have the Honor to be
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient & most humble Servant.
Robert Harland.

Fort St. George
13th January 1774.
Alexander Wynch Esq.
President & Council
Fort St. George.

We have already declared in Our Minute of the 6th Instant, that We were determined as far as in Us lay to avoid a Controversial Correspondence with Sir Robert Harland & therefore only returned an Answer, to that part of his Letter of the 6th Instant which related to Business, passing over in Silence those other parts, which seemed to be dictated by Animosity & Resentment. We are determined to adhere to Our Declaration & altho' We are of Opinion, it would be no very arduous Task, to refute the Political Reasoning & the many misrepresentations in the Letter now before Us, We shall for the present wave such Subjects of Controversy & only inform Sir Robert in reply to his Letter, that We continue alike in the Opinion, that his Proposal of writing to the Maharattas or threatening them with the Nation's Resentment, can answer no good purpose & that We must to the rectitude of Our Conduct for our Justification, as the Constituents & Administration at Home. But altho' We deem it unnecessary to enter into an Argumentative discussion of the points in Question, with Sir Robert Harland, We shall nevertheless make some Remarks upon the foregoing Letter for the Information of Our Constituents.

Minute upon Sir Rob.t Harlands Letter ——.

And first in reply to what Sir

Sir Robert says of his waiting till the time drew near when the Squadron had been ordered to leave Trincomalé for this Place, in expectation of hearing from us, on the Measures to be taken either to avert the threatened Invasion of the Mahrattas, or respecting a Plan of Operations, in which the assistance of his Majesty's Ship would be Comprehended, We shall beg leave to observe, that so soon as Advices gave us ground to apprehend any Designs in the Mahrattas to Invade this Province, Our President was desired to confer with him thereon & to acquaint him that in case of a certainty of their Intentions being to enter the Carnatick We should be glad to Consult with him on the manner in which the Squadron under his Command could be employed in the most effectual Manner, for the general Good, in retaliating any Injury, which the Company or the Nabob might suffer, by the Depradations of the Mahrattas. With Respect to the time the Squadron had been ordered to leave Trincomalé, We were entirely ignorant of it, having received no Intimation regarding the same, or with respect to its future Destination after leaving that Place.

Sir Robert Mardands Proposals contained, in his Letter of the 6th Inst. may We think be said to consist of two Parts, 1st To make an Offer of Friendship to the Mahrattas 2nd To threaten them with the extinction of the English Power in all parts of India, to retaliate the least Injury offered by the Mahrattas to any of the Districts or Inhabitants belonging to the Nabob.—

With

69 Fort St. George 13th Janry 1774.

With respect to an Offer of Friendship to the Maharattas, if by it is meant simple Peace & Amity, We can only say that neither the Nabob, nor this Government, have given the Maharattas any Reason to apprehend, that We intend to adopt any Offensive Measures against them, on the contrary We have declared & We here again repeat that We are averse to all Measures, which in good Policy we can avoid, that even in their Consequences, might lead to a Rupture with that Power. It is for the Company's Interest & it is Our earnest Wish to live in Peace with all the Powers in India. The Present Chief of the Maharattas, advised our President of his Succeeding to the late Narrain Row, to which an Answer was returned in the Expression of the strongest Friendship, towards the Maharatta Government, - If these Professions have had no Effect to induce the Maharattas to refrain from attacking the Possessions of the Company or the Nabob, whose Connection with the English they are no Strangers to. what Reason have We to suppose, that any new Profession of such Friendship will divert their Intention, if it be to enter the Carnatick. & will not such an Offer made at this Juncture rather betray Our Apprehensions & thereby encourage them to the execution of any Hostile Views they may have entertained against this Province.

If by an Offer of Friendship is meant, an Offer of Alliance & mutual Assistance, to the Maharattas, We have already written so much on this Subject & pointed out the impossibility of Our

Adopting

adopting such a System, so frequently in Our Correspondence with Sir Robert Harland & his Predecessor, that he can be at no Loss for Our Ultimate Sentiments thereon—.

We come now to consider, the second part of Sir Robert Harlands Scheme, Namely, the Threats he recommends to be denounced against the Maharattas in case of their entering the Carnatic in an Hostile Manner, that such Hostilities should be considered as committed against the English, as a Nation Executed accordingly, by all their Sowe of Influence in India— There is no difficulty in using spirited Language, but it becomes those Who are charged, with the Execution to consider well how far, they have the Ability to act, before they venture to make use of Threats,— for We believe it is held, an invariable Maxim among States, Most to threaten without the means of acting, is only a discovery of the Weakness & Imbecility of Government— It therefore only remains with Us to consider of the means We have, for carrying so extensive a Plan, as is comprehended in Sir Roberts Proposal into Execution— By the Letters now before Us, Sir Robert Harland seems to be no Stranger, to the Nabobs & Our Distress, for Money to enable Us to Support a War— Bengal & Bombay We believe would be willing to Cooperate with Us, but We are already apprised of the present inabilities of the Gentlemen of Bombay, to undertake any thing of Importance, for want of Money; they having represented to Us in the strongest Manner, their extreme Distress for even the Means of defraying

&c

Fort St. George 13th Janry 1774.

the ordinary Expences of their Establishment. The Sole Dependance therefore, according to Sir Roberts Idea, of this Presidency & Bombay for Supplies to enable them to carry on a War, must be on Bengal, & We much Apprehend that the Gentlemen there, after defraying their Expences, of their own Part of Sir Roberts great Military Plan, & their Ordinary Charges, will have but little to spare to the other Presidencies.

After having thus candidly Stated the Reasons, which induced Us to disapprove of Sir Robert Barlands Proposal, We would Wish to take Our leave of the Subject, but before We conclude, it will be necessary to add a few Words in refutation of a very extraordinary Declaration in the last Paragraph of the Letter now before Us, that because We have not adopted the Measure, which Sir Robert Barland recommended, the Nabob is now left to see his Country & himself of any Apprehensions of the Maharattas, by the best Means in his Power. The Proposition is just, but We absolutely deny the Inference. It is true We have refused Sir Robert Barlands Scheme, but does it thence follow, that because We have done so, the Nabob is left to himself. This Declaration, is the more extraordinary, as it is notoriously known to Sir Robert Barland, & the whole Settlement, that We are at this very time, as well as previous to the Receipt of this Letter, taking every means in Our Power, to oppose the Maharattas should they Invade any part of the Nabobs Dominions.

To sum up the whole in a few Words

Fort St. George 13th January 1774

Wood, Sir Robert Harland is of Opinion that by Spirited Threats, We shall awe the Mahrattas & deter them from acts of Hostility in the Carnatick, — whereas We are of Opinion, that the Tranquility of the Nabobs Government, will be more effectually secured by spirited Measures alone & that the Mahrattas will more probably, be awed into Peace, by actual Preparations, than by Pompous Threats, which perhaps they themselves know We have not the power of executing —

A Draft of an Answer to Sir Robert Harlands Letter to be prepared, conformable to the Sence of the foregoing Minute. — —

Letter from the Nabob on the Subject of an Alliance with the Mahrattas or Hyder Alley. — —

Read Letter from the Nabob, Dated 12th Inst. N° 1. on the Subject of an Alliance with the Mahratta or Hyder Alley in reply to the Presidents Letter of the 5th Instant — The Nabob says that, in the Friendship of the Mahrattas, there are many Advantages, in that of Hyder Alley none — that if Our Treasury was as full as We could Wish, & Our Force double to what it is at present, & Hyder Alley Cawn to join us, We could not prevent the Depradations of the Mahrattas — should an Alliance with Hyder Alley Cawn, be the plan adopted, the Consequences, whether Beneficial or otherwise, must rest upon this Government —

The Nabob incloses Copies of Letters from Mahadaverow, Sadashee, & others respecting the Affairs of the Mahrattas — also a List of Provisions in store, in the Forts of Vellore, Arcott, Wandewash

Fort St. George 13th January 1774

Wandewash & Gingee —

The Nabob declares that in the Friendship of the Maharattas, there are many Advantages, in the Friendship of Hyder there are none; allowing for a Moment that the Board, were convinced, of the expediency of forming an Alliance with the Maharattas & that the most Salutary Effects were to be expected from such a measure; Can they in Opposition, in direct violation of the Engagements, between Hyder Ally & this Government, enter into Friendship with the Maharattas, when one of the Conditions of that Friendship is, to be the Destruction of Hyder Ally — After such a flagrant Breach of Publick Faith, what Power in India would rely upon, the Word of the British Nation? Or how could the Nabob after such a glaring Proof of our want of Faith, place any dependance on the firmness of our Engagements with himself —

The Nabob declares for an Alliance with the Maharattas.

& by a Friendship with Hyder Ally

The Nabob means the forming a new Alliance with him, the consequences of such a Measure can never rest upon this Government, for by a perusal of the Records, it will appear that the same does not proceed from their Advice — The Board have repeatedly recommended a good Understanding between the Carnatick & Hyder Ally & again recommend it in the strongest manner —

Being inconsistent with our Publick Engagements cannot be expected —

With much Concern the Board have perused that part of the Nabobs Letter, wherein it appears that in case of troubles arising in the Country, no other Resources can be expected from him, but the Provisions already collected, in the Forts — In a Conference which the President held with the Nabob in the Month of June last, he the President was given

the Board only recommend a good Understanding with Hyder Ally —

Provisions actually laid up in the Forts the only Resources to be depended on, in case of a War —

given to understand that in case the Nabob was put in Possession of Tanjore, some Payments would be made to the Company, even if the Province was invaded by the Mahrattas, & now that the Nabob is not only put in Possession of that Valuable Kingdom, but has also added to his Territories the Marawar & Shaalcooty Districts, he declares his Inability to raise Money, should any Troubles arise in the Province. a Considerable Force is assembled at Vellore, & every Preparation is made for the Security of the Carnatick, but Our Treasury is low & We have hardly sufficient, to defray the ordinary Disbursements, - Our Dependance for Supplies of Money therefore, is & must be upon the Nabob

Our Supplies of Money Our sole Dependance must be upon the Nabob.

Draft of a Letter on the foregoing Heads in reply to the Nabobs of the 12th Instant is now Ordered to be prepared.

Wm Ma
Joseph Smith
Geo Dawson
Henry Brooke
Lt Wm
Straiey

Fort St George 15th January 1774.

14th Dispatched the following Orders this day

to Captain Bridges at Chinglaput &c.

To Captain Thomas Bridges
Commanding the Grenadier Company at Chinglaput

Sir

Letter to Capt. Bridges to join the Army near Vellore, with his Company of Grenadiers

On the Receipt hereof, You will proceed with all convenient Expedition & join the Troops encamped at Chittebery near Vellore, under the Command of Col. Ross Lang, from whom You will receive further Orders.

Half a Company of Sepoys are ordered to Chinglaput to go with Your Detachment, which Opportunity the Commissary has taken of sending a Supply of 20000 Pag.s to the Paymaster, by Bullocks Which You will take under Your Escort.

Mr. Munro, the Paymaster at Chinglaput, has received Directions to supply You with the necessaries for Your Company on the March.

I am Sir
Your most Obedient Servant
Alex.r Wynch

Fort St George.
13th January 1774.

At a Consultation Present

Alex.r Wynch Esq.r Governor President.

" Joseph Smith.

Saturday
the 15th Instt.

George Dawson + Henry Brooke.
Charles Smith + Samuel Johnson.
John Max.d Stone. Edward Stracey.
Edward Cotsford.

Mr John Smith Indisposed.

The Minutes of last Consultation read & approved.

Dispatched the following Letter
Draft of which, was ordered to be prepared last Consultation,

76 Fort St. George 15th Janry. 1774.

Consultation, to Sir Robert Harland.

To Sir Robert Harland Bart.
His Majestys Minister Plen.potentiary
& Commander in Chief of his Majestys Ships in India.

Sir

Letter to Sir Robt. Harland, the Board confirm their former Opinion on the inefficacy of writing to the Mahrattas Deny this Inference respecting the Nabob.

We have received Your Letter of the 11th Instant & as We remain in the same state of Opinion that writing to the Mahrattas, or threatening them with Resentment for Injuries, which they may commit can answer no good purpose, We conceive it is unnecessary to enter into an Argumentative Correspondence on this Subject. We shall therefore at present only observe, in reply to what You have said respecting the Sentiments of Administration at Home, on Our Opinion against a Representation to be made to the Mahrattas at this Juncture, that We flatter Ourselves We shall be able, to give very sufficient & ample Reasons, for Our Conduct, to Our Constituents, & We rely upon their Justice & the Justice of Administration for the Approbation of Measures, which had for their Motives the Honor & Interest of the Company & the Peace & Security of the Nabobs Dominions.

We cannot allow the Justness of the Inference, that, because We have not adopted Your Proposal "The Nabob must now be left to save his Country & himself from any Apprehensions from the Mahrattas, by the best means in his Power" for We are convinced it must appear to the whole World, that the Preparations, We have made in assembling the Army, in a central Position, with a Declared

Intention

To. Fort St George 15th Janry 1774

In Continuation to ours of the 4th Inst. to the Admiral & Gov.r Ligitty
Intention to secure the Carnatick, from Depradations
& Our repeated & positive Declarations, demonstrate the
most unshaken Determination, to oppose every
Power, Who shall attempt to disturb the Tranquility of
this Country—

We are much obliged to You, for
having Ordered the Squadron, to remain at Trincomale
to be ready in case of Emergency, but as We acquainted
You in Our Letter of the 20th Decem.r 1773. We cannot take
upon Ourselves to recommend any particular Objects
or Plan of Operations, for his Majesty's Ships on the
Malabar Coast, for the reasons set forth in the said
Letter — When We receive any Information, from Bombay
that can enable Us to form a more precise Judgement
of the Strength & Dispositions of the Maharattas on that
side of India, We shall lose no time in communicating
the same to You — It is also necessary that We
should acquaint You, that We have requested of the
Gentlemen at Bombay, to transmit their Ideas on
this Subject to the Chiefs of their several Settlements,
to be communicated to You or to the Commanders
of any of His Majesty's Ships, Whom You may Order
to call for that purpose —

We have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obed.t & most humble Serv.ts
Alex.r Wynch &c Council

The President Reports the Nabobs Declaration, respecting the Consequences of an Alliance with the Maharattas or with Hyder Ally —

The President Reports that in a
Conference He had with the Nabob Yesterday, He the
Nabob acknowledged, that if We consented to an Alliance
with

with the Mahrattas the Object was to reduce Hyder Ally. That on the other hand if We rejected the Friendship of the Mahrattas, on these Terms, & joined Hyder Ally We should be under the necessity of keeping an Army eight Months of the Year on the Banks of the Kistnah

Minutes thereon

It is too evident notwithstanding the Nabobs Declarations to the contrary, that he is determined to leave no expedient untried, to force us into an Alliance with the Mahrattas. much has been wrote on this Subject & Our Determination repeatedly declared. We can only again acquaint the Nabob, that Our Resolution is fixed, neither to join the Mahrattas or Hyder Ally, unless compelled to it by actual necessity & that as long as Affairs remain in the Situation they are in at present, We are resolved to observe a strict Neutrality, between those two Powers —

The President lays before the Board the following Letters, which he has received lately from Vizagapatam, on the Subject of the Troubles in the Chimmedy District — —

Letters from Vizagapatam respecting the Affairs in the Chimmedy District & the Success of the Detachmt. under Capt Matthews.

Sir —

Yesterday I have now the Pleasure of transmitting You Copy of a Letter, I received from Capt Matthews, early this morning — Lieu: Read with his Detachmt must have joined him Yesterday — I am with Respect Sir

Your most Obedient humble Servant.

Geo: Strahan —

Vizagapatam
2nd January 1774

The Honble Alexr Wynch Esqr

President & Governor of Fort St George &c

In Fort St. George 15th Janry 1774.

Camp 31st Decemr 73. 5 Oclk.

To George Stratton Esqr.

Sir.

In taking up Ground for a New Encampment Yesterday afternoon the Enemy shewed themselves nearer to me, than I expected, which determined me to Attack them. In an hour they were drove from all their Posts. We have taken three Guns & had only 4 Men Wounded. I shall March this Morning, after the Fugitives. but we shou'd Apres it will be impossible for me to entertain Hopes of seizing Gwyzepaddoo all that I can do at present is to drive him out of the Country.

Gwyzepaddoo totally defeated.

It is very surprizing that Enis Read should be so long on the Road. I have not heard any thing of him, but from Mr. Oneal that he was to leave Vizagapatam the 26th.

I am Sir
Your most Obedient Servt
Richard Mathews.

Sir.

I have just now received a letter from Capt. Mathews, Copy of which I have the honor to send You inclosed. Goonapooram, is situated North of Thinnevelly 10 Cos & is part of the Thundapooram Country. This Place was in Sittrannayes Possession before Narraindoo's Revolt, when he took it away from him, & put Pretapathdoo in Possession Some of after Narraindoo's Death the Thinnevelly People took it from Pretapathdoo, & delivered it up to the Rajah, Who gave it to Vickyrandoo, free of any Tribute, on Condition he would continue in Friendship with him. I take the Liberty to mention these particulars least You might be not know in what Manner it came into

into Vickeramdoo's Possession, & to have Your Approbation of the Orders, I propose sending to Capt. Mathews - for the Reasons mentioned in my Letter of the 1st Inst. I could wish to avoid quarelling with Vickeramdoo & have therefore wrote him in friendly Terms to deliver up Guzzepatdoo, in which Case, Capt. Mathews, is not to proceed against him, but march back to Chicacole, leaving such a Force at Chimmedy, as might be thought proper for its Protection - Should Vickeramdoo on the contrary protect Guzzepatdoo, & raise Troubles, it will be necessary to take other Measures, but I shall write Capt. Mathews that he is then to wait my further Orders, before he proceeds to extremities against him, for I shall do every thing in my Power, not to give him the least Umbrage, least he may be induced to call the Party of Maharattas under Bimbanjee to his Assistance -

I remain with Respect
Honble Sir.
Your most Obedient Servant
Geo: Stratton.

Vizagapatam
3rd Janry 1774.

To
The Honble Alex: Wynch Esqr
President & Govr of Fort St George.

To Geo: Stratton Esqr

Camp 8th Janry 1774.

Sir.

Flies for Protection to Vickeramdoo

This Morning I have been told, that Guzzepatdoo hath taken Refuge, in Vickeramdoo's Country, at Gudapooram, the other Parties belonging to him, have likewise fled to Beemdoo so that there is not a Man in Arms against us in the Chimmedy District, I believe this sudden Retreat is owing to my moving between Guzzepatdoo's Retreat

Fort St George 15th Janry 1774.

Retreat of Beiroor Country to stop him if possible — I have sent a Detachment towards Gudapooram with Orders not to molest the Frontiers of Vickeraindoo — I shall be glad of Your further Directions whether I am to follow Guzzyputtoo or not. Gudapooram formerly belonged to Chinnady & was given to Vickeraindoo by Sitteram-anuze — If You do not chuse I should proceed I see no necessity to keep so large a Force in this Country two or three Companies will be sufficient because Guzzyputtoo has not with him more than 400 Men, but he may be assisted by Vickeraindoo, in that case I wait Your Orders. I am told that Lingia Rao arrived at Chinnady this Morning —

I am Sir
Your most Obedient Servant —
Richard Mathews —

Sir.

I beg leave to enclose You Copy of my Letter to Capt. Mathews, which I wrote to him after closing the Dis. I had the honor of writing to You last night — which I hope will meet with Your Approbation, —

I am with Respect Sir.
Your most Obedient humble Servant.
Geo: Stratton.

Vizagapatam
4th Janry 1774.

To the Honble Alex. Wynch Esq.
President & Governor &c Fort St George —

To Captain Richard Mathews

Sir.

I have been favored with Your Letters of the 25th Ult.o & first Instant, & congratulate You on the late Success You have met with against Guzzyputtoo. I approve of the Detachment You have sent towards Gundapooram, with Orders not to molest the Frontiers of Vickeraindoo, for I could wish to avoid quarelling with him, & for this purpose I now enclose You a Letter to him, under a flying Seal, which You will be pleased to forward, &

Fort St. George 15th Janry 1794

on perusing the Answer he may send, forward it to me, I sincerely wish he may deliver up Guyzzi Pudoo, in which case You are not to proceed against him, or to enter into his Country, but march back to Chicacoly, leaving such a Force at Simmedy as You think proper for its Protection - Should Vickeramdoo on the contrary protect Guyzzi Pudoo & raise Troubles it will be necessary, that You take Measures to quell them, by keeping him out of the Simmedy Country, but not to proceed to extremities in going to Gunnapoorum, until You hear further from me, as I could Wish to convince Vickeramdoo, that it is not my Intention to give him the least Umbrage, unless he gives me cause to act severely with him, for I want to bring about a Reconciliation if possible between him & Sitteramauze Whom I have Reason to believe is inclined thereto - for this purpose I wrote to him some days since, a friendly Letter to which I shortly expect an Answer, as I hear he is ere this at Royagoda, a few Cos from Gunapoorum - I also enclose You a Letter to Aryebeg, which I am to desire, You will deliver to him, he is a Person who has it in his Power to give You every Information in respect to the Gunapoorum Country, & will furnish You with Spies to get You every Intelligence You may want, as he is much respected at Simmedy & well acquainted with every part of the Country -

Capt. Candler having reported himself fit for Duty, & applied to me to join his Battalion, I have given him permission accordingly.

Desiring

83. Fort St George 15th Janry 1774.

desiring he would leave Lt Roberts, who is come from Diggapoondy in the Command of Pollimore, or any other Officer You or him may think Proper.

I am Sir
Your most Obedient Servant
Geo: Shatton.

Vizagapatam 3d Janry 1774. Midnight

Sir.

I have the honor to send You an-closed, Copy of a Letter, I have received from Capt Matthews from which I have reason to believe it is Vickerandoo's Intention, to afford assistance to Guzzepathdoo. This will be known on Capt Matthews's marching towards Goonaporam, when he will act in consequence of the Orders sent him the 3d Instant, tho I shall detain him not to proceed further than a Punganah situated on the confinity of the Pimmedy District, unless Vickerandoo should commence Hostilities, by giving assistance to Guzzepathdoo, in that Case Capt Matthews is to attack him. I have the honor to remain with Respect

Sir
Your most Obedient humble Servant.
George Shatton.

Vizagapatam 5th Janry 1774

The Honble Mr Wynch Esq
Pres. & Gov. of Fort St George.

To George Shatton Esq.

Sir.

I have just received Intelligence from the Officer towards Gudaporam, that Guzzepathdoo hath retreated to that Place, the Rajah of it has assembled 5000 men, & it is thought he will lend Guzzepathdoo a Force to distant this Country. As soon as I can procure Provisions I shall march that way & I hope to receive Your Orders, to attack any one who gives assistance to Enemies of the Honble Company.

Ens:

84 Fort St George 15th Janry 1774.

Ensign Read joined me this morning his Carriages were drawn by Buffaloes & Bullocks, the worst I ever saw—

I shall Order back to Vizagapatam, the Sepoys, that You say in Your Letter, of the 30th of Decem. You have sent with Ammunition & Firelocks—

The Ammunition & Firelocks I have ordered to remain at Palmoor & Immediately You will send Orders to the Commanding Officer at that Place, to follow any Orders I may think necessary to give

Camp near Kimmedy
2nd Janry 1774—

I am Sir
Your very Obedient humble Servant
Richd Matthews—

Read the following Letter from Mr Cotsford—

To the Honble Alexr Wynch Esqr
President & Governor & Council at Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs—

Letter from Mr. Cotsford Review of his Transactions at Ganjam state of the several Zemindars their Policy, situation, & Force &

I now lay before You such Particulars, relative to the Nelloor District, as I have judged will be useful to Any Successor, in the Residency there, but previous to it I shall inform You of Any Transactions since my last Letter on this Subject—

In a former Letter I have mentioned that Imaunsing the Brother of the Zemindar of Callicoote, Who has been the Author of much Trouble in that Country, proposed Yielding himself up, provided his Life, should be spared him, We accordingly did so, & arrived at Ganjam in August 1772. I shortly afterwards sent him to Nellore, as the greatest Part of our Detachment being stationed there, he could be more easily

Fort St. George 15th Janry 1771.

looked after, than if at any other Place, - since his giving himself up, there has not been the least Trouble in the Calicoat Zemindary neither is there the least Probability there will be, any in future -

In My Letter dated June 6th 1770.

I wrote You fully respecting Beemadoo, Zemindar of Vizianagur & his Affairs - At that time he having Agreed to give up to Brumydoo his Debt on the Management of both his Countries of Vizianagur & Vitzapaghemy, it became necessary for the Latter to reside at Diegapoundy a Mud Fort in the Vizianagur Country, in order that he might the more readily Manage his Business, Indeed it was what I myself recommended both to the Father & Son; to the Father in order to his shewing the World, that they were sincerely reconciled & to the Son, that he might be able to transact his Business in a Place of Security, As I did not at the time think it prudent to rely too much on Beemadoo, Who thro his advanced Age & Infirmities, both of Body & Mind, is not Master of his own Conduct, but has for some Years past been under the Directions of his principal Servants, by whose Craft & Knavery Brumydoo's Affairs might receive a great Detriment or indeed his Interest in the Country, be intirely overthrown, & moreover to secure in my own Power, the means of getting the Ballance due to the Company in case of any Disagreement between the Father & the Son, By means of Brumydoo, an Opportunity of placing a Company of Sepoys were introduced into the Fort as his Body Guard -

It was not long before I experienced the good Effects of my Precautions as a Disagreement was soon brought about between the Father & Son in consequence

Fort St George 15th Janry 1771.

consequence of the Letter his desiring he might examine the Principal Servants of his Father, touching their Management of the former Year, it appearing that they had received much more of the Revenue than had been accounted for. This they found means to ward off by prepossessing Beemadoo with an Opinion that Nunny doo's Intentions were to make himself in the end, absolute Master of the Countries which their Imprisonment would greatly facilitate —

Beemadoo whose fears are too easily wrought upon, soon after wrote to me that he could not pay the Sum agreed upon to the Company unless the Management of the Countries was taken out of Nunnydoo's hands & put on the former footing. Knowing the Complaint against Nunnydoo, to be entirely groundless & Bagapoomdy in our hands being Master of all his Open Country, I insisted on the Injustice intended to Nunnydoo & my firm Resolution of having the Money due to the Company, from the Produce of the present Year. He still continued to urge frivolous excuses & I was at last compelled to give over the immediate Management of the Vytapaghery Country to Nunnydoo, but still to be accountable to his Father for the Sums received & to be paid to the Company, in part of the Ballance due by him —

In the principal Villages of the Vizianagur Country, I placed Guards of Sepoys, a Havildar Jemadar & 12 at each & country Peons to watch the Grain, as is the Custom with the more inconsiderable of the Zemindars not suffering any to be conveyed away, until the amount was made good & paid to the Person appointed by him, to receive the Money on Account of the Company —

In

87. Fort St George 15th Janry 1774.

In stating this Nuzzur there was
the Disque that Beemadoo would oppose it, if it being a
Novelty in his Country which would have brought
him troubles on him, for such Opposition must have
been resented immediately by the Government. However
rather than Disque his Zemindary he permitted the
Nuzzur to take Effect & he has come to Terms with
Nunny doo respecting the proportion each Country
is to pay.

