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

25.7.42

M.C. 61/B

230 Fort St. George 24 Feby 1770.

At a Consultation present

The Hon^ble Thomas Rumbold Esq^r
John Wr^d Governor President
Charles Pitchill General Munro
Smith Samuel Johnson
Peter Perring.

Tuesday the 24th Feby

Minutes of Yesterday's Consultation read

General Munro delivers in the following his answers to the Presidents Questions

General Munro's answers to the following Questions put to him by the Hon^ble the President

1st Whether or no such an Enquiry as directed by the Hon^ble Court of Enquiry from the nature & tendency of said Court of Enquiry can be ordered upon Brigadier General Stuart.

It is my Opinion that no such Enquiry as directed by the Company can be ordered upon Brigadier General Stuart, as will more fully appear from the Opinion I have already given relative to the intention of ordering Courts of Enquiry.

2d Whether or no a charge against a Military Officer must not be grounded upon the infringement of Military Law

It is my Opinion that any charge against a Military Officer must be grounded upon the infringement or supposed infringement of some Article of War if to be tried by Military Law.

3d Whether or no Brigadier General Stuart arresting the Person of George Lord Pigot then President & Governor of Fort St. George by a special order from George Stratton Esq^r

Gen^l Munro's answers to the President's questions put to him Yesterday about Gen^l Stuart's trial

242 Fort St. George 24th Feby. 1770.

Fort St. George
24 Feb.y 1770.

Your most Obedient and
very humble Servant
James Stuart

The Board of Opinion that Genl Stuart cannot be tried by a Court Martial

The Board having maturely deliberated upon the case of Brigadier General Stuart & considered it in every point of view, are unanimously of opinion first that a Court of Enquiry as ordered by the Bengal Govt is inadmissible and 2dly that a Court Martial cannot now be held on General Stuart for the part he took in the arrest & imprisonment of the late Lord Pigot.

It evidently appears from General Munro's Opinion that from the nature of tendency of a Court of Enquiry, they cannot propose a charge but are only to hear evidence upon a given charge, & as with respect to the Facts touching General Stuart's Conduct in the Arrest & imprisonment of the late Lord Pigot, they are already ascertained on the Records & are now again acknowledg'd by General Stuart himself, so that it becomes totally unnecessary to hold a Court of Enquiry on that account.

Their reasons authenticated

The Reasons why the Board do not think proper to hold a Court Martial for the trial of General Stuart, proceeds from the strong doubts they entertain upon certain points relating to the constitutional Government of the Company, which are so connected with the Facts aforementioned that untill they are decided by right and unquestionable Legal authority, the Board cannot determine whether those Facts be at all cognizable by Martial

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Martial Law.

The Board feel very sensibly the Si-
tuation in which General Stuart is placed by the Natures
of the Company's Orders, naturally anxious for an oppor-
tunity of vindicating his Conduct before a Legal Tribu-
nal he has in his Letters produced several Arguments
to shew his right to be tried by a Court Martial, & in
particular he has pointed out the different articles in the
Articles of War by which he might be tried, first he says
that his Conduct in arresting the Person of the late Lord
Pigot comes under the 2d Article of the 15th Section, which
runs as follows "all crimes not capital & all disorders or
neglects which Officers & Soldiers may be guilty of to the
prejudice of good order & Military Discipline (tho' not men-
tioned in the above Articles of War) are to be taken Cogni-
zance of by a Court Martial, & to be punished at their Dis-
cretion" & again in his Letter of the 24th Instant, that he
may be brought to trial for Mutiny. ——— the
different intention of these two Articles need not explo-
nation the one is meant to punish a Capital Crime &
the other only to take Cognizance of those Crimes not ca-
pital, which lead to the subversion of good order and
Military Discipline & which are not (provided for
in the preceding Articles — upon the whole the reasons
urged by General Stuart have not the least tendency
to remove the doubts the Board have expressed & until
they are removed, the Board are clearly of Opinion &
accordingly resolve that no proceeding by Martial
Law can be had against General Stuart which would
in any degree answer the purposes of a trial, — fixed as

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the Board are in this Resolution, they are left to follow the Line pointed out to them by the Court of Directors in the 53d Para. of their Letter by the Bellborough & Resolved therefore that General Stuarts suspension from the Service be continued and that he be directed to procud to England by the first proper Conveyance.

Tho. Rumbold

John Whitehill

Taylor Munro

Secretary

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Wrote the following Letter to General Stuart

To Brigadier General James Stuart

Sir

To Genl Stuart ac. granting him that a Court Martial cannot be held on him at present that his Suspension is continued & that it is the Company's Orders he proceed to England

We took the earliest opportunity after the Bellborough's arrival, of conveying to you an Extract of the Company's Orders concerning you by that Ship, & informd you at the same time of our intention to enter on the consideration of them as soon as possible — We have since received from you three Letters dated the 16th 19th & 24th Instant all of them pressing upon us in the strongest manner your Desire to be tried by a Court Martial with the Reasons which have urged you to this request & which induce you to think that the part taken by you in the arrest & imprisonment of the Late Lord Pigot is cognizable by Martial Law

We beg you to be assured that we felt very sensibly the peculiar situation in which you were placed by the nature of the Company's Orders & our desire to execute if possible what seems to be their intention & your own earnest wish led us to consider the subject with the utmost care & deliberation, fairly intending to appoint a Court Martial for the trial of your Conduct, provided it could be done with the least colour of propriety or consistency.

But on revolving the acts in which you were concerned as abovementioned, & the particular Circumstances attending them, we are clearly & decisively of opinion that the part you took in the arrest & imprisonment of the Late Lord Pigot cannot now be tried by Martial Law; & for

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Your satisfaction we think it proper to enclose you a Copy of our resolution on the subject, we are also to acquaint you that we have thought proper to continue your suspension from the Company's Service in consequence of their Orders & to observe that it is the Pleasure of the Court of Directors that you proceed to England by the first proper conveyance.

We are

Fort St George
27th Feby 1778

Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servants
Thos Rumbold
Geo Stra
Jno Hollond

Also the following letter to the Council at Ganjam.

To Robert Maunsell Esqr
Chief Council at
Ganjam
Gentlemen

To Ganjam to join with the Board with a particular State & value of the Goomsur Territory

We have received your several Letters & shall now reply to that of the 4th Instant relating to the Disposal of the Goomsur Zemindary

As far as we can judge at present the Man you propose in favor of Lachenna Bunge is an eligible one, but we cannot come to any Final Determination respecting the Country untill you have furnished us with the particular State & value of it & given us your Opinion as to the more or which may reasonably be made in the Zemmabundy should so advantageous a settlement

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as that recommended for Lachenna Bunge take place — To assist you in ascertaining these Points we would have you cause such a general survey to be made of the Country as shall appear to you necessary for that purpose.

The Destruction of the Forts of Vinachuckram & Bagabah was a proper measure but should not have been executed without our previous approbation.