The Sepoys are still stationed
in his Zemindary & the Money is collecting accordingly.
& I do not apprehend any Troubles from Beemadoo,
on that Scor.

On the 9th of August last Vizia-
=rum Sing Zemindar of Burragur died & the Charge of
the Country has fallen to his Grandmother named Woo=
=vaunjah, Who has continued the Management of the
Zemindary in the hands of Juggaut Sing, the late Rajahs
principal Servant. On what relates to Woovaunjah, I
have already wrote You in my Letter of when
on the Subject of that Zemindary.

On the 23rd of August the Sub=
=ah Dar appointed to the Parvatcoote Country, was
assassinated & two of the Guard of Sepoys, which was
stationed with him, as proceeded from any sudden
Quarrel amongst themselves, but was a concerted Scheme
for a Party of about 200 Horse took an Opportunity
when most of the Guard, were at some distance eating
& killed the Tahsildar & two of the Guard Who were
with him. The Head of the Tahsildar, they cut off
& carried it to Rajendar Sing the Zemindar of Parvatcoote,
which

which amounts almost to a Proof, that it was transacted by his Command or at least that he connived at it.

Shewing Your Honor &c. had an Expedition of great Consequence on Foot towards the Southward, in the Affairs under my Management at Ganjam, I have avoided as much as has been in my Power, involving the Company, in new Trouble with the Zemindars, I have however in consequence of the Death, & Remanding Orders of the Refractory Behaviour of the Zemindar of Parlacorte, ordered Capt. Baudinel to march with the Detachment under his Command to Aska, which is as good a situation for overlooking Bermadoo's Countries as Pelhapoor.

From the weak Government exercised for some Years past on the Zemindary of Burragur & the Independant Spirit of the Inhabitants, it being a very mountainous & Woody Country, the Zemindars Whose Possessions lie contiguous to it, have frequently attempted to gain footing in it, the Detachment being stationed at Aska, will of itself in a great Measure check any Designs they may have on that Country & enable us in the mean time to gather such a Knowledge of it as may be of the greatest Use hereafter.

The Zemindar of Parlacotte, some time before the Murther of the Tahsildar had left his House & was retired to the Jungles, the Avenue to which altho' thro' a thick Wood or Jungle is not of much strength, I therefore ordered Capt. Baudinel to send a Detachment & take Possession of it, as a first step towards depriving him of his Zemindary.

but

Fort St George 15th Janry 1770.

but to proceed no further against him at present, which he has done, & has stationed there One Company Zahaty of Sepoys under the Command of a Subaltern Officer I could not avoid taking some Notice of this Tumindars violent Proceeding, viz. it only to deter others from following his Example—

Murray dos under various Pretences, represented to the Nabut his Affairs, would suffer much from an immediate demolition of the Forts in the Nabobs Country. After postponing it from time to time finding no end to satisfying his Inclination on that head I ordered Capt. Bandinel to take the Opportunity of his marching thro that Country with the Lascars & Coolies of his Detachment & working Parties of the Sepoys to destroy the Forts of Allydy Gaum, Cotenarah & Siddasheram & have recommended to Murray doo to augment his Garison in Daigapoondy with the Strength withdrawn from those Places. I have learned since my Arrival at the Presidency that the above mentioned Forts are accordingly Destroyed—

As We have no Troubles on hand in the Nellepour District at present. I shall lay before You, my Sentiments on the State of it & observe what it may be necessary for to do for the Advancement of the Company's Authority in that Quarter—

The rest of Southern Tumindaries called altogether the Mohindeah Nadlee are inconsiderable, & from whence no trouble is to be apprehended—

Chingulty being, after it was taken in the Year 17 demolished & moreover that Country,

having

Fort St George 15th Janry 1774.

having since paid considerable Sums to the Company,
by which the Ballance due from it is greatly reduced,
add to this the present Zemindar not being arrived to
Man's Estate there is little or no probability that
Troubles will arise there merely on the Score of Tribute.

The Zemindary of Mohurry has
ever shewed the readiest Obedience to the Authority of the
Company, of any in the Nellapoor District, proceeding
doubtless from its being in general an open Country,
& not capable of Defence, for altho' in this Zemindary
there are several Hill Forts, & the Poems of the Rajah
are perhaps the best in the District while the Country
is so situated that after the first impression is made,
it must fall very expeditiously into the hands of the
Country & may be kept without difficulty. The great
footing We have gained in Vizianagur & Pittapaghery,
Cherry, the Countries of Beemadoo has cast the
Weakness of the Zemindary of Mohurry more open to
our View, & will afford us great advantage, if ever by
the Conduct of the Zemindar, We should be urged to
reduce him - This doubtless He himself must be
sensible of & in consequence be deterred from acting
improperly. From these Reasons I judge nothing is
to be apprehended from thence.

I shall say but little of the
Zemindary of Vizianagur & Pittapaghery as my
former Letters explain almost all that is necessary
to be said thereon - The Measures I have been con-
strained to take relative to the Affairs of Beemadoo,
together with destroying his Forts as mentioned

in

Fort St George 15th Janry 1771.

in the first part of this Letter, afford a convincing Argument that We have great Power in those Countries & which I am of Opinion We may maintain having in Possession the Ports of Diagapoondy & Putapraghurry—

The small Zemindary of Jengur lies contiguous to the Country of Putapraghurry, the Tribute from which is received by the Company without any Trouble attending it & it will continue in the same State, being both in extent & situation incapable of making the least Resistance—

The several Attacks made upon the different parts of the Zemindary of Callicoote, as appears more particularly from some of my former Letters, the Zemindar throwing himself into my hands for Protection against his Brother Maunsing, & Maunsing himself the Author of all the Troubles there, having delivered himself up, there is not now in that Zemindary, the least Appearance of Trouble; on the Country the Zemindar now (tho' Choice (tho' at first tho' necessity) has placed his whole dependance) on the Company, & as in the pursuits after Maunsing Detachments of Our Troops have been in every corner of his Country, We are perfectly acquainted with it—

The Zemindary of Beroudy which is contiguous to Callicote, to the S.W. is wele affected to the Company for the Rollam, the Place of Residence of the Zemindar being attacked & taken & not given up again until he sued for it in Person, he has ever since remained Obedient & as there is no Ballance

ab

at all against him, there is not any Probability that he will occasion any Trouble —

Paloor & Mounmahe two small Zemindaries lying on the Neighbourhood of Berondy are in extent so very inconsiderable that they are more liable to insult from others than Capable of giving Insults themselves —

The Zemindary of Mautgur is considerable both in the extent & the goodness of the Country & the Rajah maintains a respectable Force, but unless his Tribute is encreased, I do not think there is any Probability, that it will be necessary to use Force, to compel him to pay according to what has hitherto been his fixed Tribute. The Country of Mautgur lies more open to our Attacks than it otherwise would do, owing to our Connection with the Zemindar of Callicoote, whose Zemindary joins to that of Mautgur —

The Zemindary of Goomsur, is the most considerable of any in the Ricapoor District a great part of its sums Descents into the Territories of the Maharattas & the Rajah is nearly related to several of the Zemindars, under that Government. The annual Tribute he pays to the Company is only 30,000 Rupees altho' his Country is worth is near 9 times that Sum, indeed until these few Years, he paid a considerable Tribute to the Maharattas, which is a Proof that his Country is extensive, since he could pay to both without occasioning a disagreement between the two Governments. Altho' his Tribute is so small he makes great difficulty in paying it, not so much I believe thro' a principle of Disobedience, as a Design to convince the Government that his Resources are so great, as scarce

Fort St George 15th January 1774.

scarce to leave him the means. This Zemindar has so little to gain & so much to lose, that I think he will not take any Step, that may put us to the necessity of proceeding against him, more especially as in such a case, there is but little doubt of our proceeding, should the Measure become necessary.

The Zemindary of Sourcah is very inconsiderable & pays but a small Tribute, the Zemindar thereof is entirely under the Influence of Tupsen Bunge, Zemindar of Goorsur by whom he may almost be said to be held in Servitude, for the Affairs of this Country are entirely under his Controul & immediate Management.

I have now said what appears to be necessary respecting all the Zemindaries, from which Your Honor &c. may observe, that the Nellepoor District is in a State of Tranquility in as great a degree as can be expected, considering all Circumstances,

From the advanced Age of Bamadoo He being I believe 73 Years old & in other Respects the infirm state of his Health, in all human probability he cannot live long & as at his Death much Altercation may be brought about, I think it necessary to say something about it.

For some Years past the Principal Servants of Bermadoo, have entirely controuled him in every thing that relates to his Country, Who fearing an alteration that must have been detrimental to their Interests, should Bummydoo the eldest Son of the Rajah, ever recover the Affections of his Father, which he at first very undeservedly lost, have hitherto prevented a hearty Reconciliation between them, altho

no

Fort St George 15th January 1774.

no means have been left unessayed by me, to effect the Sugganaut dos the second Son of the Rajah, is held up to the People, as the Person to whom the Succession is to descend, the bringing of which about is the only means they have for securing their Authority, when Beemadoo may die...

Finding they endeavours to bring about a Reconciliation between the Father & Sons ineffectual, & observing the Steps the Servants of the Rajah were taking, I judged it necessary to proceed as is already recited in the former part of this Letter, that is to say, to throw as much Authority, into the hands of Mummy doo, as I consistently could, without occasioning fresh Troubles, in order that at the Death of Beemadoo, the State of things there might be in a proper Train, to receive such alterations as might be most suitable, to the honor & Interest of the Company.

Mummy doo has the sole Power in the Pulitaghery Country, tho' which he is in a great Measure independant on his Father, being only accountable to him for the Sums he collects, the Forts of Dugaproody & Pulitaghery are also in his hands, which Forts should have been destroyed at the same time with the others already mentioned, but from the Consideration that, they may be of great use, especially the former, when a change may happen—

As Mummydoo is indebted to the Company for the share of Authority, he at present enjoys, it is reasonable to suppose, that he will in future be faithful to the Government & properly

managed

Fort St George 15 January 1776.

managed, even under Spiritual Services, add to this that his Title to succeed to his Fathers Zemindary is founded on Justice — I am therefore of Opinion that at the Death of Bamadoo, if this Zemindary is to remain in the family it ought to be given to Mummydoo, in preference to any other Person & to effect it, in the most expeditious manner, a Detachment should march to Vizianagur, at the Time, with Mummydoo & put him in Possession of the Country —

Since the Death of Permanund Sing Zemindar of Burragur, I understand that Moosaniyan Grandmother to the late Rajah proposes to adopt a Son of the Zemindar of Gurgur & make over the Zemindary to him —

The Country of Burragur is of a very considerable extent, running behind the Countries of Beemadoo & Guzzipatdoo Zemindar of Chinnedy, but it is for the most part not subject to the Authority of its Zemindar further than what is merely nominal It is divided amongst several Petty Chiefs, Who acknowledge the Zemindar to be their Superior but pay him Nothing —

Most of the Villages in that Zemindary, which We have had an Opportunity of passing are veiled with Palmyra Trees & other Timbers, so as to be a kind of a Fortification & this the Inhabitants of the Open Country are under the necessity of doing to secure their Effects from the Depradations of their Wild Neighbours, Who live amongst the Hills, this Circumstance alone amounts almost to a Proof that the Country is not under any Regular Government, — There being no near Relation

of

Fort St George 15th Janry 1777.

of the late Zemeendar existing. It appears to me that Moorsunjan should not be permitted to adopt any Step to succeed to the Zemeendary, but rather that the Company should keep that Havelly Land, from which Steps Inconvenience as I can perceive can arise, because the Money paid annually by the late Zemeendary can be collected by Servants of the Government, with the same Facility as it was collected by the Servants of the Zemeendar. That Country being very extensive, the Advantages to be drawn from it in future, may be very considerable, to the Company provided it can be brought under Obedience, which I do suppose it may by degrees, to effect which when no other Business is on hand Detachments may be sent to examine it, provided it be done with the greatest care & Circumspection

Rajender Sing Zemeendar of Damacoole having countenanced if not immediately ordered the Murder of the Tahseldar placed in his Zemeendary his conduct cannot be passed over without the Risque of Wounding the Authority of the Company

A Tahseldar is a person appointed by the Government to inspect & secure the Grain when on the Ground & Who receives the sum stipulated between Government & the Zemeendar out of it, before it is made over to the Servants of the Rajah. As the Zemeendary of Damacoole has always been accustomed to receive a Tahseldar, as well under the Country Government as during their Residence in the Nellepoor District. The Step the Zemeendar has taken appears to be as audacious as it is extraordinary, & very justly directs the

Fort St George 15th January 1771.

the severest Punishment, as it is treating the Authority of the Company with the highest Contempt & has a very dangerous Tendency considering the Principles on which that Country has hitherto been Governed, as the Tribute collected from all the Petty Zemindars is by Tahsildars appointed to their Countries Doubtless this Zemindar has forfeited his Zemindary & it ought in my Opinion, to be taken from him & either converted into Havelly Lands or given to his Nearest Relation whichever may be most suitable to the general State of Affairs in that District. He may without much difficulty take his Country it being for the most part open & Defenceless.

The Zemindar of Sourah is very inconsiderable & his Tribute is but small, however small as it is he is greatly in Arrears to the Company As his Country is under the immediate Management & Protection of the Zemindar of Goomsur, I did not judge it prudent to force a Tahsildar on that Country, to collect what is due from it fearing he might be ill treated or otherwise ill Treated which might put me under the necessity of taking up the Matter when it might not be suitable. I rather chose that the Payment of a small Sum, should be delayed than take the Risque of meeting with so great an Inconvenience. It is probable that the present state of the Sitchepoon Country, may admit of taking into Consideration the Conduct of this Zemindar, if so, the Detachment being stationed at Ratka, will greatly assist in it, by preventing the Zemindar of Goomsur from affording him Countenance.

Manning

90 Fort St George 15th Janry 1774.

Pramsing the Brother of the Zemin-
dar of Callicoote has petitioned to me several times to
be released from his Confinement - I have used every
Method in my Power, to convince him of the necessity
there is for his Paying the Expences of Our Detachment
when it shall Demand any before he can have this
Liberty, He being the Author & occasioner of all
the Troubles there; He pleads Poverty & declares
himself unable to pay the smallest part -

During these 9 Years past
Pramsing has had the Management of the Zemindary
& during the whole time paid very inconsiderable Sums,
to the Government & even allowed the Zemindar his
Brother a very scanty Maintainance - Judging from
these Circumstances it is reasonable to suppose, that
He has the means within his Power, indeed on his
giving himself up on any fair Promise of Pardoning
his Life, rather than fly the Country altogether,
which he might have done, a strong Suspicion
may be grounded that he has Effects concealed some
where; which he did not then chuse to leave, neither
might he be able or willing to take them with him,
as he would in all Probability, have lost the whole,
the work of fluctuating Governments, throughout
India not affording I believe an unlimited Protection to
either Person & Property

If he were released the doubtful
might be well disposed under great Security to the
Company, He being a Man of Courage & Capacity

K

Fort. St George 15th June 1771.

If this Man has repeatedly promised me, he will do on the Contrary after he has got his Freedom, he may occasion new troubles if his Abilities, when considered, in that case plead against him —

I think some determination should be come to, respecting him, it not being as I conceive, altogether consistent with the Principles of the Government, to keep any Person in durance, when the Nature of his Offence can be enquired into the Honble Board should therefore determine, what shall be done respecting him. He is now at Arka, the greatest part of the Detachment being there —

The Detachment of Troops in the Pelicopoor District has ever since they Residence there, behaved much to my Satisfaction, as well at Times of immediate Service, as in their general Deportment by observing good Order & Discipline on all occasions, which I attribute very much to the care & attention of Capt. Bandinel in the Discharge of his Duty —

As Capt. Bandinel has signified to me that he is very desirous to remain in his present Station. I hope Your Honor &c. will consent to it, he being I believe in all respects, as fit as any other Gentlemen, You can send there & well acquainted with the Country —

Accompanying this Letter You have a general Plan of the Pelicopoor District which will serve to explain, what I have written, a great part of it is from an actual Survey, but the state of the Country has hitherto prevented, an exact Survey of the whole to be made; so that I have not been able to shew the respective Purgunahs & Zemindaries in it, which

which is what I could have wished, to have done, it is however sufficiently exact for explaining most points wherein Charts are necessary—

I am
Honble Sir & Sirs
with great Respect.
Your most Dutiful & Servant
Edward Colsford.

Fort St George
Decemr. 30th 1773.

The Board are highly satisfied with the Judicious & prudent Manner in which Mr. Colsford has conducted the Affairs in the Countries dependant on Ganjam since the Establishing of that Settlement & cannot help expressing their Concern that a Servant who from his Capacity & knowledge of the Company's Interest in the Circars, might render such essential Service, to his Employers should from the bad State of his Health, be under the necessity of returning to his native Country. It is a Duty which We owe to our Constituents to point out the Merits of their Servants & it is much a Concern to Ourselves that We have this Opportunity of giving such Honorable Testimony to the Merit of Mr. Colsford—

Approbation of Mr. Colsfords Conduct.

The Steps which Mr. Colsford has taken respecting Rajender Sing the Zemindar of Danavoy, appear to the Board to have been very proper; & he is recommended to Mr. Charles Smith, upon his Arrival at Ganjam, to take the earliest Opportunity of transmitting to the Board, such Lights as may enable them to decide whether it is, more for the Company's Advantage to turn the Zemindary into Khoolly Lands for the Company, or to appoint any of Rajender Sings Family Zemindar on his Room—

Direction the foregoing Letter—

Mannuing being represented as a Dangerous Man, whose Fidelity to the Company is at best

Fort St George 15th January 1774.

best very doubtful, it is necessary that he should remain for the present in confinement: But as Mr Cotsford has also represented that this Zemindar, being a Man of Courage & Capacity, may if well disposed render great Service to the Company, It is recommended to Mr Chs. Smith to pay attention to the Conduct of this Man, & if it appears to him that the Qualities which He supposes, can be employed to the Company's Advantage & that his Fidelity can be depended on, he will represent the same to the Board, & Manuring will be restored to his Liberty —

Capt. Brandrith to remain in the Command at Pettapore —

It gives the Board Pleasure, to find that Capt. Brandrith's Conduct has been so much to the Satisfaction of Mr. Cotsford, & they think it very proper that he should be continued in the Command of the Troops of the Pettapore District —

Ordered that a Copy of the foregoing Letter be given to Mr Charles Smith —

W Smith
Joseph Smith
Geo. Dawson
Henry Brooke
Sami. Johnston
J. Hay
C. Henry

102 Fort St. George 16th Janry 1774.

At a Consultation Present

Alexander Wynch Esq. Governor Presidt.

George Dawson — + Joseph Smith.
Charles Smith — + Henry Brooke.
John Mant. Stone — + Edward Stracey.
Edward Cotsford.

Mr. John Smith & Johnson Indisposed.

Sunday Evening 16th January

The President acquaints the Board that the Nabob having signified to them, that He had certain Matters of Importance to Communicate, He, the President had desired the Council, to assemble at His Gardens this Evening, to take the same into Consideration

The Nabob & his Second Son Omrah Present.

Conference with the Nabob at the Governors Gardens.

After the strongest Expressions of Friendship & good Will to the Company the Nabob proceeds to Recapitulate his Sentiments on the present Posture of Affairs & the Situation of the Province, with respect to Hyder Ally & the Maharattas. That since the Board are determined not to join the Maharattas & to abide by their Engagements with Hyder, he acquiesces, but strenuously recommends the most cautious Management, in order to conceal our real Intentions, that the Maharattas may not despair of obtaining our Friendship. That this Line had been adopted, by the late Governor, in almost similar Circumstances, when the Maharattas were hovering on the Frontiers of the Province, He wrote to Mahaundroo that, He was his Friend & even promised not to afford Hyder Ally any Assistance. That He is far from desiring the Board to break their Engagements with

Fort St George 16th Janry 1774.

with Hyder, but cannot help, being Apprehensive, both in preserving his Friendship, We forfeit that of the Mahrattas. That, tho the Nabob has no other View but the Peace & Prosperity of the Country, & will therefore readily adopt any Measures, conducive thereto, which may be recommended to him by the Board, that if the Board are of Opinion he ought to write to the Mahrattas, or send a Vackeel, or even to send him a Sum of Money, he is ready to do it—

To which the Board replied, that tho the Nabob, must be the best Judge of what was proper to be done on the occasion, that he knew well their Objects were the Peace & Tranquility of the Carnatick & that every Measure which tended to accomplish them purposes, consistent at the same time, with the Honor & Dignity of the Nabob & the Company & in its consequences would not oblige them to afford Assistance either to the Mahrattas or Hyder Ally would be heartily acquiesced in by them— The Board then desired to be informed by the Nabob in what Manner, he recommended they should Negociate with the Mahrattas or what other Measures to pursue, than those they have already adopted.

The Nabob answered that He had been all along for a Footing the Mahrattas, because, He thought an Alliance with them, was most for the Advantage of the Country, which would appear both from his Letters & many Conversations, that he had held on the Subject, but since this Government was determined against that Measure, he now recommended that a Footing of Friendship might be preserved both with them & with Hyder Ally, & that

We

Fort St George 16th Janry 1774.

We should endeavour to prevent the Carnatick from being Plundered —

The Nabob was then told, that it was fruitless to recapitulate what was past, that their Reasons for refusing to join the Mahrattas, are well known to the Nabob, they are upon Record — that the point is now to provide for the Security of the Carnatick to which end the Board will Cooperate with him Heart & hand & join in every consistent Measure for the Interest & Security of his Government —

The Nabob again repeated his Desire that Encouragement should be given both to the Mahrattas & Hyder Alley — That the Vackeel of the latter, should be fed with Promises at the same time that We compromise with the former —

The Nabob desired to know the Opinion of the Board, which of the following Steps he ought to take — whether to send a Vackeel to the Mahrattas, or only a Letter & who Then it would be advisable to send a Vackeel to Hyder Alley —

It would be too precipitate in the Board, to give a precise & determinate Opinion upon the foregoing Proposals from the Nabob — From his more intimate knowledge of the Interest of the own Country, the views & Policy of the Neighbouring Powers, he must be a more competent Judge, whether it is more advisable, to send a Vackeel to the Mahrattas or only to address them by Letter, — The Board have upon a former Occasion, given their Sentiments so clearly upon forming a New Alliance with Hyder Alley

his

Fort St George 16th January 1775.

Alley, that it is unnecessary to add any thing further on that Subject. If his the Nabobs writing to the Mahrattas, or sending a Vackeel to them will tend to the Security of the Province, the Board do not hesitate to pronounce such a Measure highly expedient. Upon which the Nabob acquainted the Board, that he had prepared a Letter to Ragonaut Row, which he would dispatch to him, provided they had no objections to any part of it. The Nabob then read a Letter to Ragonaut Row, as entered in Country Correspondence N.° 4 prepared in very Friendly Terms & desiring that Maundrow Sadasheo might be sent to him, & he further acquainted the Board that he would send a Letter to Hyder Alley as soon as it could be prepared. The Nabob added that the Force of the Mahrattas at present is towards Guram-Chunda & Tripitty & if he finds they continue advancing towards the Carnatick notwithstanding the aforementioned Letter, he will in that case dispatch a Vackeel to them; but if it appears that their Views points to another Quarter, he will wait for an Answer to his Letter —

The Nabob informed the Board that the Reason of his declining to send a Vackeel at present to the Mahrattas, was this, that Ragonaut Row, might be able to draw from the Vackeel, what were their real Intentions, & that such a discovery might probably be productive of immediate Hostilities — Whereas by sending a Letter, & desiring a Vackeel might be sent to him, a very good Purpose might be answered, namely that from the Professions of Friendship made to the Mahrattas, he may be

induced

induced to expect an Alliance with the Carnatick & accordingly send a Vackeel to the Nabob, in which time the Season may be so far advanced, as to oblige them to lay aside, all Thoughts of Attacking the Province this Year - That altho' this Finesse may perhaps succeed yet We ought not to be lulled into security - We the Nabob desired to receive an Estimated Account of the Stock of Provisions Required to subsist the Troops in the Field & he will take Measures for procuring the same, but that He can only provide for the fighting People, & as for the other Attendants on the Army they must supply themselves, the best way they can - The Board then represented to the Nabob, in the strongest Manner the absolute necessity of his advancing Money for the Payment of the Army, & pointed out the fatal consequences which might result from a deficiency, on this essential Article - The Board further represented to the Nabob, how necessary it was to lay up a sufficient Quantity of Provisions in the several Forts, & to lose no time in collecting Grain, Cattle &c in those parts from whence the Army can be most easily supplied -

The Nabob also read a Letter which he proposed sending to Maundheroo Dadasheo, if the Board perceived Nothing amiss in it -

The Board acquainted the Nabob, that they had no objections to this Letter, or to the Bus he proposed Waiting to Bagonaut Rowe -

The

At Fort St George 16th Janry 1774.

The Nabob before he took his leave, acquainted the Board that he intended to write to Moravsow & to send him a Present of twenty thousand Rupees to gain his good Offices with Hagonaut Row—

Whitehill
Lt Col Smith
Geo Dawson
Henry Brooke
Hay
Geo Vansittart
Stracey

At Fort St. George 17th January 1774.

At a Consultation Present—

Alexander Wynch Esq.r Governor Presidt.

Joseph Smith—

Monday 17th January

George Dawson — + Henry Brooke

Charles Smith — + Samuel Johnson

John Max.n Stone + Edward Stacey

Edward Cotsford.

M.r John Smith Indisposed—

The Minutes of last Consultation read & Approved—

Read Draft of a Letter to the Nabob.

in Reply to his of the 12th Instant, agreable to the Minutes of the 13th Inst.t as entered in Country Correspondence N.o 11 — Approved & Ordered to be wrote fair—

Letter to the Nabob

Read the following Letter from Capt.n M.c Dougal—

Fort St George 16th Janry 74—

Honble Sir & Sirs

Finding I cannot go to the Cape, upon the Ships now under Dispatch without running the Risque of not being able to return by the Ships of the Season, I have (with Your leave) taken a Resolution to try what a Voyage to Bombay will do—should that prove ineffectual, to the Recovery my Health, I intend (with Your Permission) to proceed to the Cape upon the Convoy lately arrived there from Europe—

Capt.n M.c Dougal applies for Leave to go to Bombay—

In the first of these Events, I cannot harbour the least doubt, that the Honble Board will be pleased to permit Me, to retain my Battalion, & in the latter I rest so firmly upon the generous feelings of every Member of the Hon.ble Board, that I flatter myself my Sufferings, both in point of Health & Fortune not to mention other Motives that might be urged, will

pass

109 Fort St George 8th January 1772.

have sufficient weight, to secure me the like Indulgence.

I have the honor to be with the
greatest Respect & Deference
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt &
most devoted humble Servant
John McDougall

The Board Consent to Capt. McDougalls
Request to proceed to Bombay & should his Health require
it, to take this Passage from thence to the Cape, Tur con-
sideration of the many distressing Circumstances in his
Case, it is agreed that he be permitted to retain his
Battalion until his Return from Bombay

Granted

Read the following Letter from Lieu: Atwood.

To the Honble Alex: Wynch Esq:
President & Governor of Fort St George & Council
Honble Sir & Sirs

Letter from Lieut Atwood for leave to proceed on a Voyage for his Health.

Having been at the first Siege of
Tanjore afflicted with the direful Complaints & a flux, arising
from them, which reduced me to extreme Weakness the Phys-
Gilbert Farley & Samuel Scott, gave it as their Opinion,
that I was not likely to recover a regular State of Health,
without the assistance of a Voyage to a Cold Climate,
whereupon, I did myself the honor on the 9th March 1772
of addressing this Board for their Permission to proceed to
England in case of Recovery to return with my Rank,
& this Honble Board having been pleased to grant my
Request, I did accordingly proceed towards England, but
but finding my Health in some measure recovered at
the Cape of Good Hope, I returned to this Presidency &
soon after went upon Duty at the Second Siege of Tan-
jore; where I unfortunately met with a Relapse of my
aforementioned Disorders & it being now the Opinion of Phys:

110 Fort St George 17th January 1774.

Mr Parsley, that I am not likely to recover a regular State of Health without the assistance of another Voyage to a Cold Climate. I am again under the necessity of soliciting this Honble Board for their Permission to proceed on a Voyage to sea & in case of Recovery to return with any Rank which should I be so happy as to obtain. I further beg of this Honble Board to indulge me with an Order, directing Capt Scaly of the Northington, (being now under Dispatch) to receive me on Board, as a Passenger.

I am with great respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt & very humble Servt
Jno Yorkley Atwood
Ens: of the 1st Battn 1st Brigade.

Madras 13th January 1774.

Agreed that Mr Atwood be allowed to take a Voyage to Sea for the Recovery of his Health.

Granted

Read the following Letter from Sir Robert Harland.

Gentlemen.

It was not from the hope of changing Your Opinions by any Argument of Mine that I was induced to write to You the 11th Inst but candidly to communicate to You the Motives which induced me to recommend the Measure. If You will please to observe all this You take no notice of in Your Letter of the 15th in which I have received that I did not propose to threaten the Mahrattas, like Our friendly Intercession in favor of the Nabob's Countries should prove ineffectual.

I give this very great Leaning that You have such Confidence in the Preparations which You have made in assembling an Army in a central Position & I wish with all my Heart, that Your declared Intention to secure the Carnatick from

Letter from Sir Robt Harland & Explanation of his Motives.

"Depredation", may have the desired effect, & I hope that Your "repeated & positive declarations of the most unshaken "Determination to oppose every Power Who shall attempt "to disturb the Tranquility of this Country, will protect the Nabob from every Danger from the Mahrattas —.

It was my Desire to prevent if possible the Calamities of War, Your Plan seems to be to resist the threatned danger, therefore altho' the Measure which I proposed, was perfectly consistent with my Ideas, it was not only unnecessary but it would have been improper in You to have acquiesced in it —.

Facts will speak for themselves & however plainly dressed, therefore I leave my Conclusion to be proven by the consequences, meanwhile I have the Satisfaction to think I have done my Duty —

I have the Honor to be
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient & most humble Servant
R^t Harland.

Fort St George
17th January 1774
Alex^r Wynch Esq^r
President & Council Fort St George —

The President reports that by the latest Intelligence that Ragonaut Row, with his Army have crossed the Nerbudda, but that the Soubah with his Forces remain on the other side —.

The President lays before the Board the following Letters from Mr. Stratton, at Vizagapatam, with Copies of Letters from Capt. Matthews. Intelligence of Mahrattas & a Plan of Operations, should they invade the Circar —

Hon^ble Sir —

Since writing to You last, I have received the two accompanying Letters from Capt. Matthews & from the last I cannot help forming an Opinion of Vizeramdoo's Intentions to raise Troubles in

Letter from Mr. Stratton, Vizeramdoo's Intentions in to raise Troubles in the Circar, by forming a League with the Mahrattas.

Fort St George 8th Janry 1774.

in this Circar, besides this he has joined himself with Gozzypultoo & Sinachenauzy; in entering into a Treaty with Bimbanjee, which I have Reason to believe they will soon conclude.- Inclosed I send You the particulars of this Intelligence, & the Plan of Operations, which I have concerted with Setteramauze should the Maha-rattas enter this Circar.-

I hope for Your Approbation & have the honor to remain with Respect.

Hon'ble Sir.

Your most Obedient & humble Servant.

Geo: Stratton.

Vizagapatam.
8th Janry 1774.

The Hon'ble Alex.r Wynch Esq.r
President & Governor of Fort St George.

To George Stratton Esq.r

Sir.

Camp 5th Janry 1774 a 7 oClk.

This Morning, at two O'Clock, I received Your Letter of the 1st Inst.; You were not at that time acquainted with Our Success.- I expected on this to have had Orders either to go against Gudaporam, or to march back to Chicacole.- I have been detained here for want of Money & Provision, they came this Morning also two Officers of the third Battalion, Ens.n Snelling & Foster.- I think that Capt.n Candler should not take upon him to order Officers belonging to another District, to remain here without the Service was mentioned, & had Your Authority.-

Copies of Letters from Capt.n Matthews.-

I shall go this Afternoon towards Gudaporam, to try what effect it will have on the Sons, who are with Gozzypultoo, & on the Gudaporam Man.- After this the Company will be sufficient to remain with Jaggernautdoo, I have no Reason to contradict my Letter of the 1st, for the Inhabitants have returned to their Villages, the fighting People have

113 Fort St George 17th Janry 1774.

have received Cowle & the Country in Peace & Quietness —

I am Sir.
Your most Obedient humble Servant.
Rich.d Mathews —

To George Stratton Esq.r

Camp near Gunnedy 5th Janry at 12 OClk.

Sir —

This morning I wrote You that I should March this Afternoon towards Cudapooram, — at noon, I received Intelligence that Guzzi Pudoo, had Supposed from the People dependant on Vickraundoo & had moved towards my Detachment, near that Place, burnt a Village & intended to attack my Sepoys, so that there appears a necessity of supporting the Company's Cattle, —

I am now just going to march & intend obliging the Cuddapooram Man to pay due respect to the Honble Company; but I wish for Your Orders to act offensively, in case he should refuse to deliver up, or force Guzzepaddoo and his followers to quit this Country —

I am Sir
Your most Obedient Hum.l Serv.t
Rich.d Mathews —

Intelligence respecting the Maharattas Recd 7th Jan.y 1774.

Intelligence of the Maharattas —

Vickeraundoo, Sana Chenauze & Guzzepaddoo, some time since, sent the following, Persons to the Maharattas, at Ratena poor, Goomaun, Sing, Vallea Sing, Geal, Sauye; Mungaraugo Pauroodoo, Vallapa Pauhoodoo, & Bury Saumonteraye / on their Arrival at that Place they invited Sittwaugee & Timbauge, two Moratta Generals & were by them introduced to their Chief Bimbaugee, of whom they requested the assistance of 9000 Morattas, to raise Troubles & Disturbances in this Circar, & desired he would order them to assemble at Gunnedy & Royagudda from whence they might invade & burn every Village, & drive off all the Cattle, on the performance of which they agreed, in the Name of their

Fort St. George 17th Janry 1771.

their Masters, to pay him two Lacks of Rupees — in Answer to this Bimbanjee told them, that as the strength of the Companys Force & those belonging to Pittiramauzy, was well known, they might Reflect to experience great difficulties should he undertake to proceed further, for having once entered the Circar, which being surrounded with Hills, they would be greatly distressed for Places to retire to, in the Night to dress their Victuals, without which such an Undertaking could not be attended with Success - They replied it was very certain that many difficulties might be expected if the good kept together & proposed that the Force should be divided into three Detachments - One to go to Goomasporum & Vimedy, in order to lay waste the Chicacole Districts, another to go to Chercanpattam, & destroy the Country about Virginagunm - The third to go to Salloor, from whence they could commit Ravages on the Sattewaram & Noralla Countries, - The above Places of Rendevouz were fixed on, in order that they might, with more Security retire in the Night, & be well supplied, with Provisions & Forage; - Bimbanjee was well satisfied with this Plan, but told them before the marched, that 60000 Rupees, be immediately paid to him, for shoeing his Horses & that the aforementioned Persons, on the part of Vitteramdoo &c, were to remain at Ratnapore, until the Remainder of the two Lacks, were paid to him — if they consented to this &c would order the Force, they required, to march immediately, on which five of them agreed to remain with Bimbanjee, as Hostages pending Passing back accompanied, by Baye Cawn, on the part of the

Rahmathas

FORT St. George 17th Janry 1794.

Maharattas to see the Performance of their Engagements, promising that the Money should be sent to Geaporum on their Arrival at that Place, they were met by Vickeramdeo, who proceeded with them to Boyaguddo where they met with Guzzepundoo, Jmacheranuz being sick sent his Cousin Thithen, they are accordingly now assembled, but at present it is not known what will be the result of their Deliberations - This News can be depended on, as it was told me by a Person who came to Setteramnauz from Westwaro, situated to the Westward of Chawaimpatam, the other side of the Hills, bordering on Vickeramdeo's Country -

Plan of Operations should the Maharattas enter this Circar -

Plan of Operations should they enter this Circar -

Two Battalions of the Company's Sepoys, are thought necessary, with the Rajahs Troops for the Protection of this Country, where there are five Passes - The Principal One is at Sauneaka Coorocooloo thro' which the Maharattas entered, when they came last into this Circar - Sorlapaudema, on the back of Coorpong, Gerocotah between Ballagaum & Chawaimpatam - Goonapoorum, between Chimmedy & Royakotta - The Rajahs Troops are to be stationed at the above passes & will protect them -

Fifteen Companies of Sepoys with Vizeramnauzes & Setteramnauz's Forces, to be stationed at Setteramnagrum, & Ramabudrapoorum, these will protect all the Passes except Goonapoorum - when this proposed to send two Company, thus with the Chimmedy Forces will protect that Pass. the remaining three Company's to be stationed at Vizagapatam, Chicacole & Pelmore -

116 Fort St George 17th Janry 1774.

Vickeramdoo & Guzzepatdoo, being on the other side of the Passes, there is no One to fear but Senachenauze who has Possession of Sallon Fort, which must be immediately taken from him, — when the affairs of Timmody are settled —

As the Troops of Sitteramanauze must be employed to cooperate, with Ours in case of an Invasion, from the Maharattas, it was proper in Mr Stratton, to consult with him on the Measures to be pursued, in acting against the Enemy — But We cannot help observing with some Surprize that the taking Possession of Sallon Fort, for Sitteramanauze, should be recommended, when it is evident that such a step would tend greatly to encrease his Influence, in the Circar, & would operate in direct opposition to the System, We have so repeatedly inculcated, such a Measure therefore can never meet with Our Approbation

Disapproves of taking Possession of Sallon Fort for Sitteramanauze —

In Our late Correspondence with the Gentlemen at Vizagapatam, We have frequently expressed Our Apprehensions of the Ambitious Views of Sitteramanauze & We sincerely Wish, it may not hereafter appear, that the actual Revolt of Guzzepatdoo & the Apprehended disaffection of Vickeramdoo, are not owing to that Cause —

In order therefore to remove the doubts of the latter, & to regain his Confidence in the Companys good Faith & Protection, as well as to put a stop to the Troubles, which seem to be daily encreasing in the Timmody Country, It is resolved, that a Letter from the President, be wrote to Vickeramdoo assuring him of the Companys Protection — & desiring him to state

The President to assure Vickeramdoo of the Companys Protection —

Fort St. George 17th. Janry 1774.

state his Grievances, if he has any to the Chief & Council at Vizagapatam & if he does not obtain that redress, which he may think himself intitled to, he may in that case, send a Person to the President, to represent his Complaints, when proper enquiry will be made & all just Satisfaction given to him. At the same time, he should be admonished to pursue no Measures prejudicial to the Company's Interest & to the Peace of the Country. Ordered that the Letter to Vitteramdoo to the above purport, be sent under Cover to the Chief & Council at Vizagapatam with Directions to forward it to him immediately & also that a Copy of the said Letter, be sent to them, not only for their Information, but to stand as Matter of Record at their Settlement, of the favorable Intentions of this Government towards the Zemindars Who live under the Company's Protection.

stand

Altho' the Board have thought it proper, to write their Sentiments so explicitly & respecting Sitteramnauze, nevertheless as it might prove extremely prejudicial to the Company's Affairs At this Juncture, were he to take the alarm, the General Herman at Vizagapatam, must be careful to keep him entirely ignorant of our Opinion, respecting his Views.

Sitteramnauze must be kept in ignorance of the Boards Sentiments respecting his Views.

With regard to Guzzipatdoo, as it is highly requisite that the most circumstancial Account, be obtained of his Revolt, & the Massacre of Ensign Woolben, with his Party of Sepoys, in order that We may be enabled, to come to the knowledge of the Causes which could actuate him to so extraordinary a Step, the consequences of which, were so clearly this

Fort St George 17th Janry 1744.

Circumstantial Information again required regarding Guzzeputtoo Coolly

this own Destruction, We must again Repeat, to the Chief & Council of Vizagapatam, that We expect from them all the lights in their Power to give us, on this Transaction, which We confess appears to us at present, very mistterious & that Puggamant-dos, be upon no Account whatever appointed to the Management of the Chimmedy District, but that it be kept in Suspension & for the Company, until from further Materials of Information, We can come to a final Resolution on this Subject.

Draft of a Letter to the Chief & Council of Vizagapatam & also to Vicheramdoo, are now prepared conformable to the foregoing Minute.

The President reports the Receipt of a Letter from Mr Saunders at Cuddalore, enclosing Estimates of the Expence of Building a Brick Wall on the East Line of the Fort, & also for raising one in Mud. Mr Saunders represents that the collecting of Materials & burning of Bricks, will require considerable Time & that in the present defenceless State of the East Line something should be immediately done, for the Security of the Place. Mr Saunders also mentions the Expediency of laying up a Quantity of Provisions in the Fort.

East Line of Cuddalore Defenceless

Ordered that a Mud Wall be carried along the East Line, for the present Defence of the Place & that a necessary Quantity of Provisions be collected.

A Mud Wall to be raised & Provisions laid in

The President lays before the Board, an Indent of Stores sent in by the Walcob, for

Fort St. George 17th Jan.y 1771.

for his Sort of Tanjore & reports that the quantity of Stones in the said Indent, is so great, that it cannot be complied with without greatly distressing Ourselves - The President then proposes, to the Board, that the Nabob be addressed, by Letter on the Subject of admitting a Company's Garrison into Tanjore, that as the Company are the Protectors of the Nabobs Country it is the Duty of this Government to represent to him when they think any part thereof, & particularly any important part thereof is exposed to danger - That it must be allowed that neither the Officers or Men in the Nabobs Service are so much to be depended on, as those belonging to the Company - That at this particular Juncture, it is the more necessary to be watchful of this Important Conquest, a Numerous Army of Mahrattas threatning the Province with Invasion, an European Government in its Neighbourhood, Jealous of its Reduction & extremely anxious to see it wrested from the Nabob - Besides should the Country be invaded it may not be practicable, to throw a Garrison into Tanjore, should the Nabob then see the necessity of doing so ——

A Letter to be wrote to the Nabob representing the expediency of admitting a Company's Garrison into Tanjore -

Agreed that a Letter be wrote to the Nabob on the foregoing Subject.

Read the following Report from the Committee of Accounts - Military Depart.t —

To the Honble Alex.r Wynch Esq.r
President & Governor &c Council -

We Fort St. George
Honble

120 Fort St George 17th Jany 1774

Report from the Committee of Accounts

Honble Sir & Sirs.

We have examined the Accounts of the Out Garrisons as follows —

Vellore
Amboor
Madura
Palamcotah
Vellum
Trichinopoly
Ongole
Army under the Comm.d of General Smith &c —
Detachment under the Command of Lt. Lyttleton

On October

& have nothing to Remark —

We are with Respect.
Honble Sir & Sirs.
Your most Obedient humble Servts
Charles Smith.
Geo: Maubray
John Renton
Andrew Majendie
T. Oakes — —

Fort St George.
17th January 1774 —

As there is too much Reason to Apprehend from the many Declarations from the Nabob that in case of an Invasion by the Mahrattas, We are only to expect very scanty Supplies of Money from him, it is Agreed that a Letter be wrote to the President & Council at Fort William, representing Our Situation

As wrote to Fort William for a supply of Money —

&

121 Fort St George 17th January 1774.

Requesting that they will send Us either in Specie or in Bills as considerable a Sum, as they can spare without distressing their own Presidency, apprising them at the same time, that if We are not absolutely obliged to make use of it here, it shall be sent round to Bombay to relieve the Distresses of that Settlement.

We then went upon to the following Vacancies in the Military Establishment - Viz.t

Lieut. William Este deceased 26th Dec.r 1773
Lieut. Lionel Lumley D.o 27 Dec.r
Lieut. W.m Jenkin Davis D.o 28 Dec.r
Lieut. W.m Dixon D.o
Lieut. W.m Ed.d Lears, gone to England.

In consequence of which the following Promotions are ordered to take Place.

		In the room of	Rank
Joseph Roberts	Lieutenant	Lieut. Will.m Este deceased	26th Dec.r 1773.
John Snelling	D.o	of Lt. Lionel Lumley D.o	27 D.o
John Redhead	D.o	of Lt. W.m Jenkin Davis D.o	28 D.o
Henry Luin	D.o	of Lt. W.m Dixon D.o	29 D.o
William Patterson	D.o	of Lt. W.m Ed.d Lears	30 D.o
Tho.s Jones Lieu.t	(for his behaviour at Tanjore)	of Lt Roberts promoted	26 D.o 73
Geo Pratt	D.o	In the room of John Snelling promoted	27 D.o
W.m Brockett Stevens	D.o	of John Redhead D.o	28th D.o

The Gentlemen appointed by the Honble Court of Directors, Cadets on this Establishment having been promoted the following Persons recommended by the President & General Smith, are now appointed to the remaining Vacancies -

		In the room	Rank
Mr Sam.l Bagshaw Butler	Ens:	of Ens: Henry Luin promoted	29th Dec.r 1773.
Mr Sam.l Pecklor	D.o	of Ens: W.m Patterson D.o	30th D.o
Mr W.m Godfrey	Ensign	of Ens: Newman deceased	31st D.o
Mr Ecles Smith	Ensign	of Ens: John Romford D.o	1st Jan.y 1774
Mr Philip Stanton	Ensign	of Ens Nathan.l Dawes D.o	2nd D.o

Mr

In the Room

Wr. John Weller Ensign of Lnt. John Wootten killed in the Tanjore District. Rank 3d January 1774 —

Wr. Geo: Weller Ensign of Lnt. Edw. Magan Deceased 4th Do —

There being a Vacancy in the Corps of Engineers of a Practitioner Wr. John Theobald, a Young Gentleman, recommended as well qualified in that Branch, is appointed to the same —

Wr. John Theobald appointed Practitioner Engineer —

Read Letter from the Nabob as entered in Country Correspondence N.o 10 Dated 20th — enclosing a Firmaun, from the Shaw Allum, confirming on him the Title of Nabob of Carnatic and Dominions, Zulphur Jung, Sepoy Sawlaur —

Letter from the Nabob advising New Titles Conferred on him by Shaw Allum —

Ordered that a Letter of Congratulation, be wrote to the Nabob on this Occasion —

Read Letter to the Nabob, Country Correspondence N.o 12 in reply to his Letter of the 12th Inst.t Draft of which was ordered to be prepared, conformable to the Minutes of Consultation 13th Inst.t Approved & Ordered to be sent —

Letter to the Nabob

W.m Aldrich
Hugh Smith
Cha.s Dawson
Henry Brooke
Sam.l Johnston
Jno.s Call
Wm Brereton

123 Fort St George 8th January 1774

10th Pursuant to the Resolution of Yesterday, the following Letter is now dispatched to the President & Council of Fort William—

To the Honble Warren Hastings Esq.
President & Governor &c Council of Fort William—

Honble Sir & Sirs—

Letter to Bengal supplies of Money & Gunpowder—

In Our Letter of the 25th Inst. We informed You of a Peace being concluded between the Subah & the Mahrattas—

The Motions of the Mahrattas, since that Period give us too much Reason to apprehend that their Intention is either to renew their Hostilities against Hyder Ally or to Invade the Carnatick—After having settled with Bazalet Jung & the other Powers in those parts the Mahrattas have crossed the Kistnah, & when Our last Intelligence left their Camp, they were considerably on this side the River—

We have assembled a considerable Force in a Central Position to be ready to oppose any Bodies of their Cavalry, that may penetrate into the Carnatick, but as Our Supplies of Money, depend solely upon the Nabob & as he has informed us that he shall not be able to assist us, should the Mahrattas plunder the Country, We are very apprehensive of being greatly distressed on this Account—

penetra

We therefore request You will send us in Specie or Bills, as considerable a Sum as You can spare without distressing Your Presidency & if We are not absolutely obliged to make use of it here, it shall be sent round to Bombay, to relieve the distresses of that Settlement—

relieve

If We are engaged in a War We shall find Ourselves greatly deficient in the Article of Gunpowder, We have therefore to request, that You will

take

Alexander Wynch Esq.; Governor & President.

At Fort St George 21st January 1774.

will take the first Opportunity of sending Us as considera-
ble a Supply as You can conveniently spare.

We are with the Esteem
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient humble Servts
Alex.r Wynch &c.a Council.

Fort S.t George
January 18th 1774

At a Consultation Present

Joseph Smith.
George Dawson — Henry Brooke.
Charles Smith — Samuel Johnson.
John Mast.r Stone — Edward Stracey.
Mr. John Smith & Mr. Cotsford Indisposed.

The Minutes of last Consultation read & Approved.

Friday
21st. January

The President informs the Board

Intelligence of the Maharattas

that the last Intelligence being Advice of the Maharattas being at a Place called Manjall, on this side of the River Tungabadra the 10th Inst.t — That Hyder Ally had not yet made up Matters with them, in consequence of which it was believed that Ragonaut Row, would March his Army into Hyder's Country to compel him to accede to his Demands & that afterwards he would move towards the Bayen Ghaut — It is also reported that the Subahs Forces are to join the Maharattas —

The following Letters Drafts of which were prepared in Consultation the 17th Instant, to the Chief & Council of Vizagapatam & to Vickerandoo are now read & Approved & Ordered to be dispatched —

Military Department —

To George Stratton Esq.r
Chief &c.a Council at Vizagapatam

Gentlemen

Fort St George 28th January 1774.

Gentlemen.

Letter to the Chief & Council at Vizagapatam, Sallon Fort not to be given to Sitteramnaugy. Resolution to write to Vickeramdeo.

The President has laid before us a Letter from Your Chief Dated the 8th Inst. with several Papers enclosed touching the Affairs in Your Circar, Intelligence respecting the Maharattas & a Plan of Operations for the Military in Your Districts should the Maharattas actually Invade the Circar.

As the Troops of Sitteramnaugy must be employed to Cooperate with Ours, in case of an Invasion, it was doubtless very proper to consult with him on the Measures to be pursued in acting against the Enemy; however We cannot but observe, that, that part of the Plan of Operations, which recommends the taking Possession of Sallon Fort for him, must if carried into execution greatly encrease his Influence; We therefore entirely disapprove of it & again repeat that all such Views are totally repugnant to the Companys Interest in the Circar & incompatible with good Policy & therefore must not be encouraged.

In a former Letter We expressed very fully Our Apprehensions of the Effects which might be expected from the Views of Sitteramnaugy with respect to the other Zemindars & We wish it may not in the end appear, that the actual Revolt of Gopzipuddoo & the apparent Disaffection of Vickeramdeo are owing to that cause.

In order therefore to remove the doubts of the latter & to restore his Confidence in the Companys good Faith & Protection, as well as to put a stop to the Troubles, which seem to be daily encreasing in Your Districts, We have come to the Resolution of Our President writing a Letter to him, which is now sent under Your Cover, to be forwarded to him immediately upon the Receipt hereof. We have likewise sent You a Copy of the said Letter, not only for Your Perusal but to stand as matter

of

Fort St. George 21st. January 1774

of Record at Your Settlement of the favorable Intentions of this Government towards the Zemindars Who live under the Company's Protection —

You will with this see the necessity of using the greatest precaution in this Matter, lest Vitteramraze should be alarmed, which at this juncture might prove very prejudicial to the Company's Affairs, & it is absolutely necessary to keep them entirely ignorant of Our Sentiments respecting his Views —

With Regard to Guzzepatdoo, We have already required from You a particular Account of all Circumstances respecting his Revolt, & which We now repeat & We object that Jaggannaudoo be not on any Account appointed to the Management of the Vizimedy District, but that You keep possession thereof for the Company, as We have already ordered until We can come to some final Resolution respecting the same —

We are Gentlemen.

Your Affectionate Friends.

A Wynch & Council.

Fort St. George
21st. January 1774.

To Vickeramdoo.

Letter to Vickeramdoo upon giving him of the Company's Protection.

You are no stranger to the Justice of the Company & that they desire nothing more than to protect & support all those who live under their Government in all their just Rights & Priviledges & for which purpose I am always ready to hear & redress all real grievances —

I have been lately informed that You entertain some doubts in Your mind regarding the Friendship of the Company, this has given me concern since as I said before, it is my Wish that every one,

living

Fort St. George 21st January 1774.

living under the Companys Protection should rest assured of their Resolution to support them in all their just rights & Priviledges as a Proof thereof I would have You, if You have any just cause of complaint, apply to the Chief & Council at Vizagapatam & if You do not obtain the redress which You think Yourself entitled to, You will send a Person, to represent the same to Me, when You may depend that proper enquiry shall be made & all just Satisfaction given You. In the mean time I expect that You take no Measures to Interrupt the Peace of the Country, but that You endeavour to maintain the same by which You will shew Your Obedience & Friendship to the Company whereas by a contrary behaviour, You will incur their displeasure & Resentment...

The President reports to the Board that he called upon the Nabob this Morning & represented to him the necessity of his declaring in positive Terms, what Payments he can make to defray the expence of an Army in the Field, in case of an Invasion & at what Periods such Payments may be expected... The Nabobs Answer being not sufficiently explicit, the President told him that a Letter would be addressed to him on these Subjects...

General Smith delivers in the following Minutes.

General Smith's Minute on the present Posture of Affairs & the Measures necessary to be pursued.

It is now beyond a doubt that the Mahrattas have past the River Kistnah & every Report confirms their Intentions, to be against the Carnatick. It is certain there can have but two Objects in View, To attack the Masorien, or the Nabob in either case it is highly necessary that We should be prepared, to defend Ourselves; & as their Approach gives Us but little time to make many more preparations, We ought in my humble Opinion, to come to an immediate Resolution & adopt such

such Plans for the safety & Protection of these Countries as shall appear most eligible to the Honble Board.