We are inclined to shew the displaced Zemindar Vuckeram Bunge every indulgence & favor that may be consistent & even to establish a provision for his support, upon his returning & making proper submission for his Offences within such a time as you may deem reasonable — you will be pleased to convey to him a knowledge of these our intentions with such assurances of safe Conduct & future protection as may be likely to remove all apprehensions.

Until we have obtained the information above required relative to the Country, we desire that a proper Person may be appointed to make the collections from it on behalf of the Company Lachenna Bunga himself would undoubtedly be the best qualified for this Service, but as it is possible from the jealousy subsisting between Lachenna Bunge & his Brother, that the latter would be afraid to return, if he perceived his Brother invested with any authority in the Country, we wish to make choice of any other Person who may be qualified in preference to Lachenna Bunge & only to employ him in case no such Person can be found.

We are

Gentlemen

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Fort St. George
27th Feby 1778.

Your affectionate Friends
Thos Rumbold &c.

At a Consultation present

The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
Governor President

John Whitehill — General Munro
Charles Smith — Saml Johnson
Peter Perring

Monday
2 March

Minutes of last Consultation read

Read the following Minute delivered in by the President.

The President's Minute proposing to request Rajah of the Rajah of Tanjore, instead of his propos'd Grant of Land round Daveecottah

Inentioned to the Board in my Minute of the 23d Feby that the orders of the Company respecting our accepting from the Rajah of Tanjore Grants of Lands, about Daveecottah, gave us a great opening to act essentially for the Company's Interests & advantage, & that I should lay before this Board my Sentiments upon the occasion — I now beg leave to submit to this Board, the result of my own reflections upon that subject. — The Rajah of Tanjore being strongly impress'd with a sense of gratitude to the Company, for having restored to him his Liberty, & with it the management of his Country, & Government, & expressing a desire to convey to the Company some mark of such gratitude, was pleased to offer to the late Lord Pigot, any Lands the Company might think proper to accept as a dependancy upon Daveecottah "Extract of the Rajah's Letter to Lord Pigot 11th April 1776" Finally "as the Fort of Daveecottah has no Country annex'd to it I beg

"the Company will take what they think proper as a dependancy "thereon" — It appears to me that this Board may properly upon such Offer, approved as it is by the Company point out to the Rajah a more effectual way of shewing the Compa. -ny his regard & attachment — I believe it would be necessary for me to take up much of the time of this Board in endeavo- -uring to convince them of the great importance it would be to the Company to have possession of Nargour both in a political as well as Commercial point of view but that the Court of Directors may have every light upon so im- -portant a subject I shall beg leave to be more particular. It is unnecessary to remark that no advantage can be derived from Grants of Lands about Davecottah, excepting the Re- -venue arising from such Lands & those being in themselves of a barren poor soil, the revenue must consequently be trifling this being the Case of how much consequence is it that this Board should use every means in their Power to persuade the Rajah into making an exchange of such intended Grants, about Davecottah, for Grants of Nargour & certain Districts around it sufficient to maintain a resden- -cy of our Servants & supply an Investment which its situation command to any Degree we may find necessary to carry it. The Manufactures of Naniarpollam & Bonagree with the adjacent Countries, may with great care be brought to Nargour. The trade of this Town formerly of so much con- -sequence may again be revived, security being given to the property of those Merchants who from the unsettled state of the Tanjore Government have been induced to quit their residence there, will return again, & I am inclined to think that from the situation of Nargour the advantages

to be derived from the River by admitting Vessels to the Burthen of two hundred Tons, its being open to the Tanjore Country that when put under our Government & protection it will become one of the most flourishing Sea Ports upon this Coast & I am not misinformed even the Customs upon Exports will be very considerable, Let us now take this subject in a political view, Nargour opens immediately into the heart of the Tanjore Country, it is situated in the very centre of those Settlements whose Commercial concerns it is our Duty to protect, & whose political Conduct we should watch with every attention. The Dutch at Negapatam can take no steps whatever but by our immediate knowledge, neither the Danes at Tranquebar nor the French at Carricaal can move but under our own Eye, every connection from any of these Quarters with the Rajah of Tanjore, is effectually cutt off, & an end is at once put to those constant disputes which have happened, & will occasionally arise whilst Nargour remains in the hands of the Rajah — I am inclined to think this the most favourable opportunity of applying to the Rajah, when the Company's friendly Letter may have rekindled that warm sense of gratitude he was pleased to express towards the Company by his generous offer to the late Lord Pigot; & seeing this plan in a most extensive point of view, I hope the advantages it offers to the Company will have the same influence over every Member of this Board — I therefore move "that this Board empower me to correspond with the Rajah of Tanjore upon this Subject with the view of obtaining from him a grant of the Town of Nargour with certain Lands around the said

Fort St. George 2 March 1770.

Town for the use & benefit of the East India Company

Fort St. George
March. 2d 1770

Present

Ordered that the above Minute do Lye
on the Table for Consideration

To lie on the Table

Read a Letter from the Rajah of Tan-
jore as entered in Country Correspondence No 20 wherein he
observes that there appears some difference between the Letter
written him by Mr Whitehill on the 19th January & the
written agreement given him by Mr Perring concerning
the Deposit which he consented to make in the Company's
Treasury, & desires that the said Deposit may be received agree-
ably to the terms expressed in Mr Perring's agreement.

Letter from the Rajah of Tanjore concerning the Deposit proposed to him.

Ath'd the Board are of Opinion that
the Letter written by Mr Whitehill expresses the substance &
meaning of the Deposit consented to be made by the Rajah
yet that the Rajah may be fully satisfied in this particu-
lar, agreed that a Letter be written to him in the exact
words of Mr Perring's agreement, & that he be requested to
pay the Money agreably to the Kists he has settled.

As the Company's Government here
formerly corresponded with all the Powers & Princes of the
Country in the Persian Language & as it is inconvenient
to them to keep up their intercourse with the Rajah of
Tanjore in the Mahratta Language in which of late
the Rajah's Letters have been written, it is agreed to re-
quest the Rajah will in future address his Letters in
Persian, & that the Office of Mahratta Translator
be abolished.

Agreed to request the Rajah to correspond in the Persian Language.

The Office of Mahratta Translator abolish'd

A List of 22 Men unfit for duty

Fort St. George 2 March 1778.

22 Men unfit for Duty to be sent home on the Kingston

I recommended to present home as unworthy of the Compa. -ny's Pension, is now laid before the Board who direct that they be embarked as Charter party Passengers on the Duke of Kingston now under dispatch.

Capt Davis re. ports some of the Clothing of his Batt.n unfit for use.

General Munro lays before the Board a Letter to him from Captain John Davies representing that some Sepoy Cloathing of his Battalion was rejected as unfit for use, & condemned by a Committee appointed here for its examination, but that no other Cloathing had been provided in the room of it, & that the Black Officers in his Battalion were much distressed on this account.

The report of the Committee to be referred to

Ordered that the Report of the Committee abovementioned be referred to, & if it shall appear that the rejected Cloathing of Captain Davis's Battalion was damaged as is supposed from accident before it reached the Battalion, the Agent must supply other Cloathing in its room & charge it to the Company.