Sensible I am that You Gentlemen do mean to exert Yourselves to the utmost for the Honor & Welfare of the Companys Interests on this Coast: Yet on the Nabob depends so many essentials requisite for carrying on Our Operations with Spirit & vigor, that unless he does go readily & chearfully hand in hand with You, in support of the general cause as I way without a zealous exertion on his part I am afraid Your Endeavours, must prove ineffectual. Therefore beg leave to propose, That the Honble Board do immediately call on the Nabob, to declare his Ultimate Resolution, with Regard to what assistance he really means to give the Honble Company, in Money, Troops & Provisions, that We may know in time, how far a dependance can be placed on him, on an Emergency. If my Recollection does not fail me, the Nabob gave it as his Opinion "That an Army consisted merely of Infantry, be their Numbers ever so considerable, could not prevent the open Countries, from being ravaged & destroyed by Cavalry; & keeping a Body of Foot in the Field, would be productive of no real Advantages, tho' a very heavy & pence must be incurred, to support them" These seemed to be his Sentiments & he further added, in case of Troubles in the Country, it would not be in his Power, to assist the Company with Prize Money, from his Treasury; for as his Resources arose from the Revenues, when they were impeded all Payments must cease; after such a Declaration as this & reflecting on the State of Your Finances, with the Dangers that Threaten this Government I say, after that, is it not a Duty We owe to the Honble

Fort St. George 28th Janry 1774.

Honble Company & a Relief to Our Perpetual Anxieties:
to be informed by the Nabob of his final Determinations
on these points, which cannot admit of any further delay:
in so critical a situation are We placed at this Juncture.
That I with submission to the Honble Board, recommend
in our Transactions, with his Highness few Words: two or
three simple Questions will be sufficient, & when a
positive Answer is obtained, You then can act accordingly.
Should the Nabob plead actual
Inability to supply or assist You with Money I would
gladly be informed from whence You hope to raise such
Sums as will be sufficient, to pay Your Army &c. &
You are drove to the necessity of taking it up, on Bond,
even in this Method I'm not sure of ready assistance,
from Individuals, as I'm given to understand that most
of the circulating Cash, in this Place is already taken
care of: & this I believe to be fact, from the difficulty
there is even in procuring very trifling Sums. These
are Matters which require Our serious Consideration, for
when the Province is invaded People's fears will encrease
& with them more Confusion, than We are aware of. The
Army must not be distress'd, for Money or Provisions; a
want in either Article, might have very dangerous
Consequences: We should therefore endeavour to get a
good Stock sent to Vellour, previous to the Enemy's enter-
ing the Carnatick, after that Your Communication will
be cut off, & Detachments are not to be made with safety.
In all Our Campaigns except the
last Siege of Tanjour, I had but too just cause of Complaint
against the Nabobs Servants respecting the Article of
Provisions; when the Action at Trinomalee happened
there was not with Our Army an Ounce of any Grain
or any thing else: & but for that fortunate Event of
Alleging

Fort St. George 28th January 1774

obliging the Enemy to retire out of the Country, We must have starved or shut Ourselves up in Garisons. The Nabob I believe does send Orders to his Amuldars and Killadars, but these Men are too far removed from their Masters Eye, that they can venture to disobey him with impunity & without confound they will do nothing, except what suits their Convenience or Interest. If therefore You Desire to have the Troops well supplied Your own Servants must be ordered jointly with the Nabobs, to examine into every Graimary he has, & Report the Quantity & Condition of all Provisions in the different Garrisons You'll then know what We have to trust in. On the first Alarm all the Inhabitants will naturally seek Protection, in the Woods & Mountains, their Cattle go with them & if not secured previous to this, We shall find it exceeding Troublesome, to procure them. The Commanding Officers of the Forts Garrisoned by Us, should be immediately Ordered to seize a large Quantity of Sheep &c.a & keep them within Range of their Guns, all the Straw & Grain fit to eat should also be daily brought into Store & Regular Accounts be kept of the whole to avoid future Disputes, with the Nabobs Managers. These are Matters which appear trifling, but a scarcity of the most inconsiderable of them, is greatly felt when the Troops are on actual Service.

You will perceive from Col: Langs last Return, the Strength of the several Corps now assembled at Vellour, & what Number of Sepoys each Battalion is wanting to compleat: The whole are but a handfull, in Comparison to the Ideas We have of the Mahratta Army, said to consist of 150 or 60,000 Cavalry, exclusive of many other Powers, that are to join them, on their first Visit. Capt. Brown might

Fort St. George 21st. January 1774.

might Imagine give 6 Company's from Vellum, & Capt. Towry his two Companys of Grenadiers from Amboor, which would make up in some Degree, for the weak State of those Battalions in Camp on the many Ports, We are under the necessity of leaving the Company's Troops in, reduce the strength of Our Army exceedingly & should it be opposed, by the Powers, Who We have Reason to apprehend, may come against us, much Work will fall to Our Share & as yet I do not hear what Troops of the Nabobs are to join; if any— 'Tis high time they were with the Army & I could also wish, that the Nabob would give a regular Account of his Troops, where Stationed & what part of them, he intends should take the Field—

With Your Permissions I shall just add a few Lines more & then conclude. Whatever Opinion the Nabob may have conceived respecting Hyder Ally's Strength & that his Union with the Maharattas would be of more consequence, than any other Comidar of Cavalry, I must suppose that such an Opinion is not founded on Reflection, for surely the Nabob can't be ignorant, that Hyder Ally has many Europeans in his Service, 2 Batt.ns of Topasses, 10 Batt.ns of well Armed Sepoys, a fine Train of Artillery & a chosen Body of Horse, add to this the enterprizing Genius of their Leader, what We Ourselves have seen so many Instances of— I hesitate not to say, that much more Danger is to be apprehended from him, than all the Maharattas on this side the Kistna— And should a junction take Place between him & the Maharattas, the Nabob may find it a more serious Business, than he at present thinks of— the Dutch altho' a Treaty has lately been concluded between them & the

Fort St. George 28th January 1774

the Nabob, instead of sending their Troops back to Ceylon &c. are making every Preparation for Offence & Defence & from the Force they keep at Negapatnam, their Conduct has every Appearance of Views not favorable to this Government — It is also said they still expect more Reinforcements & should they arrive, We may perhaps, when too late, Discover those Designs, which lay now concealed, from our Knowledge — An Addition of European Force either to the Marattas or Hyder would turn the Scale greatly against Us & I do confess that while the Dutch continue to keep such a Body of Men on the Coast & their Intentions not known, They give me Anxiety — I'm also in doubt, what part Hyder may be forced to take in these growing Troubles, tho' its probable he will endeavour, with a large Sum of Money, to prevent the Destruction of his Country & may, when he finds himself destitute of all Assistance from his Neighbours, join the Marattas & should such a junction be concerted & carried on without Jealousies, the consequences will in my Opinion be very alarming — The Southern Countries lay very convenient to Hyder Ally's Dispositions & should he take up Arms against the Nabob, the Madurah, Tinevelly & Marawar Countries will become an easy Conquest to him — I have thus far Gentlemen, as I think is my Duty, given You my Sentiments on our Situation & if in any part I've erred let me hope for Your Forgiveness —

The Board are sensible that it is of the most material Consequence at present to know with certainty what Assistance they are to expect

Minute in Consequence.

Fort St. George 28th January 1774.

expect from the Nabob What Advances of Money,
what Supplies of Provisions & what Number of Troops
& it is with much concern, that notwithstanding
the repeated Applications to him, they perceive
him so averse to satisfy them in these points, when
it is evidently so much for the Advantage of his
Country to do soi The Nabob must be certain, that in
case of a War, the Protection of the Carnatick, will in
a great Measure depend upon the Company's Army,
& without Provisions & Money, this Army cannot
act; He knows well that We have no Money & that
our sole dependance is upon his Country for Provisions.
He also know that if the Army is not in the Field,
the Country must be given up to destruction &
possibly some of the Forts Garrisoned by the Company's
Troops, would fall an easy Conquest to the Maharattas.
Under what Disadvantages therefore are We obliged
to act, when We can have no assurances given us,
of being properly supplied with Money & Provisions?
Nay that We should be told by the Nabob, that
after the Country is Invaded, it is uncertain whether
he can supply us with either. If this is really to
be the case, how can We trust Our Troops in the Field,
when We are told that it is not certain whether they
can be either paid or fed. The Time now draws near
when the Maharattas may be expected, if their In-
tentions are actually Hostile to the Carnatick, it is
therefore high time to take some decisive Measures,
& to free Ourselves if possible, from the State of doubt
& Suspence, in which We are involved, as to the
Supplies which may be had, from the Nabob.
And altho' the President has, without Effect repeatedly
& in the most pressing manner endeavoured to obtain
explicit Information on these heads, from the Nabob

&

Fort St. George 28th January 1774

& We have little Reason to hope to succeed better by writing, Nevertheless, Our own Justification requires, that We should leave no means unattied to obtain the necessary Information And It is therefore Agreed, that a Letter be wrote to the Nabob, in the most pointed, clear & precise Terms, to desire from him a certain knowledge of the Resources We are to expect to remind him of his large Debt to the Company & considering the pressing Calls of this Government for Money, to know from him, in case the Mahrattas enter the Country, how much he can pay & at what Periods & likewise respecting the Articles of Provisions, to be informed from whence the Army is to be supplied, that the Commanding Officers of the Troops, may regulate their Motions accordingly & how much & of what Quality is laid up in the Ports, It is further Agreed to recommend to the Nabob, for his Acquiescence, that Company's Servants be appointed, to superintend the Magazines of Provisions & to prepare & forward Convoys to the Army, for if this important Business, is left entirely to the Nabobs People, there is great Reason to apprehend, that very little Attention will be paid to it And it is likewise Agreed, that the Nabob be requested to inform Us, in what Manner his Troops, are disposed of, their Number & Summary at each Place that We may know what Places are weakest & where it is necessary to send Reinforcements And above all to recommend the necessity of collecting every Article of Provisions, while the Country is in Peace & laying them up in the most convenient Situations

Letter to be wrote to the Nabob respecting Money, Provisions & his own Troops.

Having thus recommended these Measures to the Nabob which We are convinced are for the good & Security of his Government, We have done our Duty & the Ultimate Determination rests with him

Draft of a Letter to be prepared to the Nabob, accordingly

&c

Fort St. George 28th January 1774.

As to what General Smith says, respecting the Draught, from the Battalions of Brown & Lovery to reinforce the Troops at Vellore, The Board are of Opinion that it is adviseable, to wait until they hear the Nabobs Determination, regarding Tanjore, before they weaken the Garrison at Vellum; for should the Nabob refuse to admit a Company's Garrison into Tanjore it may be found necessary to keep a compleat Battn. in Vellum.

No Draughts from the Garrison at Vellum, until an Answer is received from the Nabob regard'g Tanjore.

The Governor informs the Board that he judges, by the latest Intelligence from Negapatnam, that the Dutch are only detained there, for Orders from Batavia; but that it is not unlikely, that they may be kept upon the Coast, until the Nabob has fulfilled his Engagements, to the Dutch Company. However, from Appearances & the best Accounts, which can be obtained from Negapatnam, there is no reason to apprehend that the Dutch have any Intentions to embroil the Peace of the Carnatick, by engaging in Alliances with the Mahrattas or any other Country Powers.

The Pres.t Informs the Board that he has no Reason to apprehend the Dutch will distrub the Peace of the Country.

Read Letter, Draft of which was Ordered to be prepared last Consultation, to the Nabob as entered in Country Correspondence N.o 13 on the Subject of admitting a Company's Garrison, into Tanjore. Approved & Ordered to be sent.

Letter to the Nabob on the Subject of Garrison of Tanjour with Companies Troops.

W.m Fitzh
Joseph Smith
Geo. Dawson
Henry Brooke
Sam.l Johnston
A. Wynch
Geo. Stracey

Fort St. George 24th January 1774

At a Consultation Present.

Alex.r Wynch Esq.r Governor &c. President.

Monday 24th January.

George Dawson ⎫ Henry Brooke.
Charles Smith ⎬ Sam.l Johnson
John Mac.k Stone ⎭ Edward Stracey

Edward Cotsford.

Mr. John Smith & General Smith being disposed.

The President informs the Board, that on a Report from Inchiropoly of the Death of Ens: Dawes, the Vacancy had been filled up in Consultation the 17th Inst.t but it has since appeared that the Report was entirely without foundation & that Ens. Dawes has joined his Corps at Vellore.

ordered that no Vacancy be filled up until Regular Report be made by the Commandant of the Troops where the Casuality happens.

To prevent Mistakes of the like Nature happening in future it is Ordered, that the Commandants of Garrisons & Detachments of Troops be Directed, to pay the Strictest attention to the Orders which were formerly given out, for Regular Reports of the Deaths of Officers, under their Command, to be made to the Military Secretarys Office & to be informed that a Neglect of this Rule, will be considered as a Breach of Orders & taken cognizance of accordingly. & It is also Ordered that hereafter, no Vacancies shall be filled up, until the Casualty is certified as before Directed.

Read Letter to the Nabob, as entered in Country Correspondence N.o 14. Draft of which was Ordered to be prepared last Consultation. Approved & Ordered to be sent.

Letter to the Nabob.

Read the following Letter from Lt. Hislop.

To the Hon.ble

Alex.r Wynch Esq.r
President & Governor & Council of Fort St. George.

Letter from Lieut: Hislop requesting Permission to proceed to England for his Health &c.

By Fort St George 24th January 1774.

Honble Sir & Sirs...

Having for some Years past been Subject to severe & repeated Attacks of the Liver Disorders, & being at present much Indisposed by a Disorder in my Bowells arising from that Cause, with a Paralytick tendency of my Limbs, I am laid under the necessity of Requesting of the Honble Board, that they will permit me to proceed to Europe, in the Bridgewater, for the Recovery of my Health & Constitution. & that Your Honors &c. will be pleased to recommend me to the Honble Court of Directors in such a manner that I may be able, to return with my Rank in the Service. I have the honor to enclose the Surgeons Certificate & am with the greatest Respect.

Your most Obedient humble Servant.

Lt. Hislop.

Surgeons Certificate

Fort St George
January 24th 1774.

These are to certify, that Lt. James Hislop has had his Health much impaired by severe Attacks of the Liver Disorders & having been for some time past ill of a Disorder of his Bowels & Limbs, arising from the same Cause, he is advised to a Voyage to Europe, for the Reestablishment of his Health & Constitution

Gilbert Lasley } Surgeons
James Anderson }

Granted

Agreed that Lieut: Hislop be permitted to proceed to England agreable to his Request & as the Board are informed that he is an Officer of great Merit & of the most promising Expectations. It is resolved that he be mentioned, to the Honble Court of Directors, in a favorable Manner.

Invalids sent to England

The President lays before the Board the Proceedings of a Committee held in this Garrison, for the Examination of European Invalids.

Ordered

130 Fort St George 24th Janry 1774.

Ordered that those Recommended by the Committee, to be sent to England, be embarked on the Ships now under Dispatch as Chartered Passengers &c.

Read the following Recommendation from General Smith to entitle Serjeant Daniel Browne to a Share in the Military Fund.

By Brigadier General Joseph Smith Commanding Officer of the Honble Company's Troops on the Coast of Coromandel &c.

Whereas it is ordered by the Regulations for transacting the Business of the Honble Companys Military Fund for the Relief & Maintainance of European Officers & Soldiers, who by Wounds or otherwise, are rendered incapable of further Service in India that they produce a Certificate from their Commanding Officer, as one of the Requisites, to entitle them to the Provision, made by the said Fund. I do hereby certify that Daniel Brown of Lanark, in the Shire of [illegible]dale in Scotland about 33 Years of Age, is an [illegible]valid of Serjeant on this Establishment. has served the Honble Company upwards of seven Years & on all Occasions discharged his Duty, to the Satisfaction of his Superiors. That by the loss of his Left Arm at the Seige of Tanjore, in the Year 1773. he is become incapable of further Service in India & obliged to return home, depending on the Provision made by

139 Fort St George 24th Janry 1774.

by the said Military Fund.

To the Honble the Court of
Directors of the United Company
of Merchants of England
Trading to the East Indies.

Given under my hand at Fort
St George in the East Indies, this
23rd day of January 1774.

Joseph Smith.

Sergeant Brown to
share in the Military
Fund.

Approved & the usual Certificate
ordered to be Granted.

W Monckton
Joseph Smith.
Geo Dalton
Henry Brooke
Saml Johnson
H Watts
B Tracy

No

Fort St. George 2nd Febry 1774.

At a Consultation Present.

Alexander Wynch Esqr. Governor President

Wednesday

2nd Febry.

George Dawson — Joseph Smith

Charles Smith — Henry Brooke

Robt Mar. Stone — Saml Johnson

Edward Stracey

Edward Cotsford

Mr. John Smith Indisposed.

The Minutes of last Consultation read & Approved.

The President Reports, that the

Intelligence of the Maharattas.

Nabob has communicated to him certain Letters, which he has lately received from his Correspondents in the Maharatta Army, but there has not yet been time to get them translated into English. The Nabob informed the President, that he learnt from a Soucar, that the Intentions of the Maharattas, were certainly against the Carnatick, which they designed to Invade in different Parties. One Party was to proceed towards Madras ... Another to plunder the Country about Arcot, a third to move towards Tanjore & the Remainder to be dispersed to Plunder.

The President further Reports

The Presdt. Reports that the Nabob has desired him to write a Letter of Friendship to Ragonaut Row.

to the Board, that the Nabob had desired the President to write to Ragonaut Row, a Letter of Friendship. That it was the Nabob's Intentions to offer the Maharattas a Sum of Money, That in case he had no Account in a Couple of days of a Persons coming to him, in consequence of the Letter he had wrote, he proposed to send a Person to Ragonaut Row, in which case he thinks that such a Letter from this Government, will give much weight to his Embassy. Hinderee Rao Maharatta

now

Fort St. George 2nd Febry 1774.

more readily to listen to his Terms, for he will thereby clearly see, that the English & the Nabob are one & that he cannot attack either Party, without making an Enemy of the other.

The Sentiments of the Board thereon.

At first sight the Nabobs Request seems of very little consequence & of course that this Government ought not to refuse gratifying him therein, but upon a nearer Inspection & a more attentive Consideration of all Circumstances, the Nabobs Views appear to extend further than We are aware & that his Request, is only a Cloak to cover his real Designs. In our Minutes upon Sir Robert Harlands Proposal that We should write to the Maharatta, offering him the Friendship of the English & threatening to revenge any acts of Hostility against the Nabob, We contented Ourselves with observing, that an Offer of Friendship was superfluous, could be attended with no good & might probably encourage the Maharattas to the Execution of any Designs, they might have against the Carnatick, as they might construe such Professions, as proceeding from Our Apprehensions of them.

Views of the Nabob in his Request to the President.

We had little doubt but the Proposition of Sir Robert Harland came originally from the Nabob, the Requisition of the Nabob now before Us, is a convincing Proof thereof & it may therefore be necessary to enter more at large into the dangerous Consequences of complying therewith.

It is needless for Us here to enter into a discussion of the repeated & strenuous Endeavours of the Nabob & his Majesty's Ministers to drag Us into a Maharatta Alliance. It is sufficient to say that it has required the utmost Address & Perseverance, to withstand them. And altho' every

means

every means have been tried by working upon Our hopes & fears, to bring Us into the Nabobs Views. This Government hath Uniformly adhered to the Line they thought most conducive, to the Interest of the Carnatick & studiously avoided every measure which could give the Nabob, any the least Encouragement to hope We could be prevailed upon to adopt his favorite Project.

Improprietys of acquiescing thereto.

As Actions speak more forcibly than Words, so any Step taken by Us, which even in its most distant Consequences, lead the Nabob to hope We may at length be brought to concur in his Plan of joining the Mahrattas, will have more weight with him, than all the assurances We can make to him, of Our fixed & determined Resolutions of persisting in the Conduct, We have hitherto observed, & We are persuaded, that a compliance with his requisition now before Us, would all Circumstances Considered, have that weight with him & be an Encouragement to him to persevere in his Endeavours of bringing Us into his Measures.

By the last Accounts We understand that Negociations are carrying on, between Hyder Ally & the Mahrattas & We have reason to believe, that nothing but his Confidence in this Government, will prevent his making up matters with them. The danger of an Alliance between those Powers, is too alarming to need expatiating on, It is therefore certainly Our Duty to avoid any Steps, which may lead Hyder Ally to despair of Our Friendship & which We have Reason to believe, would

would be the Consequence of Our writing at this time a Letter to the Mahrattas, agreable to the Nabobs desires

In consequence of the Nabobs desire, Vackeels from Hyder Ally have been here about three Months, with Proposals for a Treaty between their Master & the Nabob. They have been constantly soliciting for an Answer, but have been left in suspence thus long. On the 16th January the Nabob in a Conference with him, produced a Draft of a Letter to Ragonaut Row, for Our Approbation & promised to prepare a Letter & present to Hyder Ally Cawn & to return the Vackeels, with a Person from himself without loss of time. But to this time it does not appear, that any thing has been done. This Conduct in the Nabob cannot but be very alarming to Hyder Ally & in case We were to write to the Mahrattas, in the manner proposed it would certainly encrease Hyder Allys Fears & would probably drive him to an Alliance, with the Mahrattas, from a conviction that We mean to join the Mahrattas against him, for these Reasons the Majority of the Board are of Opinion that it would be highly imprudent, at this time to write to Ragonaut Row in the Manner proposed by the Nabob, of which the President is desired to acquaint him & It is also Agreed by the Majority that the following Representation be made by the President to the Nabob.

The President to represents to the Nabob the Apprehensions of the Board from his so long Detention of Hyder Allys Vaqueels

The President to Represent to the Nabob, that at a Meeting of the Council the 16th January, when the Draft of his Letter to Ragonaut Row, was produced by him & Approved,

President to Represent to the Nabob the Apprehensions of the Board, from his so long detention of Hyder Allys Vackeels.

by

by the Board, he promised to send us a Draft of his Letter to Hyder Ally Cawn & to dispatch the Vackeels without loss of time, with a Person of Consequence from himself, Notwithstanding which the Vackeels still remain here, & We have not yet seen that any Letter is prepared, to be sent to Hyder Ally Cawn. That We apprehend such a Conduct towards Hyder Ally in thus detaining the Vackeels, Who had been sent hither, by his the Nabobs desire & deserving, writing, to their Master may be attended with dangerous Consequences, to the Carnatick & the Companys Possessions, as Hyder Ally may thereby be led, to lose all Confidence in the Nabob & this Government, & be compelled in his own Defence, to an Union with the Maharattas, however contrary to his Inclination, which might be of the most dangerous Consequences, to this Province. That the Board think the above Representation to the Nabob necessary for their Justification.

Read the following Letter from Colonel Kapper, with Extracts from the Bengal Consultations touching the Appointment of Colo. Macleane

Honorable Sir & Sirs.

Letter from Col. Kapper

I have lately received from Colonel Macleane, Commissary General at Bengal, the enclosed Minutes of Consultation of the Governor & Council of Calcutta, relative to his Appointment as

the Honble the Court of Dirs in the 29th Paragraph of the General Letter of April 7th 1773. have appointed the Commissary General on this Coast, in like manner as they have done

165 Fort St. George 2nd Febry 1774.

Dear Col: Macleane at Bengal: Instead of being similar
Our Appointments at present are totally different,
which I apprehend proceeds, from their intending
that the Orders they sent to Bengal should serve
as Instructions, to both Presidencies, especially as my
Appointment was made subsequent to his. Permit
me therefore to Request that You will write to
Bengal, for a Copy of the Paragraphs 56. 57 & 58 of
the Genral Letter of the 7th April 1773. which may
serve to ascertain the Nature of my Employ. With that
View I am led to make this Representation, in order
that the Intentions of the Court of Directors, may be the
more effectually complied with & Answered.

I am Gentlemen
with Respect.
Your most Obedient humble Servant
James Capper.

Fort St George
January 28th 1774.

Extract from the
Bengal Consultations. Read again the 56. 57. & 58th
Paragraphs of the General Letter dated 7th April last
respecting the Appointment of the Commissary General,
with the Report of the Committee of the Court of
Directors, upon the same Subject.

Agreed that it is the Opinion
of the Board, from the above Documents, that Mr
Macleane's Appointment, is to be Commissary &
General. That his Rank is that of Colonel
in the Army by Brevet, but without performing
Military Duty or receiving Military Pay, Batta
or Emoluments. That his Appointments are
the

126 Fort St. George 2nd Febry 1774

The Salary & Emoluments annexed to the Station of Youngest Counsellor

That his Authority is to controul & regulate all Paymasters & Contractors to Audite & Certify all Bills for Military Charges of whatever Nature

That his Duty comprehends the points abovementioned in the preceeding Head & Reformation & Reduction of all Military Charges by formation of such new Institutions as he judges may contribute, to the better Regulation and Reduction of the Military Expences to be submitted to the Approbation of the Board

A further Speaking from the above Paragraphs & Report of the Committee, that it is the Intention of the Hon.ble the Court of Directors to give Mr. Macleane a peculiar & seperate degree of Responsibility, in all matters immediately intrusted to his Management, they having for that purpose confined his Attention to those Objects & given him a Knowledge of proceeding his Dissent to any Measure regarding them, which may be adopted by the Board, it is thought expedient & consonant to these Orders to give him a share in the deliberations of the Board upon them is

Resolved therefore that Mr. Macleane, be at all times summoned to attend, the Board of Inspection when Military Accounts or Regulations were to come under their Consideration, that his Advice be required upon them & that he be allowed

a

Fort St. George 2nd Febry 1774.

free deliberation, but not a decisive Voice in that Board, reserving always his Right of recording his Dissent, from the Determination if he thinks fit, according to the Orders of the Court of Directors.

These being made the Ground Work of the Instructions which We are enjoyned to draw out for the Conduct of the Commissary General.

Agreed that before We proceed to form them, he be furnished with a Copy of these Conclusions & That he be desired to communicate to Us his Sentiments, upon such additional Powers or Orders, as may more effectually enable him to answer the design of this Appointment.

Ordered that the Secretary do accordingly furnish him with Copies of all the Military Contracts, with such Orders & Regulations as relate to the Military Expences & Establishments & to lay before him all the Books & Accounts of Military Disbursements, whenever called for.

Signed William Brereton
Sub.t

Resolved that the Consideration of the foregoing Letter, be referred to the Court of Directors.

Read the following Letter from

Capt. Maule.

To the Honble Alex.r Wynch Esq.r
President & the Council of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Letter from Capt. Maule——.

Since the Arrival of the Danish Vessel, at this Place in which I did propose (with the Your

Fort St George 2nd Feby 1774

Your Permission to have gone to Europe, I am inform-
ed of some Circumstances, which I was before intirely
ignorant of & which render the taking such a step,
highly inconvenient. As my Health the principal
motive for my Wishing to leave this Country is of
late considerably improved, And as there is moreover
an Appearance of Service in the Field taking Place,
I shall be very glad to remain here, & in consequence
of Your Consent thereto, to receive Your Orders, where
& in what Manner I am to be employed, which I
shall attend at this Settlement —

I am extremely conscious
of having given the Honble Board much Trouble
in making so many Applications to them on this
Subject, But I hope that Goodness, I have before
experienced from them, will incline them to excuse
it —

I am
Honble Sir & Sirs
with the greatest Respect
Your most Obed.t & devoted Servt
Geo: Maule —

Tranquebar
January 14th 1774 —

Relative to my Voyage

His Intentions of going to Europe he will accordingly
return to his Station on the Corps of Engineers —

Read the following Letter from Capt Maule

To the Honble Alex.r Wynch Esq.r
President, Governor & Council of Fort St George —

Honble Sir & Sirs

Letter from dent
Wished application for
leave to go to Sea for
his Health —

Having been much afflicted
for some time past, with Consumptive Complaints,
I am advised by the Surgeons, to undertake a Sea
Voyage

Fort St. George 2nd Febry 1774.

Voyage, as the only probable means of regaining Any Health.

I therefore Request Your Permission to proceed on the Northington Capt. Sealy to the Cape of Good Hope, & from thence, I shall return to Any Duty on the Coast, if I am so fortunate as to recover Any Health, But as I may possibly find Myself under the necessity of proceeding to Europe, I beg leave to request that Your Honor &c. will be pleased to recommend Any Case, to the Honble Court of Directors that I may be permitted, to return with Any Rank on the Reestablishment of Any Health.

I have the honor to enclose You the Surgeons Certificates. I am with great respect.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Your most Obedient & very humble Servt.

Donald Macleod.

Fort St. George Janry 29th 1774.

Fort St. George Janry 30th 1774.

These are to certify that Lt Donald Macleod having been in a Consumptive State for some time past a Voyage to the Cape of Good Hope or Europe, is recommended to him as necessary for the Reestablishment of His Health.

Gilbert Pasley
James Anderson } Surgeons.

Agreed that Lieut. Macleod, be permitted to proceed to the Cape for the benefit of his Health, or to Europe if his Health shall require it. & to be recommended to the Court of Directors to return with his Rank on the Establishment.

Agreed

Read the following Letter from the Chief & Council at Vizagapatam.

To

No. 1

Fort St. George 2nd Febry 1774

To the Honble Alexr. Wynch Esq.
President & Governor &c. Council of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Letter from the Chief & Council of Vizagapatam dated the 11th Jan.y - Advising that they have appointed Jaggannaut dos to the Management of the Rhimmedy Country.

We have been honored with Your Letter dated the 11th Inst.t - It gives us the greatest Concern, that Your Honor &c.a should disapprove of the Measures We had taken, in respect to the Rhimmedy Country by vesting Jaggannaut dos & Vizeeg. Shethor - We beg leave to assure You that before We came, to this Resolution, We took the Subject under Our Serious Consideration, well weighed every Circumstance which We thought, would Lead most for the Honble Company's Interest & from every Intelligence We obtained, in respect to the Nature of the People belonging to that Country, it appeared that on adopting this Mode, We should effectually secure the Peace of that Country, & it is with much Satisfaction, We have since found that the same has been attended, with every success, for We understand the People are returned to their Villages, most of Guz. Jypuldoos followers have left him, the fighting People have received Cowle & the Country is now in such a State of Tranquility, that a Company of Sepoys is thought sufficient for its Protection. We also considered how far the Appointment of these People might encroach Sitteramanyes Power, or thereby effect any Views He might have & of disapproving the less Powerful Reminders For Our former Letter, We had the honor of acquainting You, that the Rajah never Wished to have the Rhimmedy Country in his own hands & We have since heard, that he has openly declared, he will never again have any thing to do with that Country, either

Fort St. George 2nd Febry 1774.

either as a Renter or standing Security, for any other Person & from every Information We have obtained, We are confirmed in this Opinion — In the Letter which the Chief addressed to Your Honor &c. under Date the 26th August, he acquainted You that Jaggannaudeo, was obliged to fly from Chimmedy from the Apprehensions he was under, that his Brother would otherwise take away his Life & that he had taken Refuge with Sitteramnaigze, Who agreable to the Customs of the Country, gave him Protection — This Act of the Rajahs must naturally attach Jaggannaudeo to him, but We cannot think it will be Strongans of his coming into any of his Views of oppressing other Zemindars, for the Chimmedy People have so great an Aversion, to Sitteramnaigze, that should Jaggannaudeo, or Azzebeg, even give, their concurrence, they would never afford him the least assistance, whatever — If the Rajah has such Intentions, We are ignorant of them, & We can only assure Your Honor &c. that We shall do all in our Power to prevent his depriving any Zemindar of his Just Rights — In Respect to Azzebeg he is a Native of Chimmedy, has been all his life time a dependant on Nairamdoo's Family, Who always placed the greatest Confidence in him, & from his mild disposition & Influence is so much respected in the Chimmedy Country, that Sitteramnaigze continued him there with Goyzipatdoo, with whom he would have remained had he not been turned out of his Service, on the Arrival of Vetapathdoo, Who threatned to take away his Life — Azzebeg is never theless so averse to Sitteramnaigze, having the Management of that Country, that before the Chief could prevail on him to accompany Jaggannaudeo, he made

him

Fort St George 2nd Febry 1774.

him promise, that the Rajah should never interfere therein for on this case he would decline affording his Assistance. These were our reasons for continuing Sugganundas & Azeebeg thither after the receipt of Your Honor &c.as Letter, dated the 3d Inst. being well persuaded at the same time, that if We attempted to order these People back, & appoint other Managers, to keep up the opinion thereof on the part of the Company it would tend to create Troubles in that District & prevent any part of the Revenues, from being collected, for it is an Opinion maintained by every One, from whom We can obtain Information, that unless One of the Family is placed at the head & acknowledged as such by the People there, every Depradation whatever may be expected from those residing on the Hills, by their coming down & burning the Villages & Grain, as well as committing every act of cruelties on the Farmers who Inhabit the plain Country. Ram Dogee Pattar, Who had the Management of it after Narraindoo's Death, experienced this, tho' he had never less than three Companies of Battalion Sepoys & a large Sibbendy of his own, which amounted to upwards of 3000 Men. The several Letters he wrote to Mr. Andrews while he continued there were referred to, & almost in every One of them he speaks of the Troubles he encountered & notwithstanding he was brought up in the Family & was Duan to Narraindoo while he could not meet with Success in the Collection of the Revenues, for on Reference to the Companys Records, it will appear he paid no thing to the

153 Fort St. George 2d Febry 1774

the first Year of his Management, & though the Pennabundy was then nearly the same as what the Country let for afterwards, still a trifling Balance is now due from him — the Letters also from Ingrees in Mr. Bridgwin's time, to Your Honor &c. set forth the many difficulties, he experienced in the Management of the Pennagdy Country —

We have taken the Liberty to be thus particular that Your Honor &c may judge of the Reasons & grounds We went upon, for adopting the present Plan & was an Inducement for recommending, that a Pennabundy should be settled, with Taggan and Doe & We still continue of the same Opinion; but as it is Your Honor &c.a Orders that both him & Argobeg should be removed & that Country kept Possession of on the Honble Company's Account. It is our Duty to act conformable thereto & on the receipt of Your Honor &c.a Letter, We again took the Subject under Consideration, that We might fall on Such Measures for securing the Revenues of Pennimedy to the Company's to do which We came to the Resolution of sending One or two capable Men thither & accordingly called before Us, Ramdass Pundalor, Who from the good Opinion entertained of him, We thought very proper for such Trust & being made acquainted of our Sentiments towards him, assured Us, that the Honble Company might always command his Services & in the present Instance he was willing to comply with such Orders, as We might please to give him, but being certain it was out of his Power, even with every Assistance We might render him

him, to give that Satisfaction he could Wish, he beg'd
leave to decline it, for many Reasons, which he assigned
to the Gov. principally, that the Nimmedy People are
well known, to be under no controul whatever, unless
One of Nawaindoo's Family is placed at the head & without
having this Sanction, it would be out of the Power of
any Man, to collect the Revenues, for the consequence,
would be ruin & destruction to the Countries, which he
has heard from many, they have practiced formerly;
that they never give a Dundum or Sallam to any other
Person, for on disobedience to this Practice, every
cruelty, might be expected from those residing on the
hills; that Pittenamiauze was sensible of this & the
impossibility that would attend, the Management
of this Country, when he declined having anything
to do with it, though it was offered to him in 1770.
Being then asked why then he would rent the Nim-
medy Country, he beg'd leave to declare it, for the
above Reasons & then offered it as his Advice that
Puggamundee & Conjeveram should be continued there,
for if they were removed, he was certain it would
bring on fresh Troubles & the Country would be
destroyed as then went for Ramanaoo an Old
Nimmedy, Who well knew how to manage Countries,
& on being called before us, & told He wished to send
him thither declared for the Reasons mentioned by
Ramdoss Pundalor, his inabilities for such an Under-
taking; adding that if the Honble Company wished
to take the Management of the Nimmedy Country
into their own hands, they must erect several Forts,
& keep up a Force of 2000 Men, bringing over to their
Interest

Fort St. George 2nd Febry 1774

Interest the principal Hill People, but it was a doubt with him, whether in this case, the Company would meet with Success, for Ram Ingue Patalos could not collect the Revenues, even with the large Force he had with him.

These were the only Measures, which occurred to Us to put Your Honor &c.a Orders into Execution & they proving ineffectual, We were at a loss to know, what Resolution to come to, for as We ever wish that Our Conduct, should meet with Your Approbation, it will always give Us the greatest Concern, when We act contrary thereto, but as these Orders appear to Us to arise principally from the Apprehensions Your Honor &c.a were under that the sending Paggana Das & Arzebeg to Himmedy would prolong the disturbances there, We hope You will Approve of Our continuing them in the Management, since it has had the contrary effect, & Your Honor &c.a may be assured, that We shall always have a watchful Eye, on them, that they do not at any time disturb the present Tranquility of the Country, which We have Reason to think has so soon been brought about by their Presence there; nor shall any Attention on Our part be wanting to prevent Pittiramauze acting in conjunction with them in any Respect whatever.

The Chief has received a Letter from Sanacheramze, expressing his Concern, for his former Conduct & assuring him that he shall study to merit the Companys Protection & will no longer delay the Payment of his Peimmabundy to Pittiramauze. We are of Opinion, that this Submission has proceeded from Vickeramdoo's having left him, but whether it is so or not, the Chief proposes

writing

86 Fort St. George 2nd Febry 1774

writing him a Friendly Letter in Answer —

We are with great Respect —

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient Humble Servants.

Vizagapatam —

22nd Janry 1774 —

Geo: Stratton

L. Lewing

H Williams —

Disapproved

Notwithstanding the Reasons which have induced the Gentlemen at Vizagapatam to dispence with carrying Our Orders into Execution, We still continue of Opinion that the Appointment of Jaggannaut Edge to the Management of the Zemindary of Pagganam tends to the Arrangement of the Zemindary Affairs in that District. We therefore Resolved that the Chief & Council at Vizagapatam be made acquainted with our Determination & of the Zemindary Country, for the Company under that Jaggannaut Deo the Management of Anjeby & that Pagganam Deo be recalled thereupon —

A Wynch

Joseph Smith

Co. Dawson

Henry Brooke

Saml. Johnston

A Wynch

Wm Hornby

157 Fort St. George 3rd July 1774.

At a Consultation, Present,

Alex.r Wynch Esq.r Governor President.

_____ + Joseph Smith.

George Dawson + Henry Brooke.

Charles Smith. + Samuel Johnson.

John Mac.k Stone + Edward Stracey.

Edward Cotsford.

Mr. John Smith Indisposed.

Hyder Ally's Vackeel Dismissed by the Nabob with Presents for his Master.

The President acquaints the Board, that he has assembled them, in consequence of his having seen Hyder Ally's Vackeel, after the Council broke up Yesterday, Who informed him that he had taken his leave of the Nabob, & had received from him a Present of an Elephant & a horse. That the Nabob was to dispatch a Person of Consequence, with a Letter to Hyder Ally, at the same time, as the President understood, with the said Vackeel. The Vackeel further informed the President that he waited upon him, by the directions of the Nabob, to receive his Commands for his Master & the President acquaints the Board, that he intends to dispatch him with the Letter, of which a Draft was read & approved in Consultation, entered in Country Correspondence Vol.e 86.

The intended Representation to the Nabob unnecessary.

In consequence of this Information the President conceives it will not be necessary to deliver the Sentiments of the Board, to the Nabob, as minuted on Yesterday's Consultation, respecting the bad Consequences to be Apprehended, from his the Nabobs delaying to return Hyder's Vackeel, or to dispatch the Answers to his Letter, &c.

The Board are glad to understand from the foregoing Report, that the Nabob has at last determin'd tho' late to return Hyder Ally's Vackeel & to reply to his Letter, The Majority of the Board however cannot avoid expressing their Apprehensions, lest the tardiness or reluctance which the Nabob

150 Fort St. George 3rd Febry 1774.

has shewed in this Business may have had Effects, & may have hurried Hyder Ally into Measures with the Maharattas, repugnant to the Interest of this Country. As it does not appear certain from the Presidents Report that the Letter to Hyder Ally & the Person of Consequence are to be dispatched at the same time with the Packet, This Agreed that the President be desired to enquire of the Nabob, whether its is so or not, & Report his Answer to the Board.

A Wynch

Joseph Smith

Geo Dawson

Henry Brooke

Sam. Johnston

Jno Hill

Wm Hornby

159 Fort St. George 4th Febry 1774.

At a Consultation Present.

Alexr Wynch Esq. Governor President.

Thursday 4th Febry

\+ Joseph Smith.

George Dawson \+ Henry Brooke.

\+ Samuel Johnson.

John Maxd. Stone \+ Edward Stracey.

Edward Cotsford.

Mr. John Smith Indisposed.

Mr. Chas. Smith Absent.

The Bract. Reports to the Board his Conference with the Nabob & Hyder's Vackeel is accompanied with by Thuttah Ally Cawn from the Nabob.

The President delivers in the following Report to the Board. That Yesterday after Council he called upon the Nabob, & found Syed Thuttah Ally Cawn, the Person of consequence to be sent to Hyder Ally Cawn, standing at the Top of the Stairs ready to be brought by the Nabob to the President, in order to take his leave as he was to set out the next day on his Embassy. The Nabob said that if it was the same thing to the President, Syed Thuttah Ally Cawn would take leave of him there.

The President then told the Nabob, that he had mentioned to the Council, his the Nabob's desire, that a Letter might be wrote from this Government, to the Maharattas, but that it was their Opinion, it could not be done. The Nabob was silent. The President, desired to know, if Syed Thuttah ally Cawn, was to go in Company with Hyder Ally's Vackeel, he replied, he was. The President told the Nabob that Virage Pundal, Hyder Ally's Vackeel to this Government, had been with him to let him know that Ally Zamaen Cawn had taken his leave of the Nabob & the President had appointed that

Fort St. George A.L. July 1774.

that Morning to receive him, but unexpected Business obliged him to put off the Interview 'till to day, when he would deliver to the said Ally Zamagn Cawn, His Letter to Hyder Ally - which Letter the President shewed to the Nabob & he approved of it. The Nabob then desired that when Ally Zamagn Cawn should come to take leave, the President would tell him, if he thought it proper, that the Friendship which was begun, in the time of his Predecessor, was now confirmed in his -

The President mentioned to the Nabob, that he had not yet sent a Copy of his Letter to Hyder Ally Cawn, for the Inspection of the Board, which he had long ago promised to do - He replied the Copy was ready & should be sent soon, & that he never had nor never would send any Letters, either to Hyder Ally or the Mahrattas, without communicating them to his best Friends - Upon which the President acquainted the Nabob that the Council were apprehensive, that his having kept Hyder Ally's Vackeels so long might be of bad tendency, the meaning of which the Nabob said, he understood to be the asking of them, why he had so long detained the Vackeels? he added the Council in this case, have not thought properly, for that only nine days ago, Hyder Ally's Vackeel had received a Letter from his Master, wherein he said that the Intention of the Mahrattas was to conquer the Rayan Ghaut of Country, but that it was not agreable to him & he desired the Friendship of the Nabob - The Nabob added that he had all along shewn his Friendship to Hyder Ally by every week & Yesterday sending him Presents

this case
Council

Fort St. George 4th Febry 1774.

Presents of Trust &c.a & that he was not wanting in Attention to Hyder Allys Vackeel here, nor had at any time given them reason to despair. The Nabob shewed the President the Presents which he was sending to Hyder Ally, by Syed Thuttah Ally Cawn, consisting of a Variety of Cloths, some Gold & Silver Muslins - several Europe Trinkets, five Horses, a very rich Saddle & Furniture & an Elegant Palankeen.

The foregoing is the Substance of what passed Yesterday, between the President & the Nabob.

The President now reports to the Board, that Hyder Ally's Vackeel, took leave of him this Morning & took charge of the Presidents Letter to his Master. In the course of the Conference, the Vaequil signified to the President, that if any Agreement took Place, between the Nabob & his Master, that his Master Wished that it might be brought about, by the means of the Governor & Council & signed by them & in a proper manner urged how much it was the mutual Interest of both Countries to be in Friendship with each other & declared that his Master, was ready jointly with the Company, to go to War immediately with the Mahrattas - That there was nothing he so much desired as the Friendship of the English & was ready to partake either in War or Peace with the Carnatick. The President told the Vackeels that he entirely Agreed with them, that it was for the mutual advantage of the Heads of the Payen Ghaut & Balaghaut to be in Peace & Friendship with each other.

The Pres.t Reports this Conversation with Hyders Vakeels on their taking leave.

Read Draft of the General Letter to the Honble Court of Directors - Approved & Ordered to be wrote fair &c.

The President informs the Board

Colonel Woods application for Allowances

Board that Colonel Wood has made Application for his Arrears of Pay, Gratuities, Offreckonings, Full Batta, House Rent, Oil & Bacon Money as Colonel from the time of his Dismission, till his Reinstatement in the Service.

Resolution from the Board thereon

Agreed that Colonel Wood do receive his Arrears of Pay, Gratuity, Oil & Bacon Money, there being fixed Allowances annexed to his Rank. But Batta being an Accidental Emolument, to which had Colonel Wood been in the Service, he would or would not have been intitled to, according to Circumstances & the Offreckonings having been regularly divided, It is Agreed to refer Colonel Wood's Application on these two heads, to the Court of Directors as also his Claim for Arrears of House Rent.

General Smith's Minute on Lt. Brown's Dismission by Mr. Herbert.

General Smith lays before the Board Copies of a Correspondence, between Mr. Herbert & Lieut. Home Brown, of this Establishment, Who commanded the Militarys on the Expedition to Balambangan, from which it appears that Lieut. Brown, has been dismissed the Company's Service & Ordered to England, by Mr. Herbert. The Board having no Authenticated Account of this Transaction, cannot give an Opinion nor indeed would it be Suspected for them, to do so, as Mr. Herbert is not answerable to them for his Conduct, But the following Observations appears obvious, that as Lieut. Brown, is still an Officer on the

Fort St. George 4th Feby 1774.

the Coast Establishment, it would have been more regular, for Mr. Herbert to have sent him, to this Place to take his Trial for such Offences, as he may have committed, while under his Command.

General Smith desires to have it Minuted that Lieut. Brown while upon the Coast always behaved as became a diligent good Officer—

Agreed that the Honble Court, be made acquainted with the dismission of Lieut: Brown.

Received a Letter from Lt. Colonel Ross enclosing a Plan of the Fort of Tanjore, & of the Attack, for the Honble the Court of Directors,—

Ordered that the said Plan be transmitted in the Packet.

Colonel Ross sends a Plan of Tanjour to the Honble Court.

W Wynch
Joseph Smith
Geo Dawson
Henry Brooke
Sam. Johnston
D Wm
Geo Stracey

The minutes of last consultation read and approved.

164 Fort St. George 6th Feby 1774.

At a Consultation Present.

Alex.r Wynch Esq.r Governor President.
John Smith — + — Joseph Smith
George Dawson — + — Henry Brooke
Charles Smith — + — Sam.l Johnson.
John Mar.d Stone — + — Edward Stracey
Edward Collingwood

Sunday 6th Feby.

Read Letter from the Nabob in answer to the One Wrote him regarding the admitting of a Company's Garrison into Tanjore

Ordered that a Copy thereof be transmitted to the Honble the Court of Directors in the Packet. This Subject has already been so fully discussed that it does not appear necessary to make any remarks upon it at present.

Last Intelligence of the Mahrattas to be communicated to the Honble the Court of Directors.

The General Letter to the Honble the Court of Directors of this Date & Ship Northington.

General Letter for Northington Read & Signed

read & signed

Ordered that this Packet be closed.

Wynch
Jos.h Smith
Geo. Dawson
Henry Brooke
Sam.l Johnston
C. Stracey
Edw.d Stracey

Fort St. George 7th Febry. 1774.

7th

The following Letters, were received prior to the Sailing of the Northington, but on Account of the hurry of the Dispatches, were not then entered on Consultations.

To the Honble Alex.r Wynch Esq.r
President & Governor &c.a Council of Fort St George.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Letter from Vizagapatam, in reply to theirs of the 3d. on the Situation of Affairs in that Circar, & the Revolt of the Vizianagrey Rajah.

We have had the honor, to receive, Your Letter dated the 3d. Instant.

The Chief expresses his concern, that You should think, he has been any ways deficient in giving Your Honor &c, that satisfactory Account expected from him, in respect to the Intelligence he transmitted to the President the 22nd Ulto. he begs leave to assure You, that he could form no Opinions of the Motives, which actuated Vickeramdeo, & Sanacherauze, to invite the Marattas into this Circar, unless from their Situation they expected to gain advantageous Terms to themselves by distressing Sitteramauze's Country - The former had quarrelled with him as mentioned in the Chiefs Letter to the Board, dated the 26th. August & by being in possession of the outer pass, thro' which, the Marattas must enter, before they can come to Soreaka Pass, had it in his Power to introduce them; & the latter having Saloor, situated on this Side that pass, might hope to make himself Independant of Sitteramauze which he had shewn an Inclination to do, from having for some time past, refused to pay him the usual Tribute - To remove every Suspicion, they might have against Sitteramauze, he assured them when at Saloor

Fort St. George 7th Febry 1774.

Saloon, & in repeated Letters since, that they might always be certain of having the Companys Protection & be, supported in their just Rights & that Setteramauze, should never have Encouragement given him to deprive them of any part of the Country they held under him; the Chief wrote to them both on receiving this Intelligence; repeating the assurances, he had before given them & demanded their Reasons for this Conduct, but Sanachee-rama, returned his Hircarahs, without an Answer, & declaring in their Presence, it was his Intention with the assistance of Vickeramdeo, to invite the Maharattas, into this Circar — by the Letter the Chief transmitted to the Governor from Capt. Mathews of the 13th Inst. We may hourly expect a Satisfactory answer from Vickeramdeo, & tho he has told him he never treated with the Maharattas, still it appears from the Intelligence he had such Intentions.

We are inclined to think that Setteramauze knew nothing of this Intelligence any time before the Chief conversed with him, as he then told him he had but just heard of it & had in consequence given Orders, to have the particulars enquired into; from this it does not appear to have been long in Agitation & We think it was not his Interest to have kept the Chief in ignorance, of what so materially affected his own Country, which must have greatly offended, had the Maharattas entered this Circar, Setteramauze assured the Chief he had never kept up a Friendly Correspondence with them as he looks on the Maharattas at Nagapore to be his Inveterate & Enemies, they having plundered his Country in

1751

Fort St. George 7th Febry 1774.—

1751 & 1756 when he says they were brought in by Vickeramdeo's Family. The Rajah also told the Chief, he did not want any part of the Country now in possession of Vickeramdeo, from which he receives no Tribute whatever on the contrary he desires to be on Friendly Terms with him, for it being always in Vickeramdeo's Power, to bring these Mahrattas against him it is both the Rajahs Interest & Inclination, that he should continue in strict Alliance with him.

By Letters from Capt. Mathews, which the Chief has regularly transmitted to the Governor, it appears that Guzzipatdeo, is drove out of the Chimmedy Country & is now with an Independant Hill Rajah 40 Miles from thence & most of his fighting People, having left him & taken Cowle, from Jaggannaut-deo & the Renters & Inhabitants being returned to their Villages, this Country is again in Tranquility, & as the few followers Guzzipatdeo now has, are droping off from him daily, We judge One Company of Sepoys, the Usual Force kept there, with the Zibbendy of the Country, sufficient to guard it against any thing to be apprehended from him.

In respect to the Motives which could have induced Guzzipatdeo, to act so rash a part, We can only form an Opinion of him, from his former Conduct, as appears explained in the Chiefs Letters to Your Honor &c. dated the 26th Aug.t & 21st Nov.r in his Willing 60 of his principal Renters has since been confirmed to Us, & We are also assured from good Authority, that, he has repeatedly shewn himself capable of the greatest Acts of Cruelty, by

cutting.

cutting off many People, on the most trifling occasions,— this added to his declining, to come down here, after the many repeated Friendly Letters, being wrote to him, apprising him that he should not be subject to the Rajah, Who had publickly declared, he would not be Security for him, confirms us in the Opinion, that he had Views of shaking off, his dependance, on the Company, besides this he gave a Proof of it by offering no more than the Pamabundy, which he said his Father had paid to Governments, being 12,000 Rupees p Annum & dissipating the Produce of the Country, by keeping up so large a Force as 7000 Men.—

We have no other particulars that can be depended upon respecting the Malpaca, than what We had the honor of communicating to You in Our Address dated the 28th Ult°.— except that the last Letter, which the Chief wrote to Guzzi Sud Das was delivered to him— further Enquiries are now making & when received shall be duly transmitted to Your Honrs.

Conformable to Your Honrs Orders the Chief will acquaint Sittaramaiyer that he is not to expect to be supported in acts of Oppression against the other Zemindars & nothing shall be wanting on Our part to prevent his encroaching on their Rights &c.

Since writing the foregoing We have the pleasure to acquaint You, the Chief has received two Letters from Vickeramdeo, in Answer to those he wrote him, wherein he declares that Guzzi Sud Doo's Intentions to take Shelter in the Guddaporum Country, was unknown to him, that he has given Orders

Fort St. George 7th Febry 1774.

Orders, to prevent this returning to Timmedy, by that Road, that he wishes to live on Friendly Terms with the Company, as a Proof of which he had allowed Capt. Mathews, to place a Company of Sepoys in Gunsporum Fort, until he could receive the Chiefs Answer; that he would have no connections, with & not allow Sanacherawze, to come near him, & that in respect to Sitteramrawze, he is very willing to be reconciled to him Sitteramrawze appears to be equally desirous of a Reconciliation & We will endeavour to effect it without loss of time, giving Vickeramdeo every Assurance of the Companys Protection & withdraw the Sepoys from Goonsporum. We shall then have no apprehensions of Troubles, for from Sanacherawze alone there is nothing to be feared as he must of course come to Reason now Vickeramdoo has left him. Capt. Mathews will therefore have Orders, to march back his Detachment to their Cantonments.

Salloor is certainly a good situation for Our Troops, should the Mahrattas enter the Circar & We had determined to place them there, had they attempted to have taken the Carnatica Pass, but the League being broke, there appears no probability of Troubles from them at present, should they contrary to Our Expectations have such Views, We beg leave to assure Your Honor &c We shall take every precaution in our Power to prevent the Country from being Ravaged.