Read the following Letter from Lieut: Colonel Horne.

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
President Governor & Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Lt. Col. Horne the Rajahs request Lt. Brand may be sent round at the Annacutta

Having forwarded a Letter which I received enclosed in a Letter from the Honble the President, from his Highness to his Deputy at Trichinopoly respecting the Repairs at the Annacutta; Intended re- calling Lieut: Brand & the Sepoys lately posted near there, in consequence of the Honble President, signifying he

Fort St. George 2 March 1770.

imagin'd there would no longer be any necessity for any Militia Force there.

Having inform'd the Rajah of this intention he has desired me to postpone recalling Lieut. Brand for the present, & to write to the Honble Board that his reasons Lieut. Brand might be continued: He says the work People would dispute if could not be kept together, & that (though connivance perhaps) the neighbouring Inhabitants would most certainly molest the repairs before they were finish'd. But that the presence of an Officer belonging to the Company would most probably restrain them though with only a very few Sepoys; & if any disputes did happen would be able to give a true account which the Honble Board might rely on. To prevent giving any cause of offence to His Highness's Deputy I ordered only half a Company of Sepoys with Mr Brand a much smaller force than I am inform'd has ever been customary when any repairs have been carried on. I shall therefore keep Mr Brand at his present station Han I receive further Directions from your Honor &c.

Two Companies of Sepoys ordered on the boundaries of the Rajah's Country on the one towards Negapatam, remain as stationd one at Nagore the other at Chiccall, the Rajah's People have been active in preventing the usual intercourse between the Inhabitants of his Country & those of the Dutch Bounds. The consequence is that many Articles in Negapatam are growing very dear; & that one of the Rajah's Country seems to be suffering from the entire stop there Deputies have occasioned; & by the change of the principal Managers of the Country; — By the last accounts I have been

able to obtain Ommasapillah left Negapatam some time ago & is at Jafnapatam on the Island of Ceylone where he fled after the reduction of Tanjore, when he was Demanded by the young Nabob. — I have the honor to be with great respect

Hon^ble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedt
humble Servant
Matt^w Horne

Tanjore
Febry 27th 1778.

Rec^d the following Letter from Bengal.

To the Hon^ble John Whitehill Esq^r
President &c Council
Fort St. George

Gentlemen

From Bengal requesting We to hold a body of troops in readiness to assist the Gentlemen at Bombay in replacing Ragonaut Row and thereupon with their resolutions on the subject

We have received advice from the President & Council of Bombay that in consequence of Overtures which had been secretly made to the Ministers at Poonah in the Names of Sreecarron Baboo, Moroba Fornare Buckerba Dhoonder & Tuckajie Holcar desiring the assistance of the English & to replace Ragonaut Row in the administration of the affairs of the Mahratta Government at Poonah, They had agreed to join with them in conducting Ragonaut Row to that City on receipt of a formal application for that purpose to be made under their hands & Seals & they had directed the Resident to communicate their intentions to them Hon^rs with all possible caution & Secrecy.

They have further informed us

that they had judged it expedient to request that you would give
orders for a body of two hundred European Infantry, half a com-
pany of Artillery & one Battalion of Sepoys to be held in readi-
ness to march to Anjengo on the receipt of further advices from
them.

We immediately took the general subject
of the Proceedings of the President & Council at Bombay
into our serious Consideration & came to unanimous resolu-
tions upon it Copies of which we enclose for your information.

As we have agreed to grant the
countenance & support of this Government to the operations
proposed by the Presidency of Bombay provided they be confind
merely to the objects required by the Chief Ministers & defind
in the Letter now before us We recommend it to you to comply
with their application for Men in case they should repeat it
& to furnish them with all the assistance in your power for
the speedy completion of their Engagements.

We have this instant received your
Letter of the 16th Ults which we shall shortly read with atten-
tion & deliver our Sentiments fully upon in the mean time
we shall only repeat our Desire in the most earnest manner
that you Order the detachment, applied for by the President
& Council of Bombay to march immediately to their as-
sistance if the result of their negociation with the Mah-
rattas should make it necessary for them to renew their
request to you.

The Cypher now in use being in
many respects obsolete & throughout very defective
We have caused one to be formed after a Plan more
intricate & compendious a Copy of which we now transmit

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to you under the charge of Captain Braw & after you shall have acknowledg'd the receipt of it our correspondence when necessary shall be conducted in it, We intend likewise to forward a Copy in a few days by Captain Rodcam to Bombay

We are

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient Servants

Warren Hastings
Richard Barwell
Philip Francis
Edward Wheler

Fort William
4th Feby. 1778.

Extract of Consultation the 2d Feby. 1778.

1st

Resolved that it is the Opinion of the Board that the President & Council of Bombay are warranted by the Treaty of Poorunder to join in a plan for conducting Rugonaut Row to Poonah on the application of the ruling part of the administration of the Mahratta State.

2d

Resolved that it is the Opinion of the Board that the President & Council of Bombay are warranted by the Orders of the Court of Directors to give their support to the Pretensions Rugonaut Row, if they can afford it without a violation of the Treaty

3d

Resolved that the plan which the President & Council of Bombay have agreed to form with the Mahratta Government as explained in their Proceedings of the 10th December & in their Letters of the 12th Decr 1777. be approved.

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7th Resolved that the sanction of this Government be given to the Plan which the President & Council have agreed to form with the Mahratta Government as above expressd & that they be authorised to carry the same into execution by such means as they shall judge most advisable provided there be consistent with the Treaty & the Orders of the Court of Directors.

July 5. Resolved that the Company not being bound by the Treaty of Poroonder to take part in the Disputes of the Mahratta Government, are therefore entitled to any further advantages that might be obtained by negociation as a Compensation for the hazard & expence of their interposition & assistance

6th Resolved that it is the Opinion of this Board that the following are proper objects to be required as a compensation for the interposition of the Company & that it be recommended to the President & Council at Bombay to obtain them accordingly — viz.t

1st That such reasonable & practicable Security be obtained for the Personal safety of Rogonaut Row as he shall require

2d That a specific sum be required to reimburse the Company for the Military Charges which may be incurrd by their interposition

3d That the Fort & District of Bassein be ceded in perpetuity to the Company.

4th That an additional Grant of Territory be made to the Company adjacent to Bassein or to Bombay in exchange for Parts of the Lands ceded to the Company

250 Fort St. George 2 March 1778

by Tultah Jing Soicar &c for the Purgunnahs of Hansod Ahmond & Debora.

5th That no European Settlements shall be allowed in any of the Maurattie Coasts of the Mahratta Dominions without the consent of the Governor General & Council of Bengal previously obtained

7th Resolved that a supply of Money to the amount of ten Lacks of Rupees be immediately granted to the President & Council of Bombay for the support of their engagements abovementioned independant of the Ordinary annual supply to that Presidency.

8th Resolved that Military assistance shall be sent to the Presidency of Bombay.

In explanation of the grounds of the 3d Resolution the Board think it necessary to remark that they understand the Plan of the President & Council of Bombay to be confined merely to the objects of security to the English possessions in India & to the exclusion of the natural Enemies of the British Government, from any influence or connection with the Mahrattas

A true Copy
J. P. Auriole Secy.

Gent. Inmans opinion requested

Ordered that General Inmans do inform the Board in what manner such a Detachment as that requested by the Gentlemen at Bombay might be formed with as little inconvenience as possible & with the expedition requisite in Case it should be hereafter determined by the Board to grant it upon any future application in the foregoing Letter & Resolutions

259 Fort St. George 2d March 1770.

Read Extract of Letter from Masulipa.

Sam to the Civil Department.

Extract of a Letter from the Chief & Council at Masu.

dated 11th Febry. 1770.

Also Copy of a Letter accompd to us

by Mr. Francis Lamy Assistant Surgeon in this Garrison.

Gone entreat you will be pleased to comply with there-

quest preferrd therein, as his ill state of health renders him

incapable of going through the duties of his station here at

Masulipatam.

A true Extract

I. Bates

Sub. Secry

Alexander Davidson Esqr

Chief & Council

Masulipatam

Gentlemen

I have presumed to address you

Mr Lamy Assist. Surgeon request to be removed from Masulipatam on account of his ill health

publickly to acquaint you that for these foregoing six Years, I have been much afflicted with a consumptive complaint in my Lungs which originally began here during my above as Assistant Surgeon & having never suffered much from the moist air of this Garrison to which I have so lately been again appointed, humbly Request you may be pleased to represent my case to the Honble the President & Council notifying my desire to be stationed elsewhere for the benefit of my health & constitution which are much shattered.

260 Fort St. George 2 March 1770

I have the Honor to be with the greatest

Respect

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient and

Masulipatam
18th Febry. 1770

most humble Servant
F. Lamy Asst Surgeon

A true Copy

J. Baker Sub Secry

Agreed that Mr Lamy be removed from Masulipatam & stationed at Madepollam.

Agreed that he be stationd at Madepollam

The President's Minute entered on Consultation the 23d Ulto having been perused & considered by the several Members, & being now again read, the Resolutions moved therein are seperately put.

Revolutions in consequence of the President's Minute of 23d Ulto

1st Question "The President moves that the Board "do appoint one Day every Week for carrying on the Enquiry "of Enquiry & that it may not be connected in any respect with the other Proceedings of this Board, he also moves "that the Board do proceed under the head of an enquiry "into the causes of the late Revolution."

Resolved accordingly & that Wednesday in every Week be set apart for the said enquiry.

2d Question "The President moves that the oath of Secrecy be tendered to the different Gentlemen in the various "political Departments"

Resolved accordingly that the oath of secrecy be administered to the Secretaries of the Civil & Military Departments, to the Persian Translator & his Assistants & to the Gentlemen employed in the Military & political Departments. The

Fort St. George 2d March 1770.

Members of the Board voluntarily offer to take it themselves

3d Question "The President moves that the order
"of the Court of Directors in the 18th Para of their Letter dated
"the 11th June last relating to many concerns with the Princes
"of Powers of India be carried into immediate Execution &
"that all the Servants be made acquainted with this restric-
"tion & that a non attendance to the Company's Orders on this
"head will subject them to our immediate Displeasure
"& that others not in the Company's Service will by not at-
"tending to those Regulations which the Company have thought
"proper to establish for the advantage & benefit of their own
Government forfeit the Company's Protection."

The Board observe upon this Question that
before the President's arrival the Extract of the Company's Orders
on this Subject was published to all their Servants Civil & Mili-
tary & communicated the Country Powers at the same time
they think it proper & accordingly resolve that the same be
again made public, with which the President has further
recommended in his Motion.

4th Question "The President moves that no Servants
"of the Company except the Members of the Board do hold con-
"nection or correspondence with any of the Princes or Powers of
"India without first acquainting him with the nature of
"such intercourse that being thereby enabled to judge of the
"nature of such intercourse, he may lay it before this Board."

The Board think it necessary before
they finally resolve upon a Question, the result of which
may be disagreable to the Nabob, that the President should
take an opportunity of conversing with His Highness on
the Subject, & endeavour by explaining to him the nature

Fort St George 2d March 1778

Void of the restraint proposed in the above Question, to bring his mind to a proper sense of the necessity there is for employing it, as well for his own real advantage, as for the welfare of the Company's Affairs after which the Board hope there will be little difficulty in executing what the President has proposed. In the meantime the consideration of the Question is deferred, but with the intention of resuming it before the Departure of the Duke of Glocester

3d Question. "The President moves that the Gentlemen "be ordered to prepare a List of such Gentlemen in the Compa- "nys Service not holding Commands of Forts or Troops or the "Naboby Service, but being constantly about the Person of his "Highness or some of his Family that such List being made "out, they may be ordered to their duty & Stations as Servants "of the Company."

Resolved that such List be prepared & laid before the Board accordingly

It being late in the day the Board adjourn till Wednesday morning to take into consideration the remainder of the Presidents Minute

Tho: Rumbold
John Whitehill
Hubert Leeuno

S Perring

263 Fort St. George 4th March 1778.

At a Consultation present

The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
John Whitehill General Munro
Charles Smith Samuel Johnson
Peter Perring

Wednesday 4th March

Minutes of last Consultation read

The President delivers in the following Minute.

The President acquaints the Board that in consequence of their request, he has communicated with the Nabob on the subject of the number of Servants of the Company, & other Europeans under their protection, constantly attending the Durbar to the great neglect of their own Duty, & highly detrimental in many instances to the Company's Interests. — The President adds that the Nabob seemed much pleased at the attention shown him by the Board in acquainting him with what they proposed previous to their coming to any resolution, & assured the President in the presence of General Munro, that he felt himself therein convenience of having such a number of People of Power intruding themselves upon him, but when he considered the late unfortunate Disputes, the wounds that may had attempted to give to his character, & reputation, by false representations, he apprehended an order given out at this time of the nature we intended, might give his enemies reason to suspect that those injurious reports had impressed the Company to his disadvantage; at the same time he assured the President & General Munro that if we desired given out the order he would of his own accord discourage those visits that had been the cause

The President reports his conversation with the Nabob on the subject of the Company's Servants employed by him

Fort St. George 1st March 1778.

of so much trouble & inconvenience to his (the Nabob's) own affairs, as well as to those of the Company. The Nabob likewise assented that if in future there should be found the same cause of complaint he would not be displeased at seeing the order put in execution — The President depending on the assurances given him by the Nabob and being desirous to pay him all proper attention more particularly as the Company express themselves in their Letter of the 11th June 1777. "by every possible means to conciliate "the mind of their Friend & ally the Nabob of Arcott, of- "fended & disturbed by the late Transactions &c" recommends to the Board to defer carrying into immediate execution the order forbidding Company's Servants going visiting the Durbar, but at the same time reserves to himself the right of moving the Questions again, at a future day, should the good effects of putting off the Question at this time not be answered.