We are with great Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt humble Servants.
Geo: Stratton.
L Pering
H Williams.

Vizagapatam
10th Janry 1774.

Fort St George 7th Feby 1774.

To the Honble Alex.r Wynch Esq.
President &c.a Council at Fort St George.
Honble Sir & Sirs

Letter from Bengal.

We have been duly favored with Your Letters of the 6th Novem.r & 14th Dec.r & are much obliged for the Intelligence they contain. It gives us satisfaction to find by the last, that the Disputes between the Nabob & the Dutch were so soon accommodated.

We return You our Thanks for the Intelligence, which You have communicated to us, of the Motions of the Marattoes, under Ruggana Row & We request that You will continue to inform us of the Progress & issue of those Operations, as on their consequences our own Interests, in this Province & those of Our Ally the Nabob Shuja Dowlah are liable to be affected.

We are with Esteem.
Honble Sir & Sirs.
Your most Obedient Humble Servants.
Warren Hastings
Charles Chapman
Will.m Aldersey
M Dacres
H Goodwin.
W Lambert
G Vansittart.

Fort St George.
the 10th Janry 1774.

To the Honble Alex.r Wynch Esq.
President & Governor &c Council of Fort St George.
Honble Sir & Sirs.

Letter from Lieut. Ross with a Plan of the Fort of Tanjore.

I have the Honor to lay before You a Plan of the Fort of Tanjore, & of the Attack shewing the Approaches & the Figure of the Grounds near them. Which I hope You will be pleased to transmit to the Honble the Court of Directors.

I am with much Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient & Humble Servant
Patrick Ross.

Fort St George
3rd Feby 1774.

Fort St George 9th Feby 1774.

At a Consultation Present.

Alexander Wynch Esq.r Governor President.

Wednesday 9th Feby

John Smith ——— Joseph Smith.
George Dawson ——— Henry Brooke.
Charles Smith ——— Samuel Johnson.
John Maxwell Stone ——— Edward Stracey.

The Minutes of last Consultation read & Approved——

The President reports, that He has granted leave to Ensign Enick Sutherland to proceed on a Country Ship to Bombay, he having produced a Certificate from the Surgeon, that a Sea Voyage was necessary for the Recovery of his Health——

The Secretary lays before the Board, the Account of the Sepoy Bhaly Amounting for the Year Seventy three, delivered to him by the Agent for the Inspection of the Board——

Ordered that the said Account be examined, with the Paymasters & the Balance Due to the Agent, be issued from the Companys Cash——

Intelligence of the Maharattas.

The President acquaints the Board, that by the latest Intelligence from the Maharatta Camp, their Army moved the 31st Ult.o from the Plains of Rupergoody & arrived near the Plains of Royadurgam, which leads towards Surat. The distance between Royadurgam & Surat being reckoned about twenty Cos—That Hyder Ally is still negociating with the Maharatta, but that nothing is yet finally settled between them——

The Pres.t Reports that the Nabob has desired that five or six Battering Guns, with a proper Complement of Shott, may be sent from Trichinopoly to Tanjore & that some great Guns which are his own Property at Vellore, may be delivered to his People, as they are wanted elsewhere——

The Pres.t Reports the Nabobs desire of having Guns sent to Tanjore from Trichinopoly and Vellore——

Ordered that this Application from the Nabob be referred to the Committee of Stores & that

Referred to the Committee of Stores——

Fort St. George 9th Feby 1774.

That the Committee report, if the said Guns can be removed from Tuticorin poly & Vellore, without others being sent in their room -

Letter from the Nabob

Read Letter from the Nabob, Dated the 2nd & received 3rd Feby entered in Country Correspondence, N°. 19 wherein he sets forth, that as he is not bound by Our Engagements, with Hyder Ally Cawn, yet in consequence of Our having strongly recommended to him the preserving a Friendship & good Understanding with that Power, he has sent People of Trust with a Letter & Tokens of Friendship to him & transmits a Copy of the said Letter - In reply to what was wrote him the 5th Inst. respecting his Payments to the Company he represents the State of his late Acquisitions to be such, that he cannot for some time expect to reap much Benefit from them - That the Moravar & Naalcotty Country yield little & the Revenues of Tanjore for One Year, will barely suffice to defray the Expences incurred by the Army, & to discharge the Debts due to the Dutch, the Danes & Individuals -

The bad State of his late Acquisitions retard his Payments to the Company -

Ordered that an Answer be prepared to the foregoing Letters.

W Wynch
Joseph Smith
Geo. Dawson
Henry Brooke
Sam. Johnston
J Hay
C Stracey

Fort St. George 11th Febry. 1774.

At a Consultation Present.

Alex.r Wynch Esq.r Governor President.

Friday 11th Febry

John Smith + Joseph Smith.

Geo: Dawson + Henry Brooke.

+ Saml. Johnson.

John Max.d Stone + Edward Stracey.

The Minutes of last Consultation read & approved.

The Prest. Reports a Conference with the Nabob he sends Letters to the Maharattas & Chiefs and appears Chagrin that the Prest. does not the same—

The President Reports that Yesterdays Morning the Nabob called upon him & shewed him the Letters, which he had wrote to Ragonat Row, to Madarow Sadasher & to Moraraow. Copys of the two to the former he has since sent in for the Information of the Board, The Nabob said that it would have been right or proper for the President, to have wrote also to the Maharattas, but that he had withdrawn himself from this Business—He acquainted the President that the Face of the Maharatta was towards Sirah, & he judged they intended to go there, that he was of Opinion Moraraow, would be sent to adjust Matters with Hyder Ally, after which it was not unlikely, that he might come here for the same purpose— The Nabob further mentioned to the President, that he had treated the Vacquils of Hyder Ally, with as much kindness & attention as could possibly be expected from him & that he had made them acquainted, with his Intention of writing to Ragonaut Row's.

Read Letter from the Nabob.

Letter from the Nabob

Fort St George 18th Febry 1774.

as entered in Country Correspondence N 29 Dated 10th Instant with Copies of Letters to Ragonaut Row, One of the 17th Ult., formerly sent & the others of the 10th Inst. which is now to be dispatched.

Read likewise Copies & Extracts of Letters from Rowjee to the Nabob, to Shaishenow Ke containing Accounts of Conversations, with Ragonaut Row, the situation of Affairs in Camp & also Intelligence of the late Movements of the Mahratta Army as entered in Country Correspondence N. 23.

Maharatta Intelligence.

A Letter from the Nabob Dated 9th Instant, Country Correspondence N 27 is also read containing a Copy of certain Instructions given to Syed Shuttah Ally Cawn, the Person of consequence sent to Hyder Ally, to propose the Conditions on which the Alliance is to take place between the Nabob & Hyder Ally Cawn, the chief of which is mutual assistance, in case of the Dominions of either Power are attacked by a Foreign Enemy.

The Nabobs Instructions to his Vakeels with Hyder

The President lays before the Board, the Proceedings of a Sepoy General Court Martial, held in this Garrison on a Subidar, named Shaik Madaar, of the 2nd Carnatick Battalion, Ordered in Arrest by Lt Francis O Donnel for Mutiny & honorably acquitted by the Sentence of the Court.

Shk Madaar acquitted by a General Sepoy Court Martial.

The Board having attentively perused the Proceedings, concur Unanimously in Opinion, with the Court Martial, that the Prisoner is not Guilty, of the Crime laid to his Charge

Fort St George 11th Feby 1774

& do therefore Approve the Sentence, But as it appears from the Proceedings of the said Court of Martial that Lieut. Francis O'Donnels conduct has been exceedingly improper, Resolved, that he be ordered in Arrest & brought to a Trial, for behaving in a Manner unbecoming the Character of an Officer, in assaulting & treating with opprobious Language, when upon Duty

Lt O'Donnel to be tried by a Court Martial.

Subidar Shaik Madaar,

Wynch
Joseph Smith.
Co. Darrell
Henry Brooke
Jam. Johnston
Wm
Geo. Stracey

approved.

176 Fort St George 12th Feby 1774.

At a Consultation Present

Saturday 12th Feby 1774.

Alex.r Wynch Esq.r Governor President.
John Smith —— Joseph Smith.
George Dawson —— Henry Brooke.
John Shad.l Stane —— Edward Stracey.

General Letter to the Honble Court of Directors to go by the Ship Bridgewater read & Signed as

Ordered that the Packet be closed.

General Letter p Bridgewater read & signed

A Wynch
Jos.h Smith
Geo.e Dawson
Henry Brooke
Jno. Shadwell
E Stracey

177 Fort St. George 13th. Febry 1774.

A Copy of the following Letter from Colonel Wood, respecting his Arrears was sent home a Chamber in the Packet for Bridgewater.

To the Honble Alex.r Wynch Esq.r
President & Governor &c.a Council of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Letter from Col. Wood regarding his Arrears.

Being informed of the allowances You have been pleased to grant Me, & of those You do not think I am entitled to, I hope it will not be thought improper, to submit Any Sentiments to You on the Subject. When I made my Application to the President, I confess it did not appear to Me, as it now does, that I am not entitled to Honourable rent, for as it is more than probable, had I been in the Service, I must either have been in the Field or in the Command of One of the Out Garrisons, of course I should not have drawn that Allowance; But Batta would I humbly conceive, have been My just due, unless which I cannot well suppose, I had been stationed at the Presidency: I continue also in Opinion, that I have an equal Right to Officekeepings, because altho' it should be urged, that this Emolument has already been given, such Reasons I hope will not be thought of sufficient Force, to oppose it. It is certain when I embraced what I conceived, to be the Wishes of my Honble Employers, I had no conception Any Demands would have met with any difficulty; nevertheless I am still happy to have given them & You Gentlemen, such an Instance of My Inclination, to rest satisfied, with the whatever may be the Result of My Application

Fort St. George 15th Febry 1774.

I have the honor to be very

Application &
Respectfully.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Fort St. George
10th Febry 1774.

Your most Obedient humble Servant
John Wood.

The following Letter was dispat.
ched the 10th Inst. to Bombay, in Consequence of
the Resolution in Council.

To the Honble William Hornby Esq.
President & Governor &c Council on Bombay.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Letter to Bombay for a Supply of Gunpowder.

As We are Apprehensive of being deficient, in the Article of Gunpowder, in case Our Arms should be obliged to take the Field against the Maharattas, We request You will take the first Opportunity, of sending us as considerable a Supply, as You can spare.

Our Troops are encamped in the center of the Province & every preparation made for the Defence of the Country: The Maharatta Army is considerably on the other side of the Hills & their real Intentions still doubtfull.

We are with Esteem
Honble Sir & Sirs.
Your most Obedient humble Servts
Alex.r Wynch &c Council.

Fort St. George
Febry 9th 1774.

At a Consultation Present.
Alex.r Wynch Esq.r Governor President.
John Smith — — Joseph Smith.
Geo: Dawson — — Henry Brooke
Sam.l Johnson — — John Max.l Stone.
Edward Stracey.

Tuesday
15th Febry.

The

Fort St. George 15th Febry 1774

Maharatta Intelligence—

The President informs the Board that being on a Visit to the Nabob this Morning, he learnt from him, that the Maharattas by the last Intelligence, were still at Royadengam. When the President asked the Nabob, whether he thought the Maharattas, would Invade the Carnatick, this Season, he replied in Words to the following purport, That they were still Negociating, with Hyder Ally, & tho' he did not think, that they would soon come to any Agreement, nevertheless he was inclined to believe, they would at any Rate, Invade the Carnatick, before they attacked Hyder, & he was the more confirmed in this Opinion, because he had as yet, received no Answer, to the Letter which he had sent to Ragonaut Row, desiring that Madarow Sadasheva, might be sent to him—

The President lays before the Board, the following Letters, which have been received from Vizagapatam—

Honble Sir.

Letter from W. Stratton Sancheravze is dead Jugganaut Doss recalled and Arzibeg manager of the Gimmedy Country—

Yesterday I received Accounts of the Death of Sanacheravze of a Severe Ague, after a long Illness, he has left no Children behind him, but I understand there are three or four Nephews with other Relations, whom I shall take the first Opportunities of assuring of the Company's Protection—

Agreable to the positive Orders received in the last Publick Letter, the Council & myself came to the Resolution of sending for Jagganaut Doss to this Place, leaving Arzebeg in the Management of Timmedy with two Companies of Sepoys, until We receive the Boards further Directions—

Your

100 Fort St. George 15th Febry 1774

Your Letter to Tickenamdeo, was immediately forwarded
& I beg leave to assure You, I shall always pay due
Attention to Your Orders, having the honor to remain
with Respect. Sir

Your most Obedient humble Servt.
Geo Stratton.

Vizagapatam
3d Feby 1774.

Hon'ble Sir

I have the honor of forwarding
Duplicate of my Letter by the Ship Trident Dated
last Night. I there intended transmitting You the
enclosed Papers, but they were not translated in
time. The Account of the Massacre & the cause assig-
ned for Guzzipatti Doo's Revolt, I think may be
depended upon, for Capt. Mathews told me he had
heard the same, when at Kimmedy, from Beemadoo
Who was present. I have not seen the Vackeel, men-
tioned in the Letter from Guzzipatti Doo, but I am
in hopes of seeing him, when I shall endeavour
to learn from him, the Cause of his Masters Revolt,
for I could Wish to send You every particular that
may come to my knowledge.

Vizagapatam
5th Feby 1774

I am with Respect
Hon'ble Sir
Your most Obedient humble Servt.
Geo: Stratton.

To the Hon'ble Alex Wynch Esq.
President & Governor of
Fort St. George

Account of the Massacre of Lieu: Wootton & his Party
at Kimmedy, as related by Beemadoo, a Person Who
was Privy to the measures taken by Guzzipatti Doo &
his Advisers —

On Thursday the 23d of Decem
Beemadoo

Your Letter to Tickenamdeo, was immediately forwarded & I beg leave to assure You, I shall always pay due Attention to Your Orders, having the honor to remain with Respect. Sir

Your most Obedient humble Servt. Geo Stratton.

Letter from Mr Stratton inclosing Translations of a Letter from Guzzipatti Doo & Beemadoo's Account of the Massacre of Lieutenant Wootton &c

Fort St George 15th Feby 1774...

Beemadee being an Eye Witness, asserts that in the morning of the same day Guzzipuddee sent one Thacrapantalee to Mr Wootton & Vela Permaul, desiring to speak with them & that they would come in the afternoon for that purpose - That as soon as Word was brought to Guzzipuddee, that they were advancing & had with them two Guards of Sepoys, he immediately ordered his Matchlock People (about 200) to load & with two thousand Pikemen, he dispersed them about his House & on the Eminencies without it - Mr Wootton & Permaul came leaving the Guards on the Outsides of the Gates / the former attended only with One Orderly / & took their Seat in the Private Cutcherry or Durbar, The Sepoys Who were left on the Outside, neglected to load their Pieces & it being Market Day, some of them had strayed, as far as the Market Place - Guzzipuddee was at this time seated in a Bungalo, with Chetaubdee & others & Mr Wootton having sent a Message to him, Coormanada Pantaloo, came & called Permaul to him - on Permaul's Approach he kept him in Conversation, for a little time & soon after sent him for Mr Wootton, Who had a Message to this Bungalo, from the Durbar being thro a small Window / where he joining them, they held a Conference for about half an hour, Guzzipuddee then offering to retire, Mr Wootton asked him the reason, to which returning him a frivolous Answer, that he had a Stomach Ache, went away - at that Instant One Chambo Pantaloo Brother to Coormanado Pantaloo, stabbed Mr Wootton in the Face near the Eye, but that Officer not suspecting any thing of the kind, had no means of Defence nor had

Permaul,

Fort St. George 15th Febry 1774.

Permaul some of the Matchlocks Who had been hid, now discovered themselves & fired upon them, & the Officer received three or four Balls, when several drawing their Swords, cut them both down. The Orderly Sepoy Who had been left in the Durbar immediately loaded his Piece & fired but was soon killed, & Lachmanarsoo Pantaloo going out with some Men, killed every One of the Sepoys that he could find. Becmadoo further says that a few days before this Accident, meeting Permaul he caution'd him against these People & gave him a hint of their design; but Permaul only laughed at him, saying that as he did not come there, with any bad Intent, he could not suspect them of any such Baseness.

Commanadoo Pantaloo, was One of Narraindoo's Servants & was Peishcar of Pellmore, & his Purganahs under him. Just after Narraindoo's Revolt, he came to Pitteramnaugo, Who maintained him for some time. On Guzzapatydoo being appointed to Kimmedy, he fled from the Rajah to him & has since been selling Guzzapatydoo, with Brigadiers & against the Company & Pitteramnaugo & was & principally the means of his dissipating great part of the Company's Revenues. On Permauls Arrival in Kimmedy to secure the Grain for the Company altho' he declared he would give it up, on receiving the Company's Money, yet this Man with others about Guzzapatydoo, began to conspire against Permaul, & held a Council what Measures to take. The Names of them are, Guzzapatydoo, Pedaubdoo, Baradoo,

Commanda

Fort St. George 15th Febry 1774.

Coormanada Pantaloo, Lachmanarsoo Pantaloo, Chambo Pantaloo - besides these there were of the Council Some Whom Guzzipatdee, had raised himself namely - Hurribundeo, Ryah Gorrovoo, Dauboo & Ramanah - The Subject under Consideration, was That "the Govern- "ment had hitherto received their Tribute - now they "send People of their own to receive the Grain & the "next Step may be, to carry us away when they "pleased, It is not our Interest to suffer such Pro- "ceedings & We must fall on some means to frustrate "their Intentions before it is gone too far" - The Result of this Meeting was, That they should raise Troubles in the Country & by keeping up a continual Disturbance in it, they hoped to turn out the Company's People & be left in full Possession of the Country... In order to effect this it was resolved, that Daboo & Ramanah, having 500 Men each, should undertake to destroy the Sepoys placed at the different Villages, over the Grain, & a Plan was at the same time laid, for cutting off Mr Wootton & his Party, which was executed in the manner already related....

/Signed/ Beenadoo.

Translate of a Letter from Guzzipatdee, brought & Delivered by a Cooley in the Town.

Dated the 20th Decem. 1773...

Knowing that I had Enemies as well as Friends, to deal with in Your Country. I wrote to You some time ago, for Security for any Person, should I come to You - In consequence You was pleased to send a Letter by Mr Wootton, Who You wrote Me would be Security for Me, &

Fort St. George 15th Febs 1774.

& he also offered himself as such.- & Therefore I
consented to accompany him, desiring only to
defer it till the next Day.- but suspecting that
Indians would be sent to take me Prisoner, & Wootton
laying hold of my hand, made me fear my life
was in danger & the Negroys Who attended them,
surrounding us, confirmed me they had such
Intentions; & I therefore immediately forced
myself from them, thro' that part of my House
where I kept my Women; & made to the Hills,
for safety - Wootton & Dormand both followed &
in the way, the former meeting with two Slave
Women cut them down with his Sword, but miss'd
his Way in pursuit of me & both he & Dormand
with the Negroys, fell in with some of my People,
& quarrelling with them fought & were cut to Pieces,
As You have always shewn so much Indulgence
& favor, I cannot think that these People could
have acted thus from Your Orders - but conclude they
were instigated thereto from bad motives, in order to
hurt me with You & the Company, I have written
this for Your Information & hope on Enquiry You
will find that I am not to blame in this Affair -
Notwithstanding if it is determined no favor is to
be shown me, on this Account, I intend at all Events
with my Family, to come to You, having no Inten-
tion but of living, very happily under Your Govern-
ment - I send Conocco Cauze my Packhorse down
to You, Who will give You particular Information,
of every thing You are desirous of knowing -

As

105 Fort St. George 15th July 1774.

As the Board are not sufficiently convinced of the truths of Guzzipurdoo's Relation, & as the Murder of Mr Wootton, & his Party of Sepoys remains still to be accounted for, They cannot consent to Promise Guzzipurdoo the Company's Protection, but it is Agreed to direct Mr Stratton to acquaint him, that if he will deliver himself up, he may depend upon receiving the most impartial Justice.

Mr & submit his Conduct to public enquiry.

The President acquaints the Board, that he received from the Paymaster at Trichinopoly an Estimated Account of the Expence of Building a Barrack for the Invalids in that Garrison, Amounting to Pag.s 128.34.40. That the same being laid before the Nabob, he had consented thereto & promised to send the necessary Orders, to his Manager at Trichinopoly.

Invalid Barracks to be Built at Trichinopoly

Joseph Smith.
Cha. Dawson
Henry Brooke
Sam.l Johnston
Wm Brereton
Chas Stracey

Fort St George 21st February 1774.

At a Consultation present

Monday 21st February.

Alexander Wynch Esqr. Governor President

Joseph Smith

George Dawson

Henry Brooke

Samuel Johnson

John Maxwell Stone

Edward Stracey.

Mr. Johnson Senr. absent indisposed.

The Minutes of last Consultation read & approved.

The Select Committee report to the Board the receipt of a letter from Mr. Mostyn the Resident at Poonah, advising of a very formidable Combination amongst the Chiefs in the Maharattoe Government, against Raganaut Row which it is thought will call off his attention from all hostile designs against the Carnatic, & may prove fatal to him

A Combination in the Maharatta Government against Raganaut Row

Read Letter from the Nabob as entered in Country Correspondence N.o 32, dated 20th. Instant, with Copies of Letters from Rowjee in the Camp of Raganaut Tow, acquainting the Nabob that after some difficulty Ragonaut Row had consented to send him & Madarow Sadasheva to settle Matters with the Nabob, but that he Rowjee in the interim hearing of the revolution at Poonah & the releasement of the Ramrajah & Narrain Row's Widow, had deemed it unnecessary to proceed on his Embassy, & had therefore, under some pretence deferred his Journey, & remained in the Camp of Raganaut Tow, — He adds also that it is determined to proceed with all expedition to Satarrah, in order to get possession

Maharatta Intelligence

release-ment

of

of the Rajah's Person.

Read likewise a paper of Advices from Monarirows Camp, dated the 11.th Instant, which corresponds with the foregoing intelligence & mentions that Raganaut Row had that day marched the Army North towards Nersaporam, on the road to Poonah, & that most people were of Opinion, he would return to that place with the whole Army.

The Retreat North

Read the following Letter from Lieut.t Colonel Vaughan.

To the Honble Alexander Wynch Esq.r
President & Governor &.c Council
of Fort S.t George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From the indifferent State of health, which I have been frequently subject to, occasioned by the effects of Wounds formerly received in this Country, together with a fresh complaint which I found myself affected with on my way to the Army, & which obliged me to return sooner than I could have wished, - I find myself under the necessity of accomplishing the intention which I had before formed of returning to Europe. And now finding that the Harcourt, the last Ship of the Season is under Dispatch, I request your permission to take my passage upon her, flattering myself that you will be pleased to order me suitable Accommodation. And altho the present State of my health obliges me to leave India, at the same time, that a regard to the Officers who are next in Seniority,

Letter from Lieut. Colonel Vaughan, - resigns the Service, on account of Health, & proceeds to England on the Harcourt.

induces

100 Fort S.t George 21.st February 1774.

induces me to desire your permission to resign my Commission
-yet, I beg leave to declare that I mean not to relinquish
all claim to a Service for which I have a very sincere
Attachment. — I therefore request that you will make
such mention of me to the Honble Court of Directors, as
may either procure me their permission to return to my
Rank in the Service, should I find my health restored,
or, if otherwise, that I may enjoy the benefit of the
Fund established for the relief of the Honble Company's
Military.

I have the honor to be with much respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

your most Obedient humble Serv.t

Richard Vaughan.

Fort S.t George

February 20.th 1774.

Agreed that Colonel Vaughan be
permitted to resign the Service, and that he be recommended
to the Court of Directors to return to this Establishment with
his Rank, should he make application to them for that
purpose.

Granted

The President lays the two following
Letters from Major Ely before the Board.

To the Honble Alexander Wynch Esq.r
President & Governor &.c.a of Fort S.t George.

Sir,

The situation of my Affairs are
such as require my immediate attendance in England,

Letter from Major Ely.

therefore

Fort S.t George 21.st February 1774.

therefore desire your Honor will be kind enough to give me your permission to go on board the Ship Harcourt, and let me have the Starboard side of the Great-Cabben.

I have been for a long time in a poor State of Health, or I do assure you, I should have done myself the pleasure of waiting upon you in person. If you think the accompanying Petition cannot be admitted, desire you will grant me the favor for my Attornies here, to receive the Monthly allowance the Hontble Company was pleased to allow me, when I retired from their Military Service, which obligation will be for ever Acknowledged by him, who is with Esteem

Your Honors most Obedient,
humble Servant
John Ely

Fort S.t George
19.th February 1774.

To the Hontble Alexander Wynch Esq.r
President & Governor &.c Council
of Fort S.t George.

Honorable Sir & Sirs

The late ill state of health I have been troubled with, together with the long absence from my Native Country has induced me to apply to your Honors, to request your permission to go to England on the Ship Harcourt, and at the same time hope I shall not be deemed unreasonable or troublesome, in expressing my hopes that your Honors will recommend to the Hontble

Letter from Major Ely, for leave to proceed on the Harcourt to England, and to be recommended to the Court of Directors for the continuance of his Annuity.

Fort St George 21st February 1774.

Hble Court of Directors, the reasonableness of their allowing me the continuance of the allowance they were pleased to direct I should receive when they ordered that I should retire from the Corps, I so long had served in, payable to me in England, or at least to me, by my Attorneys at Madras.

It is now six & twenty Years since I first entered into the Hon'ble Comp'anys Military Service, during which time I have undergone, a great variety of very hard and dangerous Service, which together with the heat of the Climate has greatly broke down & impaired my Constitution; - And as I can with great truth aver, that I ever did my utmost in the discharge of my Duty, & have served my Employers honestly & faithfully I hope your Honor & the Honorable Court of Directors will think me deserving of the continuance of their allowance in my Native Country during the remainder of my days, should not the Climate prove too severe for my worn out Constitution.

I am with great respect

Honorable Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obedient humble Servant.

John Ely.

Fort St George
19th February 1774.

Ordered that Major Elys application

This request referred to the Hon'ble Court &c

be referred to the Court of Directors, and that he be mentioned to them as an Officer, who has always faithfully & diligently discharged his Duty.

Read the following letter from Mr Stratton at Vizagapatam, with the translation of a paper delivered to him by the Vackeel of Guzzepatty &c.

191 Fort St. George 21st February 1774.

Letter from Mr. Stratton

Sir,

In the letter I had the honor of writing to you the 1st Instant, I transmitted translate of one received from Guzzeputdoo. The Vackeel he sent has since made his appearance, & I enclose you herewith the substance of what he told me, by his Masters directions, which the Vackeel drew out himself, and having caused a translate to be made thereof, I have also the honor to send it to you. Observing to him, that this account differs from the Letter he brought from Guzzeputdoo, he told me, that it had been wrote by the orders of Pretapahdoo, who with Guzzeputdoo I understand are in the Jeypore Country with about 500 followers. They have endeavoured at different times to raise troubles in the Kimmedy District, but have been drove from thence by our Sepoys, and the people there. — I also hear that some trifling disturbances have been committed by the Hill people, but, not of that consequence to interrupt the tranquility of the Country. On the 30th Inst. Setteram Rauze delivered in a bill for a Lack of Rupees on account of his Ballance to the Honble Company. I have the honor to remain

Sir,

Your most Obedient, humble servant

George Stratton.