The Board consent to the President's Recommendation & agree with him in the sentiments he has expressed.

Gent. Munro reports his having ordered the Adjutant Genl to make out a list of Company's Officers employ'd by the Nabob

General Munro reports that agreably to the order passed in Each Consultation upon the President's 5th Question he has directed the Adjutant General to make out a list of the Company's Officers employ'd by the Nabob or attending upon him & his Sons with any particular Trust or employment & that he will lay the same before the Board as soon as possible.

The remaining Questions contained in the President's Minute of the 23d Febry are now put.

6th Question — "The President moves that a Letter

Fort St. George 4th March 1750

"be written to the Nabob intimating to him the Company's
"concern that the Debt due to his old private Creditors has not
"yet been discharged & that next to the Interest which they set in
"acquiring the payment of Money due to themselves they
"beg leave to use their influence in favor of the old Creditors"

Sundry Questions proposed by the President

The Board entirely approve of this
Proposition & resolve to write to the Nabob accordingly.

2d Question "The President moves that the security
"given by the late administration to Messrs Call & Mar-
"jendie & Taylor for the sum of 4 Lacks of Pagodas does
"not receive the sanction of our Government but waits
"to be determined by the Company's own authority."

Resolved accordingly

3d Question "The President moves that the Lately
"consolidated Debt of his Highness the Nabob is not in any
"respect whatever conducted under the auspices or protection
"of this Government."

Resolved accordingly

9th Question "The President moves that the Com-
"mittee of Works be directed to lay before the Board all ac-
"counts of Contracts or otherwise respecting the Works of
"Fort St. George."

Approved & ordered accordingly

Ordered also that the Chief Engineer be directed to lay before
the Board a particular & explicit Report of the Works already
executed & what remains to be done to complete the For-
-tifications also the present state of the works on hand.

10th Question "The President moves that the Secre-
"tary be ordered to send to the Committee of works and ac-
"quaint a Copy of the 40th Para. of the Company's Letter

Accountant

Fort St. George 4th March 1778.

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Fort St. George 4th March 1770

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"yet been discharged & that next to the Interest which they sat in
"acquiring the payment of Money due to themselves they
"beg leave to use their influence in favor of the old Creditors

Sundry Questions proposed by the President

The Board entirely approve of this
Proposition & resolve to write to the Nabob accordingly.

1st Question "The President moves that the cash
"ty given by the late administration to Messrs Call, Ma-
"jendie & Taylor for the sum of 4 Lacks of Pagodas does
"not receive the sanction of our Government but waits
"to be determined by the Company's own authority."

Resolved accordingly

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"of this Government."

Resolved accordingly

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"Fort St. George."

Approved & ordered accordingly —
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the Board a particular & explicit Report of the Works already
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-tifications also the present state of the works on hand.

10th Question "The President moves that the Secre-
"tary be ordered to send to the Committee of works and ac-
"quaint a Copy of the 40th Para of the Company's Letter

Accountant

"pr Berbord dated 4th July 1777 that all accounts in future
"may be adjusted & transmitted agreably to their own Orders"

Ordered accordingly

4th Question — The President moves that the Secretary be ordered to make out a Statement of probable Receipts & Disbursements for the Year ensuing & that this Board take into their consideration every resource in case of war.

Ordered accordingly

The President's Minute entered in Cash Consultation being read, & the Board unanimously agreeing with him in the propriety of what he has recommended for obtaining from the Rajah of Tanjore, the cession of Nagore & sufficient Land round to defray the expences of a Settlement instead of the Land offered by him near Devicottah, Resolved that the President be empowered to write to the Rajah of Tanjore on this Subject.

The President to write to the Rajah on the Subject of Nagore

Read the following Letter from Masulipatam.

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
President & Governor &c Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir and Sirs,

We have had the honor to receive your Commands of the 10th Instant

We are sorry to acquaint you that we have received intelligence from Capt. Bridges Commanding Officer at Conapelle, of an unfortunate accident which happened there on the night of the 8th Instant, arising from one Serjeant McBraine and

From Masulipatam Serjeant Hoare falls of the Walls at Conapelle & is Killed on the spot.

267 Fort St George 4th March 1770.

Sergeant Hoare of his Battalion having got drunk, Quarrelled
with Serjeant Hughes of the Pettah; whereupon they prepared to fight
each other, the former advancing to strike the latter, he in putting him-
self in a posture of defence drove to the edge of the wall,
which is eight feet high, fell from thence on his back
against the sharp edge of a large Stone, & was killed on the
spot.

Serjeant Hughes who was present
when the accident happened has declared to Captain Briggs
that the Parties had gone from their Quarters good Friends,
& did not begin to quarrel untill heated with Liquor.

Captain Briggs on being informed of
the accident, went with two of his Officers & examined the body
& found no other marks of violence than the bruise on the
back — He however has put Serjeant Mc Braine under
Confinement, where he is to remain, untill your Honor & Hon.rs
Pleased to send Orders respecting him.

Having received a Letter from Capt.
Sam Briggs relative to the appointment of a Surgeon to
the Garrison of Condapillee, We take leave to lay a Copy
of it before your Honor & to offer our Opinion, that it
will be conducive to the good of the Service your complying
with his request.

We are with respect

Hon.ble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient humble Servants

Alex.r Davidson
John Peter Boileau
Thomas Barnard
Alexander Pringle

Masulipatam
17th Feb.y 1770

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To Alexander Davidson Esqr

Chief & Co. Council of

Masulipatam

Gentlemen,

From Capt Bridges applying to have a Surgeon appointed at Condapillee

As this Garrison can have no medical assistance but from Masulipatam or Ellore & both being at too considerable a distance to procure immediate relief in cases of emergence, I cannot help being anxious to have a Surgeon appointed to this place, & I hope that you will think with me, that such an appointment is absolutely necessary. I cannot produce a stronger plea than the late unhappy accident, where tho' the assistance of a Surgeon might possibly have been ineffectual it would at least have been no small satisfaction to have had one.

I am with respect

Gentlemen

Your most [illegible] on this subj

following Lett

Humble Servant

Thomas Bridges

Condapillee
14th Feby 1770

(signed) Thos Coplf
Alexr Beatgleseq.

Capt Briggs to assemble the officers at Condapillee to enquire into the Death of Sergeant Moore.

Captain Briggs must be directed to assemble as many of the Officers of his Battalion as possible & enquire particularly into the unfortunate accident mentioned in the above Letter transmitting the results of their inquiries in writing to the Presidency in the mean time Sergeant Mc-Braine must be kept in confinement.

A Surgeon to be stationed at Condapillee.

Ordered that a Surgeon be stationed with the Battalion at Condapillee, if one can be spared for that duty.

269 Fort St. George 4th March 1770

Read the following Letter from Ganjam

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr

President & Governor &c Council

of Fort St. George

Honble Sir &c &c

Herewith we transmit to you Copy of a Letter we have received from Captain Lysaght, the subject of which being entirely of a private nature, we submit to your Honor &c the propriety of entering it on our Records, which we shall defer doing until We are favored with your Orders.