Vizagapatam
10th February 1774.

The Honble Alexr. Wynch Esq.

Translation

Fort St George 21st February 1774.

Representation of Gunnapuldoo, throws the blame of his revolt upon Pretaubdoo.— Solicits forgiveness.

Translation of a paper given by Oppaloore Cana-karauze, Vackeel from Gunnapuldoo to George Stratton Esqr; being the substance of a conversation he had with him, which Gunnapuldoo directed him to relate to the Chief, as from himself, as he could not write.

After the Company had put me in possession of my Country, having a proper sense of the favor done me, I regarded them as my Father Jagganaut Narraindoo, and punctually paid them the tribute, which Setteram Rauze, became security to them for. — I entrusted the management to Arzebeg, & lived happily being confident of the Company's protection, when Pretaubdoo having first been to Vizagapatam came to me. — He told me that Arzebeg had not used me well, in allowing the tribute to be settled at so high a sum as sixty odd thousand Rupees a Year, as the Country had never before paid above twelve thousand Rupees, at which sum he would get it settled if I would allow him the Management & confine Arzebeg; and further said that there was no Necessity to keep friends with Setteram Rauze, as things might be better managed without him. — I replyed that I was but Young, & that he ought in these matters to be the better Judge, but that I saw no inconvenience in having Setteram Rauze for a friend, especially as he had been principally the means of getting me the Zemindary; however that I would submit to be guided by him. Pretaubdoo then informed me that he had been at Vizagapatam, had talked to Cauchee Modelaire about this matter & had obtained a promise from him, — that I might depend on his settling every thing to my Satisfaction, If I would leave to him the entire management,

and

and not regard either Setteram Rauze or Avzebeg, from whom nothing war to be apprehended. This advice appearing to me reasonable, I was led away by my Youth & inexperience to acquiesce in these measures. Avzebeg, about this time suspecting the intention of Pretaibdeo towards him, fled from me leaving the other the entire possession of the Duanship. Pretaibdeo, I found made collections, but paid neither the Company nor Setteram Rauze, and from his behaviour in general I found suspected he had intentions of quarrelling with them. While things were in this situation, he one day, came & acquainted me, that he had entertained many Troops, & the Company's forces being but small, he hoped to overcome them, & by making himself formidable in the Country, he should have his own terms in settling a Sunnabundy with the Company, desiring me to leave this Business entirely to him, & wait the event. From this time he began to entertain more troops daily. At length a letter was received from you, desiring Pretaibdeo to come to Vizagapatam to settle the Company's Sunnabundy, but, he from a consciousness of having acted wrong towards them was afraid to go, and ordered one Nanny Hurry Pandaloo thither. This Man in his way meeting Verago Permaul, coming to Kimmedy with a Company of Sepoys, returned with him. Permaul on his arrival began to put the Chop on all the Grain & place Guards at the different Barriers to prevent any being carried out of the Country. He then came & demanded the Sums that were due to the Company & Setteram Rauze, on which, I observed to my Uncle, that this was what I had apprehended from

his

his Conduct, which had been the means of bringing Com-
-pany's People & Troops into our Country. - He replyed
I was but a Boy & had not a proper Idea of things, and
that he would Alle settle every thing to my Satisfaction.
He then told Permaul that he would not pay the Rajah
any thing, but, was willing to pay the Company if the
Chop was taken off the Paddy, & he permitted to sell it.
Permaul replyed that if he would give him a Bond for
the Money due to the Company, payable in two Months he
would write to Vizagapatam for permission to deliver up
the Grain to him, desiring he would also write to the
Chief on this Subject. The Bond was accordingly given and
both Permaul & the Officer who was with him, prevailed on
me also to write. In four days the answers were received,
& the Officer & Permaul brought me your Letter, wherein
you desired me to come to You, with assurances that I had
nothing to fear, & that the Officer would be bound for me;
and the Officer confirmed your promise by offering himself
to be security for my person. As this happened on the
Morning, I desired them to return in the Evening when
I would give them an Answer to your Letter. I next
Consulted Pretaubdee on the Step to be taken, and gave it
as my opinion that we should both go it being a favorable Op-
-portunity, the Officer having offered to be security; - but Pretaubdee
would not listen to me, - said, that I wanted to lessen the
Power we had acquired by tamely submitting to your Will, &
angrily insisted on my not going. That day Pretaubdee had
been driving off some of the Company's Guards at the Barrier-
and when the Officer & Permaul returned in the Evening

the

Fort St George 21st February 1774.

the former began by telling me of the Sepoys being driven off from the Barriers, asking the cause for such Conduct, & why I would not listen to his advice & persuasions, when he had given me so many assurances of protection. but Pretaubdeo would not permit me to reply, bidding me go away; &c. I fearing something might happen by my stay, feigned an ex= =cuse & retired to my Apartments. I soon after heard that these people were killed, & Pretaubdeo removed me and my family from Kiemedy. — It is plain that it was entirely owing to Pretaubdeo that these things happened, and I was wholly ignorant of his designs.— When Aizebeg was my Duan I was always found obedient to the Company & Sitteram, & I never intended any injury to either, & if you will shew me favor again, you shall find me the same.— If then you I may be forgiven, send some Person to me as security, and I will depute a principal Man in whom I can trust, to come & confer with you on my behalf.— Being conscious of my innocence in this matter, I have sent my Man to give you this account, & whatever he says may be depended on. (Signed)

Oppoloor Canakarauze.

Vizagapatam
9th February 1774.

As the Board cannot implicitly give Credit to the representations of Purrepetdoo, and as he still stands charged upon record with the Massacre of an English Officer & a party of Sepoys, they cannot agree under these circumstances to promise him the Company's protection.

It

It is however resolved that the Chief & Council at Vizagapatam be directed to signify to Guzzeputdoo, that if he will deliver himself up, & submit his Conduct to a fair enquiry, he shall receive impartial Justice, but 'till then the Company's promise for his Security cannot be granted.

The Presidt informs the Board that the Nabob some days ago, desired to withdraw his Letter of the 2d. February, in order to make an alteration in that part, wherein a reflection is cast upon the Army for plundering at Ramnadeporam Pangeon, which the Nabob said had been wrote thro' inadvertency; — In consequence of the said desire, the President acquaints the Board, that the Letter had been returned, giving the Nabob to understand at the same time, that a Copy of the said Letter, had been sent home to the Company. — The President adds that the Letter has since been received, with the following alteration.

The Nabob Repeats the desire of altering a Part of this Letter as repeating the Story —

A Translation of a Note from the Nabob to the Governor. — Dated & received the 21st. February 1774 —

I have received your Note, together with my Letter. — My reason for sending for that Letter, was, that an expression, which I had taken out of the Draft, my Moonshy, through mistake inserted, when he was writing it fair. — I have now rectified the same, & return the Letter. What can I say more? —

The Alteration —

W. Stracey informs the Board, that the only difference he observes in the Nabobs Letter of the 2d. of February 1773, — to this, — that whereas it was before expressed "At first the Company's People plundered all the Effects there

this

197 Fort St George 21st February 1774

it is more especially against the People of the Army stands
ered the Effects there

The Board were concerned at the Co-
sfaction cast upon the army in general by the Nabob
and command but as recording that vile Slander upon
such a General Charge unsupported by a Single
Proof and at such a Distance of time from the Period
when these Transactions happened is unjust and
cannot be admitted as a reason in favor of the
Point which the Nabob wants to establish namely
that for this and other Causes he has hitherto rea-
ped little advantages from the Conquest of these
Places It does not appear to the Board that the
Nabob by the foregoing Altercation has effectually
withdrawn this Aspersion on the Army It is
true he has made it more General by charging all
the People of the Camp. with the plundering whereas
as it stood before it was confined to the Company's
Troops, but still as the Company's Troops composed the
Major Part of the Camp, the greatest part of the
Odium must fall upon them. If the Nabob has any
Cause for taking the Troops on the Marawar Expedi-
tion with plundering, he should have been more par-
ticular in his Information to the Board that a
Particular Enquiry might have taken place in Order
to bring the Offenders to an Exemplary Punishment
In justice to General Smith and the troops under his
Command the Board think it necessary to add that
they are convinced every Precaution was taken both
at Ramnad and Caraycoil to prevent
Plundering, but when Towns are carried by assault
as these places were some Irregularities will be committed
which it is not in the power of a Commander at once to

Observations of the Board thereon

190 Fort St George 21 Feb.y 1776

to present them

Read Letter Draft of which was
ordered to be prepared last Consultation, to the Nabob
Letter to y.e Nabob on the Instructions given by them to Sy.d Pettah
Ally Cawn, respecting an Offensive & defensive
Alliance with Hyder Ally, as proved & ordered to
be Sent

Read the following Report from
the Committee of Accounts

To the Honble Alex.r Wynch Esq.r
President & Governor &.c Council of
Fort St George

Report from the Committee of Accounts.

Honble Sir & Sirs

We have examined the accounts of the out garrisons as follows

Vellore	Arnboor
Wandewa	Palamcotah
Velluru	Trichinopoly
Ongole	

} for Nov.r

Army under the command of Lieut.t Colonel Billingham Detachment at Calicoil under the command of Lieut.t Lysaght Stone

and have nothing to remark Wherein

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obed.t Servants
Charles Smith
Samuel Johnson
Geo. Monibray
C. B. Dent
John Benton
Andr.w Majendie
Thomas Oakes Govern.r

Fort St George
29 Jan.y 1776.

197 Fort St George 21st Feb.y 1774

John Turner & John Steward to partake of the Milit.y Fund.

Granted Smith Secretary in Mint two following Certificates to entitle John Steward a private Pensioner and John Turner an Invalid Matross to partake of the Honble Companys Military Fund

By Brigadier General Joseph Smith Commanding Officer of the Honble Companys Troops on the Coast of Choromandel

Whereas it is ordered by the Regulations for transacting the Business of the Honble Companys Military Fund for the Relief and Maintainance of European Officers & Soldiers who by wounds or otherwise are rendered incapable of further Service in India as are of the Requisites to entitle them to the Provision made by the said Fund

These are to certify that George Steward born at Tiree in the Country of Donegal Ireland about forty Nine years of Age was a private Soldier on this Establishment has rendered the Honble Company upwards of Seven Years had his left arm broke by a fall from his Horse on actual Service in the year 1769 & is thereby rendered incapable of further Service in India & obliged to return to England depending on the Provision made by the said Military Fund

Given under my hand at Fort St George this Second Day of February 1774

Joseph Smith

To the Honble Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

By Brigadier General Joseph Smith

200 Fort St George 2d Feby 1774

comprizing Officers of the Honble Compys
Troops on the Coast of Coromandel

Whereas it is ordered by
the Regulations for transacting the Business
of the Honble the Compys Military Fund
for the Relief and Maintenance of European
Officers & Soldiers who by Wounds or otherwise
are rendered incapable of further Service
India, that they produce a Certificate from
their Commanding Officer as one of the Requisites
to entitle them to the Provision made by the
said Fund

I do hereby certify that John
Tolmie born at Highworth in Wiltshire about
32 Years of Age is an invalid Matross on this
Establishment has served the Honble Compy
upwards of four Years was shot thro' the Body
at the Siege of Tanjore in the year 1771 is in-
capable of further Service in India and Obli-
ged to return to England depending upon the
Provision made by the Military Fund

Given under my hand at Fort
St George this 2d Day of Feby 1774

Joseph Smith
Brig General

To the Honble the Court
of Directors of the United
Company of Merchants
trading to the East Indies

The Board now proceed to take
into Consideration the Subjects referred to them
in the several Extracts from the Proceedings
of the Committee of Stores which came before
them in Consultation but on Account
of the Multiplicity of Business then under
Deliberation was deferred until after the
Dispatch

201 Fort St George 4th Feb.y 1774.

Dispatch of the Ships for Europe
Lad the following Letter and
Minutes from the Committee of Stores

To the Honble Alex.r Wynch Esq.r
President & Governor &.ca Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

Letter from the Committee of Stores com.g Al. trations in that Department

We have herewith the Honor to lay before you our Minutes of the 2d Instant together with a List of Artificers judged necessary for the Commissary's Department upon the Plan represented in our Minutes

We also lay before You Jarms for a General Statement of all the Capital Military Stores on the Coast & for Monthly Returns from the Out Garrisons. Also Musters of Waist Belts & Musquet Slings, of different Natures

We are preparing what appears to us a necessary Complement of Capital Military Stores for every Garrison on the Coast to be kept up to, as near as the Stores at the Presidency will admit of; which when finished will be laid before Your Honors &.ca for your Consideration

Upon a cursory Examination of the Quantity of Gun Powder at the Presidency and the several Out Garrisons we find a very alarming Deficiency of that Article. We shall not be enabled to specify the Quantity wanted till we have drawn out the Complement afore

Fort St George 21st Febr 1776

of ammunition but in the mean time We beg leave to recommend to Your Honor &co that some speedy & effectual means may be taken upon for getting a Considerable Quantity of that Article made up.

We are with the Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obt Hble Servts
Joseph Smith
Edw James. L. & A.
Paul Benfield acting
Hall Plumer Dpy Mr St.

Fort St George
20 Decr 1775.

At a Committee of Stores Present

Brigr Gen.l Jo.s Smith. Lt Col James
Paul Benfield acting Hall Plumer Dpy M.r St.

Tuesday
26 Decr

Minutes of the Committee of Stores.

The Minutes of last Consultation read

Orders of the Board thereon

Para 1. The Committee taking into Consideration the List of Gun Carriages & Mortar Beds delivered in by Lt.t James at a Meeting of the Committee the 3 March last there appeared an Opinion that there should immediately be made up

2 Carriages for Brass 18 Pdrs
2 D.o D.o 12 Pdrs.
James List Vizt

13

Ordered that the Committee be directed to make enquiry & report to the Board if any & what Number of Gun & Mortar Carriages contracted for with Messrs Jourdan & Devonza are still to be made up & if their Contract is not fulfilled they will be directed to finish it with all Expedition & to procure those Carriages wanted over & above their Contract if

Fort St George 21st July 1771

13 Inch 13
10 D° ——— 9
8 D° 19
5 1/2 D° 27
4 1/2 D° 24

Lieutenant Fames represents to the Committee that the Service was much impeded for want of a mortar bed at the late Siege of Tanjore & that there is not at present a Single Mortar bed fit for Service

2 The Committee are further of Opinion that there should be immediately provided a sufficient Number of Carriages to complete a proper battering Train, there employed in the two Sieges of Tanjore & on the Service to the South ward are in the greatest part rendered unfit for further Field Service. The Guns being mounted thereon and Carriages should the necessary be wanting for this purpose are

24 Pdrs 4
18 D° 8
12 D° 18

Agreed that Advertisements be published for receiving Proposals for a new Contract & that it be signified that all persons willing to contract will receive the Necessary Information to enable them to deliver in Proposals accordingly application to the Clerk of the Committee

Approved and ordered that the Carriages be made use as directed in the order on the foregoing Paragraph.

Agreed

Fort St George 21st Febry 1774

Agreed that the above be recommended to the Board also that 8 Carriages be made for 3 pdrs for the use of the Seapoys

3 The Chief Engineer & Commanding Officer of Artillery are desired to make up one Mortar Bed Sach Nature that the Committee may be enabled to lay before the Board a Calculation of the Amount of those requirements as immediately wanting

4 Lieutenant Wilson presents to the Committee that there are no Guns mounted upon the Works or Carriages fit for Service

The President informs the Board that Guns were mounted upon the Works as recommended by the Paragraph

& recommends that Guns & Carriages be mounted in the Flanks; One Gun to two Embrazures & one or two Guns at the Salient Angle of each Work & that Slight Coverings be constructed to defend the Carriages from the Weather

Agreed that it be recommended to the Board.

The Deputy Military Storekeeper lays before

Fort St George 21st Feby 1771

the Committee Inducts for Stores from the Nabob and which it is Agreed be compleated with as far as the Stores in Garrison will admit of

5th Agreed that it be recommended to the Board that Orders be issued for Returns of Stores from Cuddalore Chingacole & Gangaveram from which places there are at present no returns made

Orders have already been sent to this purpose.

6 Brigadier General Smith communicates to the Committee the Purport of a Letter written by Major Govers, as Inspector of Stores, to the Governor wherein Major Govers proposes that a shed be built to draw up the Field Artillery in, and the Committee approving upon the same recommend to the Board that a Shed for that purpose may be erected within the Arsenal as it will protect the Carriages from the Weather to which they are at present much exposed.

Approved and order'd to be issued accordingly.

7 The Committee are of Opinion with Major Govers that the Necessary of Stores should be attended again to Satisfied

The Alterations recommended by the Committee of Stores in this Paragraph to take place in the Departments

Fort St George 25th Feb 1774

latitude in the different departments of Military
That he should have Offic Storekeeper & Commissary
immediately under the of Stores are incorporate
the Orders of the Board That From the Nature of the
the Arsenal and all Military Service the Superintendant
tary Stores should be under of all the Stores belongs
his Care & Direction & that to the Office of Military
he should be rendered a mak Storekeeper & he is respon-
General Monthly Returns sible to the Commissary
of Stores in Garrison to for the Stores under his
the Governor in the Man- Charge. The Commissary
ner they are made from of Stores is an Office im-
the Out Garrisons and as mediately under the same
it will be requisite that Inspector of Stores at an
some articles be entertain- Out Garrison is under the
under his Direction, to be Paymasters and Storekeeper
paid by the Military But were the Board to adopt
Storekeeper under the the Alterations proposed
Signature of the Commis- by the Committee they would
sary of Stores. A List of in fact annihilate the Office of
what the Committee think Military Storekeeper &
necessary in manner aforesaid Substitute in its room that
which is Agreed to lay of Commissary of Stores
before the Board. The Com- for it will appear upon a
mittee are further of Opi- examination of the
nion that the Storekeeper Books of the Committee that
for Garrison should in being the Estimates which they
near the Arsenal should recommend should be
be allowed for the Commis- allowed to the Commissary
sary of Stores. of Stores comprehends almost
all the Duty of the Military
Storekeeper. But it does not
appear

207 Fort St George 21st Feb 1771

appear Requisite that the Artificers mentioned in the List delivered in by the Committee should at all times be returned under the Commissary of Stores, the Board cannot consent to this Innovation. When Artificers are wanted the Commissary of Stores will apply to the Storekeeper who will of course supply him with such a Number as is necessary & during the time they are so employed under the Commissary of Stores, they will naturally be under his immediate Direction

The Board have not received any particular Complaint or Representation from the Commissary of Stores of any impediments he has met with in the Discharge of this Duty and until then no good Reason can be assigned for establishing new Regulations in this branch of the Service

8th Respecting the Admission of bad Stores. Agreed that it be recommended to the Board

Approved

200 Fort St George 21st Febry 1774

Board that the Commissary of Stores may be directed to report in writing to the Committee of Stores sitting All Stores received Since the preceding Committee that the Committee may thereupon carefully examine them & that Such as are unfit for the Service may be rejected

9 A many Seamen Seamen are from the Committee of Stores being so originally Lodged Under Deck of every Ship Ballasted, necessary Remarks upon it Ballasting with it Agreed that it be done as recommended to the Board as much as they judge that an Order be prepared for a Necessary Committee of Stores to sit in the last Week in every Month

The Board having Objections to the Committee of Stores meeting in the last Week of every Month the reason assigned, viz. that it be not prevented it as

10 The Deputy Mustery Stores Keepers says before the Committee Musters of Waist Belts & Musquet Slings take Notice after the Europe Pattern also of those made in Europe & of those formerly made up here with their Several Proofs Viz

The Board approve of the Waist Belts and Musquet Slings made up here as they appear to be of a good Quality and as much more reasonable Price than those received from Europe Ordered that in future they be made & inspected those Patterns & that one of each be always kept in the Arsenal Pattern

202 Fort St George 21st Feb.y 1774

Pattern to follow

Waist Belts from Europe
cost £ p.o .. 35 —

Musquet Slings D.o .. 21 —

Allowed the Storekeeper for waist Belts
formerly made two £ 14 16

£ p.o for Musquet Slings D.o .. 5 —

Waist Belts lately made cost
at £ p.o .. 22 —

Musquet Slings D.o .. 7 —

Those formerly
made in general so very bad as to
be unfit for Service & those
lately made appear very good

Agreed that the several
Musters with their Pieces
be laid before the Board for
their Inspection and further
Orders.

11 Agreed to Recommend
to the Board that the Com-
manding Officer of Artillery
shall have the entire Charge
of the Laboratory that he shall
indent to the Military
Storekeeper for all Such Ar-
ticles as he may want in
that Department that the
People employed by him
be paid by the Military
Storekeeper under the Sig-
nature of the Commanding
Officer of Artillery The Mili-
tary Storekeeper having come

The Regulations
respecting the Laborato-
ry recommended by
the Committee appear
to be well adapted to that
Department but as the
Board understand that
the Working Part of the
Laboratory has always
been under the Superin-
tendance of the Comman-
ding Officer of Artillery
There does not seem to
be any Necessity for
a new Order to that effect

210 Fort St George 21st Feby 1774

Same pursuant to Check the Mas-
ters of the People employed
in the Laboratory

This will enable the Com-
manding Officer of Artillery
to entrust the Youngest Of-
ficers in this Business Board
of their Duty to see that Said
Laboratory, Stores as the com-
mittee may direct be properly
prepared and made up
and delivered to the Militar-
y Storekeeper to be given over
in Charge to the Commissary
of Stores

12 All present there
is no proper Place for the
Said Ammunition and
Field Cannon Cartridges
So it is Ordered Consequen-
tly that a Good Dry
Magazine fitted up to Receive
the Quantity of Such Stores
necessary for the Service
Agreed that it be recom-
mended to the Board, that
the Magazine in Charles
Street being proper for the
Purpose may be prepared
with Stands &c that an
Order may be directed to
Commissary of Stores
that the Said Ammuni-
tion

Approved &
Ordered accordingly

21 Fort St George 21st Feby 1774

Ammunition & Field Ca-
=non Cartridges be always
carefully stowed in Boxes
to be made up for the Pur-
=pose

13 Hitherto there has
been no General Statement
of the Capital Military
Stores on the Coast which the
Committee thinking absolutely
necessary a form is now drawn
out for that purpose which it
is agreed to lay before the Board
The Committee propose such State
=ment should be kept by them
at Madras as it will inform
them at one View the whole
of the Capital Military Stores
on the Coast as well as in every
particular Garrison

14 The present mode of Returns
of Stores from the Out Garrisons
appear very insufficient not
being explanatory with Re-
=spect to Stores returned Re-
=maining for Military Stores
is at the Discretion of every
Commanding Officer at
Stores there of an Out Garrison
who cannot in all cases be
supposed competent Judges
of the Quantity necessary
in every such Garrison & the
Committee

Approved & Orders have
already been Sent to the
Several Storekeepers on the
Coast to observe the Forms
Recommended by the Com-
=mittee in their future
Returns

Committee observe in any
regulations are thereto-
fore Agreed therefore
that it be recommended to
the Board that Orders be im-
mediately issued to the
Storekeeper at the several Out
Garrisons that their returns
in future made after the
Twenty ninth day of each
which it is agreed to be by for
the Board

15 At the Busines of the
Clerk of the Committee of Stores
who is at present fully em-
ployed in the Office of Deputy
Military Storekeeper with
so much more agreed about
the Regulating proposed
of the Frequency of Committ-
ees & the keeping the Genral
Statement of Capital Milit-
ary Stores on the Coast like
Plan The Committee agree
to recommend to the Board
that an additional Assis-
tant may be appointed
under the Military Store-
keeper that the Deputy
Should have Same Monthly
Allowance made him as
a Writer.

Ordered that another Assistant be appointed under the Military Storekeeper

To

213 Fort St George 21st Febry 1774

To obviate the Irregularity of Students from out Garrisons the Committee propose on being out their next meeting what may appear to them a necessary Compliment of Stores for every particular Garrison on the Coast to be laid before the Board

Joseph Smith
James L.C.A
Paul Benfield as Engineer
Hall Plimmer Dep. M.G.

The following Letter & Report from the Committee of Stores is likewise received

To the Honble Alex.r Wynch Esq.r
President & Govr & Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sirs & Sirs

We have been with the Lower to lay before you our Minutes of the 16 Instant

We are with Respect
Honble Sirs & Sirs
Your very Obed.t & Devoted
Humble Servants
John Smith M.r of Stores
Joseph Smith
Patrick Ross.
Edward James

Letter from the Committee of Stores

Fort St George
21st Febry 1774

At a Committee of Stores Present

John Smith Esq.r Brig.r Genl Smith
Lt Col Ross Col James

Para 1 The Military Store The Storekeeper informs the

24 Fort St George 25th Febry 1774

Minutes of the Committee of Pons

Storekeeper reports to the Committee that the Nabob has desired to take away from the Garrison of Vellore two Iron 6 Pdrs to Guns 24 Pdrs. ——— 13
10 D°. ——— 1
12 D°. ——— 6
9 D°. ——— 2

upon which the Committee taking into Consideration the Number of Cannon at present in Vellore belonging to the Honble Company and that Garrison any deficient having only 8 Brass 6 Iron Guns 2 Pdrs 2 & 18 Pdrs 3 fit for Service & 24 Pdrs 2 that want battering Agreed therefore to Recommend to the Board that the Guns at Vellore belonging to the Nabob above mentioned be examined & if found fit for use the Nabob be desired to take away only the 2 18 & 24 Pounders not fit for that use but that he be supplied with Company's Guns from Madras & that Serviceable Company's Carriages be Sent up for those that are

The Board that he has wrote to the Commanding Officer at Vellore to cause the Guns belonging to the Nabob fit for Service that are but the 18 & 24 Pdrs be carried away Carriages for the remaining Guns will be Sent from hence to Vellore. The President reports that these Circumstances have been communicated to the Nabob

215 Fort St George 21st Febr 1774

as possible

2. The Committee also recommend to examine the State of the Garrison of Tricheinopoly & Madura & Dindigul that they get such Guns mounted as are wanted, with all dispatch as they could with they have Ammunition still as many as can be spared from hence, They observe that as many of these Guns only want Bushing to make them fit for immediate Service & which it is agreed to recommend to the Board to direct the Storekeepers at Trichinopoly to get done

Approved & Orders to be Sent to the Storekeeper at Trichinopoly to get Such Guns mounted as required, with all dispatch

3 In the Garrison of Vellum there are many Round & Grape Shot for 24 & 18 Pounders & which they have no Guns for Ages 18 to recommend therefore that Such Shot be Sent to Trichinopoly

Approved and Ordered accordingly

4 The Committee taking again into Consideration the Letter from the Committee of Stores at Madras & Pattaras and comparing it and the Returns from that Garrison with the what appears

216 Fort St George 21st Febr 1774

appears to the Committee that Necessary Prepar-
ation of Carriages taking Truck & Field Piece
Horse to the Guns Agreed therefore that the 24
& 18 Pdrs which were intended by the last Con-
solution of the Committee for Mantelpiat are
hereby reparid for the Garrison of Vellore to Replace
those the Nabob may take away & as that Gar-
rison is in distress that Some Round Shot be
also sent up with the Guns & that the 12 Pdrs
intended for Mantelpiat are not being wanted
for Vellore be kept in Garrison Store

John Smith Mr Stor.
Joseph Smith
Patrick Ross
Edward Saunes.

Approved and ordered Accordingly

d.

W Wynch
Joseph Smith
Geo Dawson
Henry Brooke
Sam. Johnston
E Wm
Straay

Fort St George 21st Febry 1774

D 17 b 220

N 20 Numbers

Fort St George 22 Febr 1774

At a Consultation Present

Alex Wynch Esq: Gov. President
George Dawson Henry Brooke
Samuel Johnson John Maxwell Stone
Edward Stracey

Mr John Smith & Govert Smith Tendered and
The Minutes of last Consultation read & approved
Read the following Proceedings of a General Court
Martial held in this Garrison on Lieutenant
Francis O'Bennett.

Crime	Sentence	Approved by
Lt. O'Bennett convicted by the Sentence of a General Court Martial Approved by the President & Council.	for behaving unbecoming the Character of an Officer in Arresting & treating with opprobrious Language Ensign Madan Subaltern of the 2d Battalion of Sepoys on the 3d Febry. in the Room of Main Guard	the President and Council & Lieut. Francis O'Bennett is accordingly broke & Cashiered the Hon'ble Company's Service

Cashiered

Ordered that the Court Martial be dissolved—

Alex Wynch
Geo. Dawson
Henry Brooke
Saml Johnson
John Maxwell Stone
Edward Stracey

223. Fort St George 23 February 1774

23 This day the following Letter was dispatched to Vizagapatam

To George Stratton Esqr
Chief &c Council at Vizagapatam

Military Department

Gentlemen

Letter to Vizagapatam cannot give the Company's promised Protection to Guzzepatdoo until he clears himself of the Murder of Ensign Wootten & his Sepoys

We have received the several Letters from Mr Stratton of the 3d 11th & 14th Instant and as it appeared therein from that you had determined to recal Juggannautdoo and to place the Kummedy district under the Management of Arzubegy agreable to Our Directions we delayd writing you until we had finished the Business of our General Dispatch for Europe & in that time we expected some authentic Information of all the Circumstances attending the revolt of Guzzepatdoo

We have received the Letter from Guzzepatdoo to your Chief likewise the Papers delivered by his Vaqueel but as we are not sufficiently convinced of the truth of his Representations & how far he was concerned in the Massacre of Ensign Wootten & the Party of Sepoys we cannot agree to promise him the Company's Protection, but we direct that Your Chief do acquaint Guzzepatdoo that if he will deliver himself up & Submit his Conduct to a Public enquiry, impartial Justice shall be rendered him.

You will receive from the other Department Instructions respecting the Revenues of the Country

We are
Gentlemen
Your affectionate Friends

Fort St George
23 Feby 1774

224. Fort St George 25 February 1774

Friday 25 February. At a Consultation. Present
Alexander Wynch Esq[r] for. President
Joseph Smith " George Dawson
Henry Brooke " Samuel Johnson
Joh. Max[l] Stone " Edward Stracey

The Minutes of last Consultation read & approved.

Mr John Smith by reason of bad health & Infirmities having retired from public Business Mr Francis Jourdan having been appointed a Member of the Council in his Room he takes his Seat accordingly

Mr Jourdan taken into Council

Read a Letter from Mr Brereton. Ens O Donnel, expressing to be restored to his Rank on the Honble Company's Service Agreed that the said Letter do lie on the Table for further Consideration

In Consequence of the Vacancy occasioned by the Resignation of Lieut Col Vaughan the following Promotions are accordingly ordered to take place

Promotions

Humphrey Cotton

Thomas Harper Lieut Col. Date of Rank Date of Commission

Ecles Nixon Major In the Room of Harper
Date of Rank Date of Commission

The President reports to the Board that in consequence of the resignation of Mr John Smith the Select Committee have elected Mr Stracey a Member in his Room, as it is necessary to communicate the knowledge of the Business of the Committee to as few as possible and as Mr Stracey by his Office of Secretary & Translator must

Mr Stracey elected a Member of the Select Committee in the Room of Mr

225. Fort St George 25 February 1774

must of course be privy to all their transactions
with the Nabob & the other Country Powers

A Dalrymple
Joseph Smith.
Geo. Dawson
Henry Russell
Sam. Johnson
L. Wm
C Strahey
Francis Swinden

Fort St George 20 February 1774

At a Consultation Present

Alex.r Wynch Esq.r Gov.r & President

Monday 20 Febr.y 1774

Joseph. Smith. „ George Dawson

Henry. Brooke „ Samuel Johnson

John Max.l Stone „ Edward Gracey

„ Francis Fowke

The Minutes of last Consultation

read & Approved

The President lays before

the Board the Proceedings of a general Court

Martial held at Vellore on Ensign Bunnan

with the following Letter from Colonel Lang

To the Honble Alexander Wynch Esq.r

President & Governor &.c Council

of Fort St George

Honble Sir

Letter from Coll.r Lang dem.g the Advice of the Board on the Court Martial held on Ensign Bunnan.—

In apology for my troubling You thus again with the Proceedings of the General Court Martial I beg leave to observe that some time ago in Enclosing a Packet, when I was honored with a power of Ordering & Approving &.c I was at the same time acquainted by Letter that in particular Cases especially where Officers were concerned, the Gen.l Governm.t at the Presidency would be glad to be consulted I was happy to receive such Instructions, In the Case of Lieut.t Collins, I strictly Observed them & I believe it will be found on Enquiry that I never once deviated from this Mode of Proceeding

The Case of M.r Bunnan appears to me exceedingly particular Both the Measure & the Mode of this Punishment have many Exceptionable, the former because I

227 Fort St George 28 February 1771

I think it too soft, & if I may be allowed the expression, too Damnably Execrative, the latter because it manifestly tends to the Prejudice of the Service. Ensign Brennan is found guilty of an Assault on Battery, & is therefore declared an Outcast for the Space twelve tedious Months & tho' he is still considered as an Officer & a Gentlemen & must be received as such at the Expiration of this Term, the Means of his very Existence are withheld from him & he has not in the Interim wherewithal to buy Bread. That he has transgressed beyond a Possibility of a Doubt, but that every Sentence of the Articles of War has been strain'd in this Sentence, it is to me equally clear, Mitigation therefore not Pardon is the Object of my Wish & that being beyond my Prerogative, I am anxious to have the Advice & Assistance of the Honorable the Governor & Council.

I am quite an Instance to my Personal Knowledge, in a Case similar to this, of the Punishment falling short of the Sentence. But this is by no means my Intention. I mean that Mr Brennan shall Suffer for his Offence but not so grievously & I cannot help thinking that it were more eligible both to his Master & himself, if he were actually cashiered. Besides Sir before I disapprove of a Sentence adjudged by thirteen Gentlemen judiciallly assembled & solemnly sworn I wish to use every necessary Precaution & if possible avoid the Imputation of acting upon

22e Fort St George 28th February 1774

upon my own Judgment alone
To you only Sir & to the Gen-
tlemen of the Board I can communicate
this Sentence with the very Sentiments
thereon & from the Board only can I there-
-fore seek for Assistance in a matter so
delicate a Nature
To shall only add that common
Humanity not personal Attachment
to the Prisoner has occasioned my giving
You this second trouble & that I am
Honorable Sir
Your very humble
& Obedient Servt
Rofs Lang

Camp
Feby 25. 1774

Opinions & Remarks of the Board thereon—

Although the power of approving
and disapproving the Sentences of the Asses said
Court Martial rests solely with the Colonel Lang. yet
as the Case appears to them of such a Nature as to
require the Advice of the Board, it is Agreed that
the following Opinion founded on the most atten-
-tive Consideration of the Prosecution & the Defence
be communicated to Colonel Lang, That the Sen-
-tence of Suspension for a twelve Month
on Ensign Brannan is equitable & not more
than adequate to the Offence, as his conduct
in whatever light it is viewed appears to
have been wreedingly culpable & totally
incompatible with the propriety & Decorum
Notwithstanding the Opinion of Indivi-
-duals that private Punishment for Injuries
are allowable yet it does reasonably behoove those

Fort St George 28 February 1771

those invested with public Stations to dis-
-courage those Vices

The Board cannot avoid
remarking that it appears from the Court
Martial now before them that Ajutant Patt.
erson has acted in a manner very inconsis
tent with his Office in allowing a general
Meeting of the Subaltern Officers of the Batta
lion to be summoned at his Tent for an unim-
proper purpose and in employing his orderly
Man to circulate a Note amongst them re-
lating to a private Quarrel which it was his
Duty to prevent & to have brought to public
Notice. It is therefore Resolved that Colonel
Laing be directed to make Ajutant Patterson
sensible of his fault and to admonish him
again falling into such Irregularities
in future.

Colonel Wood having made
application to have his division of Gratuity
ascertained from the time of his Dimission
[To this Opinion a statement in
the Company Service, the Accountant
was directed to draw out an Account of the
same upon the following Principle that Col: Wood is now to receive, the
same Share of Gratuity for the Years he was
out of the Service, [he would have been entitled to had he remained in the Service.]
and as there are only
two Colonels to this Establishment Colonel
Wood must receive one half of the eight
Shares for the whole of the time except for
those Months that Colonel Sir Robert
Fletcher remained in the Country, when
he can only be entitled to one Third [Rendering] The fol-
lowing account having been drawn out is
now laid before the Board

230 Fort St George 28th Feb.y 1774

Account of Gratuity to Coll.o Wood

Account of Gratuity due to Colonel Wood from 21st Dec.r 1769 to 25th Sept.r 1773

		Pag.da	℔	℔
From 21st Dec.r 1769 to 25th March 1770 @ ½ of 2 Shares		623	7	30
From 25th March 1770 to 25th Sept.r 1770	D.o	1200	-	-
From 25 Sept.r 1770 to 25 March 1771	D.o	998	19	24
From 25 March 1771 to 25 Sept.r 1771	d.o	1535	9	60
From 25 Sept.r 1771 to 16th Dec.r 1771	d.o	563	20	
From 16 dec.r 1771 to 25 March 1772 @ ⅓ of 1 Share		65	3	20
From 25 March 1772 to 25 Sept.r 1772 @	d.o	1009	18	72
From 25 Sept.r 1772 to 11th Feb.y 1773 @ ~~1 Share~~ ½ of 1 Share	D.o	694	23	-
From 11th Feb.y 1773 to 25 March 1773 @ ½ of 1 Share		38	9	27
From 25 March 1773 to 25 Sept.r 1773	d.o	1608	24	-
	Pagoda's	9093	25	26

Errors Excepted
P George Mowbray
Accountant

Approved & the Amount Ordered to be paid
The Secretary says the following
Letter from Mr John Ros be fore the Board

Letter from Mr John Ros respecting the sum of Money & Bond taken from Mr Stonehouse Embark on Acct of the Prisoner with the Humble Company's Cork

To William Petrie Esqr
Secretary to the Military Department

Sir

The circumstances which
Make the Liberty of intating being connected with
the Estate of the late Mr Stonehouse whose Dr. bt to
the Company I am now called upon to ascertain
I request you will be pleased to lay the same before
the Honble President & Council
Whom any being ever the
Most Charge of the Employ immediately after Mr
Stonehouse's Decease I was directed by the late
President.

231 Fort St George 28th February 1774

President Mr Du Pré's answer to particular Enquiries
regarding the Sum of 4500 Pagodas which had been
received by Mr Stonehouse a few days before he died
as it appeared very extraordinary what had be-
come of this Money Col Ford having wrote to Mr
Du Pre that but a small Ballance of Cash had
been found in the Cash Chest and the Seapoys
remuneration paid When Sarrived at Vellore
Mr Stonehouse's Head Servant gave me a very dis-
tinct Statement of the Honble Company's
Cash wherein there appeared a Sum of 1200 Pag
paid to Permaul Naick & 400 Pag to the Con-
tract Comicopolies, the remainder being sent
to Amboor. Upon my finding that Permaul
Naick was brother to Brother to Mr Stonehouse's
Head Servant, being prepossess'd with an unin-
favorable Opinion of Mr Stonehouse's Servant
suspected that some unfair connivance in
Mrs Transactions and in the Letter wrote Mr
Du Pre on the day of my Arrival, gaving him
him an Account thereof Sogave him cause
to think in the same unfavorable Opinion Manner
of Mr Stonehouse's Head Servant The conse-
quence of which was that Sreceived an immediate
Order to insist upon this 1200 Pag being repaid
& Col Ford had Directions to Watch the Steps
of this Permaul Naick - that he might not
get away before he complied with the Order
of the Board, Had in the mean time made a
particular Examination into Mr Stonehouses
Affairs, & Sawvery Clearly that his Various
concerning to his own Mismanagement &
Inattention

inattention to his Public & Private Concerns
None of his Servants as far as I could discover
merited being Stigmatized or made answerable for any part of his Loss. his
constant Practise had been for upwards
of two Years to borrow Money through vari-
ous Channels towards the End of the Month
with which he made up his payments
to the Garrison & repaid those he borrowed
it from out of the first Supply he received
from the Presidency, again borrowing when
the next payments came about & keeping
the Garrison generally half a Month, or more
in arrear. I discovered that he had borrowed
on two or three Occasions from this Peramaul
Naick & repaid it in this Manner By ex-
amining his Papers & Cadjan Accounts
I found that this 1200 Pag.ds had been borro-
wed of Peramaul Naick, two Months be-
fore Mr Stonehouse's death and had been
brought into his Public Accounts, the Money being
consequently disbursed on the Company's
Account Mr Stonehouse being more tardy
than usual in the repaying of it Peramaul
Naick came up to Velore to solicit for it & by
the same Authorities I found convincing
Proofs that Mr Stonehouse repaid the said Pera-
maul Naick the said 1200 Pagodas a few days
before his death out of the 4500 Pag.ds sent him
by Mr Stratton

When I received the Letter
ordering this Money to be refunded I was con-
vinced it would be a great Mandarin for me if

upon upon it, and that Permaul Naick was
justly entitled to keep the Money he had
had the good Fortune to recover Nevertheless
being willing to shew my Punctuality in
Conforming with the Orders of the Board I
summoned him & made Use of every Argu-
-ment I could think of to induce him to com-
-ply & in particular I urged that I would be
his Advocate with the Board & that I hoped
upon my representing that nothing ap-
-peared against him, or his Brother, in
this Transaction & that as equity was on
his Side he would be the more favorably
dealt with for shewing a ready compli-
-ance with the Orders of the Board & in the
-fore a Justice incumbent on me to re-
-present that this Argument prevailed
with him. The Event of this own Accord &
brought me all that remained in his
hands of the 1200 Pags which was 650 to
make his Compliance more perfect I signed
a Bond at my Instance for the remain-
-ing 550.

When Permaul Naick
departed for Madras I gave him a Draft Letter
for Mr Stratton then Military Paymaster
representing to him most of these Circum-
-stances & in particular this good Beha-
-viour by which he especially merited the
-dulgence Consequently as no Hand whatever
appear'd against him or his Brother in
this Transaction he had a fair preferable

Claim

234 Fort St George 28th February 1774

Claim to the Money and Sorrowful of
him to lay the Matter before the Board
as well on the Man's Account whose
merited Commiseration as on mine for
having over persuaded him to give
himself up relying when I did upon
the Honble President & Council having
some Regard to my Solicitation when
there was such good Cause for it. Mr Stratton
undertook to comply with my request
when Permanent should make his Ap-
-pearance, but he never was able to wait on
Mr Stratton having soon after died leaving
a Widow & eight Children who are now
in indigent Circumstances depending
upon the Brother who has lived with me
as my Head Servant ever since & whose
Behaviour as well as regard to my Promise
to the deceased Brother makes me thus
urgent in requesting the Honble President
& Council will be pleased to give him Re-
-dress by Ordering the 650 Pagodas to be re-
-paid him and his Bond given up

Fort St George
28th Febry 1774

Sam
Sir
Your very Obedient
humble Servant
Tobias Ross

The Bond & Pagodas 650
to be returned to him.

Happearing to the Board
by the Representation now before them that
the Money sent by the Means of the De-
-ceased to Mr Stratton was appropriated

 Fort St George 28th February 1774

for the Payment of the Garrison at Vellore they are of Opinion that there was no fraud or Improspriety in the Servants repay-ing himself by the Directions of his Master from the public Money when it arrived from Madrass & that he ought not therefore to have been Obliged to make it good He is therefore agreed that the Sum of Pags 650 be returnd to the Dubash & that his Bond for the remainder be delivered up

Recommendation from Captain Matthews for the promotion of a Black Officer in his Battalion. Approved

General Smith lays before the Board a report from the Committee appointed for the examination of Sepoy Invalids

Until an answer is received to What was written on this Subject to the Court of Directors by the Northington the Board cannot devise any effectual Method for reducing the very great expence of maintaining the Sepoy Invalids But in order to prevent any but the real Objects of Distress receiving this Provision, it is Ordered that the following Regulations be circulated to all the Paymasters on the Coast, with positive Order that they be punctually observed in future

General Orders for the Establishment

Regulations to be observed respecting Sepoy Invalids

That in future no Sepoy shall be Invalided or Pensioned for Age or Infirmities, unless he can produce proofs to his having Served the Company twenty Years

Wounds

236. Fort St George 28th February 1774

Wounds received on Service, so as to incapacitate the Sepoy from all Means of procuring his Livelihood, entitles him to a provision for Life, provided the same is certified by the Surgeon &c. Committee appointed for the Examination of those in Such Circumstances

Orders to all the Paymasters on the Coast

Paymasters to make Regular Monthly Reports of Sepoy Casualties

In future all Paymasters are directed to pay the Invalided & Pensioned Seapoys with their own hands, except in very particular Cases where Wounds and Infirmities render it impossible to attend & then the Paymaster shall make particular enquiry to prevent impositions, by any of the Relations of the Seapoy continuing to receive the Pay after the decease of the Person Invalided or Pensioned.

Ordered that in future all the Paymasters at the Out Garrisons & Subordinates shall regularly every Month send in to the Military Secretary's Office an exact & clear Account of Sepoy Casualties in the Manner directed by the Regulations & that the greatest Care be taken to prevent any Mistakes or Errors in Said Returns as well as in the returns of the European Casualties and to enable the Paymasters to comply with the foregoing Regulations the General Orders be sent to the Several Commanding Officers of Detachments and Garrisons, which direct that whenever a Casualty happens in the European or Seapoys, the Officer Commanding the

237 Fort St George 28th February 1774

the Corps shall immediately give notice
there of to the Paymaster, will be repeated & enforced
& the Paymaster must enter the same in a Book
to be kept pair for that Purpose

General Smith delivers in the following Letter
To the Honble Alex.r Wynch Esq.r
President & Gov.r &.ca Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

By the Resignation of Lieut
Colonel Naylhan and the departure of Major Fletcher
to England two Majority's become Vacant on this
Establishment The two Senior Captains on the
List for Promotion are Lieut.s Nixon & George Brown
both Officers of merit & who will do honor to the
Appointments, with respect to the former
there is no impediment " But as the Honble
" Court of Directors in their General Letter to this Pre-
" -sidency dated the 12 June 1771 have been pleas-
" -ased to direct that no Commissions be filled
" up which shall happen by Field Officers
" or others going to Europe for the Recovery of their
" Healths &.ca but that the Officers next below them
" do perform the duty of the Absentees until
" their Returns or the Honble Court of Directors
" Orders be received to the contrary.

Letter from Genl
Smith recommending y.e promotion
of Capt.n Brown

From the above mentioned
Order it would appear that the Vacancy made
by Major Fletchers quitting this Service
should remain unfilled, as the Capt.n Brown
from length of Service & Wounds has every
just pretention to that Rank Therefore not

not only in this Behalf, but for the Establishment in General beg leave to Offer a few Lines on this Subject to the Boards Consideration

Our implicit Passive Obedience to Orders in the first instance in the Military Line it would therefore ill become us to wish or intimate the least desire that any Enquiry should be made in to whatever Orders or Regulations we may receive from the Honble Court of Directors for Our Observance, Tho' we are of Opinion that in most Cases as they ought to be invariably adhered to yet in a Country so distant as this circumstances will sometimes arise to cause a Deviation from the best Calculated Rules that can be laid down by Our Honble Employers for the Management of their Affairs in India, these Deviations should not be admitted without sufficient reasons being given for so doing

The above Orders of the Honble Court were, as they inform Us occasioned by the Conduct of the Government in Bengall who had by their Appointments to the Military Officers considerably increased their Establishment and of Course their Expences But I am persuaded the Honble Court at the time when they Ordered it had no Intention to encourage this Government who I am sure will for the future always be cautious of making any increase to the Military List, beyond the regular Establishment which Information I believe will be found a fact The

Fort St. George 28th Febr 1774

The Honble Court are pleased to say the Officers much beloved those who Return to Europe for their Health & Shall perform the Duty of the Absentees, Whether Field Officers or others I consider I do not rightly comprehend how this can be effected The discipline of the Regiment is the sole Object of the Major, he has no other Attention but that of making it perfect in every part of the Exercise, and to deprive a Corps of so essential an Officer is to take from it the very life & Spring of all its actions. Temporary Commands are never executed with that Zeal & exertion as by those who have immediate Duty it is, & have their Honor & Reputation at Stake for the due performance of it.

The Eldest Captain cannot possibly have any other employ than that of attending the Regiment on Parade & the Duty of the Corps and in the Absence of all the Field Officers the Charge of the Regiment must of Course devolve on him but this rarely happens, shou'd there fall in Officer to officiate as performing the duty of a Major without being properly authorised so to do either by General Orders, or Brevet one or the other must be issued for the Colonel or Lieutenant Colonel would Suffer any Captain in their Regiment to act for the absent Major.

Many Arguments might be produced to shew the Necessity why this Establishment should be kept compleat with Field Officers & Majors in particular as the latter I have ever been of Opinion were not sufficient for the Number of Troops on this Coast

and

Fort St George 26th Feby 1774

and more especially when employed on Services of Fatigue & Danger If the Honble Court of Directors would only be pleased to consider the difference of Situation between the Troops acting on the Carnatick & those of their other Presidencies. I am induced to think they would soon give us Assurances with one that its not only requisite to keep this Establishment compleat with Field Officers but Soldiers, the Bengal & Bombay generally enjoy an uninterrupted Scene of Peace and Tranquility whilst the Troops under this Presidency scarce ever know what it is to be from under their Tents as some part or other of them are constantly in the Field on actual Service which alone is a sufficient reason why the Corps should never be without their full Complement of Officers This will known to every Member of this Board that in a climate so inimical as this is many Officers are constantly on the Sick List nor can it be avoided notwithstanding the great Augmentation of Subalterns to the European Regiments & Battalions of Seapoys yet Alarms the Duty has fallen extraordinary hard on those who do not enjoy so fortunate as to enjoy good Health These Considerations will I hope have due weight with the Honble Board Since I am

Your &c

Majority

24 Fort St George 28th February 1776

Majority and which I doubt not will meet
with the Sanction of Our Honble Employers
I have the Honor to be with the Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Ob. Humble Servant
Joseph. Smith

Fort St George
28 February 1776

Opinion & Reflections of the Board thereon.

The Board after the most serious Reflection on the Subject of the foregoing Letter, coincide in Opinion with General Smith that the good of the Service requires the Establishment should be kept complete with Field Officers, and it is therefore Agreed that the Absence of Major Thomas Fletcher in England shall be considered as an actual Vacancy and that Captain George Brown be promoted thereto

Capt.n Brown promoted to a Majority.

It is not however the design of the Board to confine themselves merely to this Instance but on all future occasions, it is now determined that no Officer, whether on account of health or private Affairs shall have permission to return to England without resigning the Company's Service. And the Board flatter themselves that when the Court of Directors shall reconsider this Subject they will appear Justified in having thus deviated from their Orders, whilst so good a Latitude is given to the Company's Servants. Military there is reason to believe that many other reasons besides want of health & real Business might induce them to undertake a Europe Voyage & it must be allowed that there is a hardship in the Officers here being Oblig'd to do the duty of those who are

Fort St George 28th February 1774

are absent in England without being promoted
to their Ranks. The present Resolution of the
Board cannot be determined agreeably to
the Company's Military Servants, as they
could have all along been in the same predica-
ment, in which the Military by the said
resolution, are now placed When the Servant
whether Military or Civil is under an Indispen-
sable Necessity of returning to Europe then it
no reason to think the Honble Court will
rarely refuse his return with his Rank, when
the case is properly represented by the Govr.
& Council
In Consequence of Capt.

Promotions— Lt. Brown's promotion to a Majority in
the Room of Major Fletcher the following
Appointments are now ordered to take Place
Wm Phillips to Captain in the Room of Majr.

	Brown	Date & Rank of Commission
Montgomery	Lieutenant	22 Feby. 28 Do.
Richardson	Ensign	30 Decr. 28 Do.

Captain Gibbins to the 6th Battalion of Sepoys
late Captain Browns
The Board now take into
Consideration the following Letter from Mr
Francis O'Donnel
To the Honble Alexander Wynch Esqr
President & Governor &c Council
Fort St George
Honble Sir & Sirs

Letter from Mr O Donnel requesting to be replaced in his Rank in the Service

The Judgment that was
passed on me by the late General Court Martial

Fort St George 28 February 1771

P & which you have since been pleas'd to confirm
is of such a Nature the most distressing to
me both as an Officer & a man: To Attempt
to urge any thing in my own Defence is now impos-
sible I have been try'd by a Body of Gentlemen
who have adjudged me guilty & you Worthy Sir
& Sirs have thought proper to abide by their Deci-
sion Apt from the Character which I flatter
myself I have always borne as an Officer & from
the very severe & afflicting Experience which I
have now so dearly bought I hope Gentlemen
that you will in some Measure commiserate
my Situation, that I for got myself when I so
rashly treated the Subadar is most Certain
but as it all proceeded as well from Want to shew
-ing the Troops of the Garrison as well as the
Degree of Regard you'd have European Officers
pay them whilst they can not with Propriety
be acquainted with it Therefore humbly
Worthy Sir & Sirs Would please to take all
this into Consideration and Extend Mercy
which will the more enable me in future
to regulate my Conduct so as to give both you
and my Superiour Officers a convincing Proof
of the just Sence that shall ever regulate my
late
too glaring Misconduct

I have the honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient
and most Humble Servt
Francis Dowell

Fort St. Feb.y
1771

Ag

Ditto Fort St George 20th February 1774

As Mr O'Donnel seems now to be impressed with a proper Sence of his Fault & as General Smith is of Opinion that what he has already Suffered will make him more Circumspect in his Conduct hereafter, the Board consent to his reinstatement in the Service & he is accordingly restord to his former Rank

Rest'd to the Service

Wm Brooke

Geo. Dawson
Henry Brooke
Sam. Johnston
Wm Fraser
Francis Fordyce