Letter from Ganjam

We also enclose Copy of a Letter from Mr Oakes in answer to it, which of course comes under the same Predicament.

We have the honor to be very respectfully

Honble Sir &c &c

Your most Obedient

humble Servants

R.t Maunsell

R.t Hughes

Js Oakes

Geo. Forster

Ganjam
15th Febry 1770

To Robert Maunsell Esqr

President &c Council of Ganjam

Gentlemen

The day before yesterday I was favored with your Letter of the 24th Instant enclosing one

From Capt Lysaght reflecting upon Mr Oakes's conduct

270 Fort St. George 4th March 1770

From the Honble Board, in consequence of which the Command of the Troops in the District has been delivered over to Captain Chesshyre.

As this is probably the last time which I shall ever have occasion to address your Board, I take the opportunity before one part to declare to you in the most solemn manner, that in the chastising of the Person called Corsegie, I did not mean any disrespect to you Gentlemen as a public Body neither did I at the time look upon him as a Renter of the Company's, nor do I believe at this moment that he is actually one although he may appear as such upon the Company's Records; for it is notorious throughout the whole District that the name of Corsegie has been borrowed by Mr. Hudleston for the Chegatty Country, & by Mr. Oakes for the Daracoote.

I confess to you Gentlemen that I look'd upon this same Corsegie as the private Servant of Mr. Oakes, & I further acknowledge that I punish'd him intentionally in that Gentleman's presence with a view that he should personally take notice of it, but according to the present aspect of things, he seems to have acted the more prudent part, however you may rest assured Gentlemen that this affair shall be revived at a more convenient opportunity, when I pledge myself to the world to make it appear that the whole has arisen from private Pique & resentment — I cannot conclude without observing, that it has all along appeared to me, that Mr Oakes has been at the bottom of every difference which has arisen between the Gentlemen of your Settlement & me, & that he has most carefully endeavored to widen the breach on

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every occasion — I am with respect

Gentlemen

Your most humble and

Obedient Servant

(signd) Arthur Lysaght

A true Copy T. Oakes Secry.

Ishd
20th Jany 1770

To Robert Maunsell Esqr
&c Council of
Ganjam

Gentlemen

From Mr Oakes in reply

The public attack which Captain Lysaght has made upon me in his last Letter could not be pass'd over in silence without a seeming acquiescence on my part in the justice of his imputations; this will I hope plead my excuse for introducing a Circumstance of a private nature in reply to what he has so improperly made the subject of a public address. — Permit me then to assure You that I considered his chastising of Cowajee merely as the execution of his former threats, without the most distant reference to a personal affront; for as Cowajee was not my Servant, & had been declared under the protection of the Chief & Council, I could only consider his treatment of him as an insult to Government; however the late avowal of his intention by that act of violence, afforded me an opportunity I eagerly embraced to convince Captain Lysaght of the injustice of his reflections on that prudence, which I evidently meant should be construed to the prejudice of my character

Fort St. George 4th March 1770.

In regard to his accusing me of having been at the bottom of the differences that have arisen between him & the Board, & endeavoring to widen the breach on every occasion, I positively deny the charge, & appeal to every Member of the Council if I have in any instance directly or indirectly interfered in those Disputes; on the contrary I have studiously avoided it, & earnestly wished a reconciliation might take place, but as the assurances of a Person deeply interested as I am, will seldom reach conviction, I shall forbear them for the present, & reserve the proof which I too pledge myself to lay before the Honble Board, whenever Captain Lysaght may think proper to revive the Affair, to their Honors & prejudice of his opinion.

I am with respect

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

(signed) Thomas Oakes

Ganjam
4th Febry 1770.

A true Copy

T. Oakes Secy

Agreed to inform the Gentlemen at Ganjam that all Letters addressed to them in their public character must appear on their Records, tho their contents be of ever so private nature, & that the Letters which they have transmitted to us ought undoubtedly to be entered.

Letter from Lieut. Colonel Harper at Vellore reads as follows

To

273 Fort St George 4th March 1770

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr

President & Governor & Council

of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Col: Harper capt Bruce applies for a warrant to try a Zemindar

Captain Bruce commanding at Amboor, having made application for a Sepoy General Court Martial to try a Zemindar, & may not being furnished with a warrant for that purpose, take the liberty to request the Honble Board, will be pleased to forward one, for Vellore & Dependencies.

I am with the greatest respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient

humble Servant

H. Harper

Vellore
Feby. 25: 1770.

Ordered that Colonel Harper be directed to inform us of the Offence committed by the Zemindar of Col: Harper to send in the Cause agt the Zemindar

Captain Bruces Battalion, after which if the Board think it necessary they will transmit a special warrant for trying him by a Court Martial.

Read the following Letter from

Mr William Gorrom

To Mr. Secretary Oakeley

Sir

From Mr. Wm Gorrom Gordon Surgeon applying to leave the Rabobs & return to his duty in the campaign's Service

I beg leave to acquaint you that on the 10th of April 1771, the Rabobs second Son Ammeer ul Umrah Bahauder, made application to Mr. DuPré then Governor, requesting he would be pleased to grant me

274 Fort St George 4th March 1770.

permission to attend him & Family the Honble according by con-
-veniency to.

Ever since I continued to pay his Excel-
-lency the utmost attention & never neglected an opportunity
of doing every Service in my power, notwithstanding I
dont find it convenient to continue longer in his Service,
from the uncertainty with which it is attended in every
respect.

I therefore will be obliged to you to
lay this before the Honble the President & Council, (referring
them to the Memorial relative to my Services & situation
addressed to the Honble Board in the month of March
1777), & represent to them that it is my intention to re-
sign his Excellency's Employ & return to my Duty in
the Honble Company's Service.

I am

Sir

Your most Obedient and
humble Servant
Will.m Gordon

Fort St George
22d Febry. 1770

agreed that Mr Gordons request
be complied with.

Read the following Letter from
Mr George Brudenell.

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
President & Governor &c Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

The Honble Board having

275 Fort St George 4th March 1776

Mr Brudenell applies for an Order to be received on board the Kingston

refused to readmit me into the Honble Company's Service; I have to request the favor, that you will be pleased to grant me an order for my Child, a Servant & myself to be received on board the Duke of Kingston East Indiaman, that I may forthwith proceed to England on my own private concerns.

I have the honor to be

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient and

most humble Servant

Geo: Brudenell

Fort St George
March 1st 1776

Agreed that Mr Brudenell be furnished with a permit to be received on board the Duke of Kingston but the Board can give him no order as the Ship is already so crowded with Passengers.

To be furnished wt a permit

Read the following Report from

the Import warehousekeeper

Account of the Length & breadth of 12 Pieces of the Honble Company's broad Cloth Ordinary Red taken by the Import ware house keeper, by order of the Honble the President & Council

Broad Cloth Ordinary Red imported in 1775

			Yards		Qrs	Inches
1 Bale	1 Piece Length		22 1/4	Breadth	1	16 1/2
	1 Do	Do	21 3/0	Do	1	22 1/2
	1 Do	Do	21 3/4	Do	1	16 1/2
1 Do	1 Do	Do	21 1/4	Do	1	26
	1 Do	Do	20 1/2	Do	1	21
	1 Do	Do	23	Do	1	20 1/2
			130 1/8		6	123 the average

Length

of which turns out 1 Pce 21 7/16 — Breadth 1 .. 20 1/2

The Impt Ware keeper reports the length and breadth of 12 pieces of Cloth.

276 Fort St. George 4th March 1770

Broad Cloth Ordinary Red imported in 1777

1 Bale { 1 Piece Length — 21¾ Breadth 1 . . 10
1 Do. Do. — 22½ Do 1 . 17
1 Do. Do. — 21¾ Do 1 . 16
1 Do. { 1 Do. Do. — 20¼ Do 1 . 16½
1 Do. Do. — 22¼ Do 1 . 14.

6 Pieces containing Yards 130½ Length — 6 . 100½ Breadth

of which turns out p. Piece 21¾ — 1 . 16¾

Fort St. George 23 Feby 1770

Gideon Firth

Impt. Warehouse Kr

Upon the foregoing Report it is ordered that 50 Bales of different assortments of Cloth of an equal Proportions of the Imports of 75. 76 & 77 be examined & Report made of the Length & Breadth of each Piece noting the particular measurement of each Piece as specified in the Invoices from Europe.

Agreed that 50 Bales of different assortments be examind

Read the following Letter from the Commandant of Angola

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr

President & Governor &c Council

Honble Sir & Sirs

I beg leave to acquaint You Hob that some days since I had intelligence that Monsieur Lally with his Corps had marched out of the Gentoor Country and was taken the road to Arcot; but not having heard it from the Commdor

From Capt Barclay Mons. Lally marches to Arcot

277 Fort St George 4th March 1770.

of Innaonda who corresponds with me & in whose Country
Monsieur Lally was I was doubtfull, but I have this night
had advice from a Brammy of Innaonda that he is certainly
returned to adonie he has Left in the Guntoor Circar Fifty black
Cavalry & two hundred Sepoys ~ I am with respect
Honble Sirs & Sirs
Your most Obedient and
very humble Servant
P Barclay

Ongole
23d Feby 1770.

General Munro Lays before the Board
the following Letters which he has received from the Com-
manding Officer at Tanjore.

Major General Munro
Commander in Chief

Sir

I have just received a Letter by
an Hircar from the Dutch Governor of Negapatam in-
forming me of some of their Sepoys having taken up a
Subidar & four of our Sepoys in one of the Villages in their
Bounds for having committed robberies & several outrages;
that after keeping them in arrest for some time he had sent
them to me & desires they may be punished &c.
To morrow I will send you a Copy of
this Letter, & of the answer I shall send to it; the accusations
so very different from the accounts I have received from every
impossible that I cannot help thinking this accusation
cannot be well grounded; I am sent Orders that the Su-
bidar & the Sepoys may be immediately ordered to Tanjore
where a strict enquiry shall be made; I have the Hono

From Lt Colonel Horne the Dutch seize a Subidar & four of our Sepoys

278 Fort St George 4th March 1778.

to be

Tor

Tanjore
20th Feby 1778

Your most Obedient
humble Servant
Matt: Horne

Major General Munro
Commander in Chief &c

Sir

From Lt Col:
Horne on the
above subject

Enclosed I send you the letter I received from the Governor of Negapatam, & a Copy of the answer I have sent him back; I am persuaded the accusation against the Behaviour of the Sepoys is much exagorated, if not entirely false, & therefore do not expect Mr Van Braspan will order any Person to appear against them; soon after receiving the Rajah's Letter, a Copy of which I enclosed to Mr Whitehill the Governor sent for the Subadar, both Serjeants of three of the Sepoys & then ordered them to be sent to the Grounds to Nagore; I have sent orders for their being immediately sent to Tanjore where I will make the strictest enquiry into what really has happened.

Enclosed I also send a Copy of a Letter I received Last night from Lt Pybus, on his march to Nagore; I have reason to believe the account is pretty true respecting the last Chinna Pullah the Rajah's present manager gave him of the People secreted in Negapatam, and I have heard that Mr Dommina the second & part of the Council do not approve of the conduct of the Governor respecting his present dispute with the Rajah. If on

279 Fort St. George 4th March 1770

judge this Letter from the Dutch Governor on Mr Petit's
intelligence of importance, I make no doubt you'll inform
the Governor &c. of it, I shall constantly send you any mat.
terial information I may receive.

I have the Honor to be with great

respect

Sir

Your most humble Servant

Matt.w Horne

Tanjore
4th Feby. 1770.

To the Commanding Officer
of the Honble English
Company's Forces at

Tanjore

Sir

For some days ago, were taken up
by our Sepoys in the Dutch Company's Village Nagakoire
of Captain John David's Battalion a black Officer by
name Zeeg Asmaiel Subidar & 8 Sepoys, Zeeg Asslam
Zeeg Awelikan, Moetoe Ayo, & Pringa Saya, who with
English uniform & arms committed their several outrages
& insolences as breaking ups of Houses, stealing of Paddy obli-
ging the woman that came to the market of that village
to carry the stolen Paddy to Nagore Keeping them at that
place in arrest, tearing their Clothes, as also those of
several Inhabitants of our Villages & taking them away
with more other misbehaviour to long to mention, I have
kept them in arrest, & considered what I should do with
them, but have taken the resolution to send the said black
Officer & Sepoys to you with request that you would punish

Fr... Gov.r Van ...
... guenards ...
... Subidar &c ...
... Sepoys to Tanjore ...
... with complaint ...
... gst them

200 Fort St. George 14th March 1770.

them according to their works, for it is not permitted to invade Foreign Powers Country & commit such outrages & violences, I beg also you would give orders to the Troops under your Command to let the Dutch Company's District & villages unmolested, for if I should take up any more of such Misbehaving People, I shall be obliged to punish them according to their works.

I remain with Esteem

Sir

Your most humble and

Obedient Servant.

V. Bleiswingam

Negapatam
17th Febry 1770

To the Honble Mr Van Bleiswingam
Governor of
Negapatam

Sir

From Lt Colonel Howe in reply, desiring the Dutch to find the Persons injured to appear agt the Sepoys

I have been honored with your Letter of the 17th Instant informing me that a Subidar & four Sepoys of Captain Davers's Battalion with Arms had entered a Village called Nooakoodie belonging to the Dutch Company, where they has committed several outrages, such as breaking Houses, stealing Paddy, & obliging Women to carry the stolen Paddy to Nagore, & also otherways using them ill. For which they were taken up, by some of your Sepoys, & after putting them in arrest, you had come to the resolution to send them to me & desiring they may be punished as their behaviour deserves.

I am much concerned to hear that any Sepoys in the English Service could have been guilty

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of such behaviour as you have mentioned, & more particularly one of them being an Officer, such a conduct in times of open war are never tolerated in our Service, even in an Enemies Country, I have therefore ordered the Subadar & Sepoys to Tanjore, where they shall be brought to a publick trial, for so very great a misecondut; I beg leave to request you will please to order such Persons as may have been any ways injured to proceed to Tanjore, & any Damage they can prove to have sustained they shall receive ample reparation for, as well as reward for their Journey, & on trial should the Subadar or any of the Sepoys be proved guilty they shall be punished in an exemplary manner.

Permit me to assure you Sir that the English Sepoys have the strictest Orders not to enter the Bounds belonging to the Dutch Company, nor to commit the smallest violence to any Person or Inhabitant of them, should any one disobey those Orders I shall always be ready to punish them whenever they have been proved guilty.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient
humble Servant
(signed) Matt.s Horne

Tanjore
25th Feby 1778

To Colonel Horne
Commanding

Tanjore

Sir

I arrived at this place this evening

282 Fort St George 4th March 1770

From Lt White with names of sundry Persons belonging to the Rajah secreted in Negapatam

about 5 o'clock, I had an interview with Chinna Pillay the Rajah's Head Renter for this Country, he communicated to me the following Circumstances.

That in general the People whoever put into office by Conniva pillay had absconded with him & taken refuge at Negapatam — The names & Stations of the Prople that have absconded, & most of them are now conceald with Conniva pillay, in a house which has nine squares, &c. belonging to Ramalingam, in Negapatam are as follows. Please to observe that this Ramalingam is the Dutch Company's Head Dubash.

Conniva pillay — the Rajahs Chief Minister
Petelinga pullay — Brother to Conniva pillay — no employ
Ramnada pillay — Conniva pillay's Son in Law
Commila pa pillay — Fletchery Printer
Shammi de pillay — Carver
Ellava pillay — Letter Printer
Topia Pillay — Receiver of Revenues
Raniah — Amildar of Manargoody
Sheiyyia — Carver at Manargoody
Narrain pillay — Receiver of Customs
Mootian Moodelier — Amildar of Conchyna
Mootoo Comara Moodelier — Amildar at Cararam
Tondarai Moodelier — Amildar at Yediram
Coindia pillay — Amildar at Vellumpettah
Ansaram Soubina — Kirkaroh is a kind of Quarter Master
Vorro pillay — Amildar at Tripassy
Villachelly — Packeyan at Tondapatnam
Vonieta pillay — Amildar at Topelouca
Yangava Chistnama — Head Comiapoly

283 Fort St. George 4th March 1770.

Chinnapullay the Renter says that these People are secreted with the knowledge of the Dutch Governor who, he says has received from them one Lack of Pagodas for their protection.

I do not understand that the Dutch have a great force at their Boundaries, or that they commit any disturbances in the Rajahs Country. Last night it is said three or four of their Sepoys came into the Rajahs Bounds & frightened a Man or two, but this may be accidental. Their force at Negapatam is said to be two Hundred Europeans, Six or seven hundred Sepoys, the Guns two in number outside, one very near the Gates of the Fort. The Subidar of Sepoys who were Prisoners are released.

To morrow morning I march to Nagore & the other Company to Chicoll, the Renter accompanies me, I hope my Letter to morrow will be more satisfactory.

I remain

Sir, with respect

Your obedient humble Servant

(signed) Edward White

Trivalore
8 o'Clock at night. 10th Feby 1770

Messrs Archibald McLeod
Lender & Curtis, appointed Cadets

Mad.

Thos. Rumbold
John Wattebled
Hector Munro

E Irving

204 Fort St George 6th March 1770

At a Consultation present

The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
Governor President

Friday March 6th
John Whitehill General Munro
Charles Smith Samuel Johnson
Peter Perring

Minutes of last Consultation read & approved.

Read the following Letter from Lieut. Colonel Ross Chief Engineer.

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
President & Governor for Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Gentlemen

From Lt Colonel Ross wt a present state of the Works

When I had the honor of addressing you last on the subject of the Fortifications of this Place, I had the satisfaction to inform you the works from the North Rauelin inclusive, to the North West, to the West ward, & to the South West as far as the Capital of the Nabob's Bastion were in a perfect good state of defence, & equal to withstand a formidable attack from an European Enemy. I have further the pleasure to inform you that in consequence of your subsequent Orders, the works to the Southward have been resumed, & that the ground to the North East is clearing away with all deligence, some of the Masonry in Hand for the Counter guard & works designed to secure that Angle, from which I have every reason to believe that two important parts will certainly be secured in the course of this Season

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& I shall be happy that the earliest opportunities be taken to complete the wall to the Sea, as the Defence of the East Line must chiefly depend thereon; & it cannot be prosecuted at all times, as it is subject to delay from unfavorable Seasons.

When the Parts now in hand are completed Fort St George will be an entire new place except the finished part of the North Front chiefly executed under Mr Call; wherefore the expence of the Fortifications properly take date from the Commencement of the new Works, making some allowance for the Works left standing on the North Front

I have hitherto expended on the Works executed a Sum to the amount of about twenty Lacks of Rupees nor should I even have led to that Expence for the new works had I not unexpectedly met with very bad ground for foundations, which considerably encreased the Revetments both in Depth of thickness, also from the necessity of building in the inundation to the North West; further the old Curtains which I wished to have kept up proved so defective & superficially built that they could not possibly be preserved, I have likewise been attentive to form spacious Bomb proofs & Magazines to all the out works, as well as to the Body of the Place within the interior linings, much exceeding what were originally designed but when the convenience of those to the Body of the Place that were first built was experienced I could in no propriety have forgone so considerable advantages in the other Works as they will be of such General use for exigencies of the Service hereafter as well as for the Lodgment & security of the Troops & Stores; & I have already had the pleasure of seeing them the means of removing very materially the annual charge

of Goosen Rent: there is also formed behind the Counterscarp a Gallery throughout with Shafts carried through the Covertway unter the Crest of the Glacis at convenient distances for Mines to branch from. By there means you will have a covered Communication from the Sea at the North East round the Fort to the Sea at the South East with two Apents therefrom into each of the Places of Arms through the Traverses.

A perfect new Glacis has been formed before all the new Works, & that which was before those Works left standing on the North Front raised & improved.

The old Palliasoes taken from the former works, I have collected all together for drive them to be fixed up in the Covertway to the Westward, the greatest part of which is already done. I beg leave to recommend the Barquets behind them to be formed agreable to the Master made for them —

In a Comparative view with all undertakings of the kind at the Company's other Presidencies, if when you take into your Consideration the greatness of the object, that the Company have in point of strength & convenience a Fortification capable of resisting any force that can possibly be opposed to it in this Country, & that will always rank with the first; unter these Considerations I hope the propriety of the undertaking & expence will appear in a manner that will give satisfaction to your Board & to my Honble Employers.

My former Reports will shew the State of the Works in all other respects, & what I think further necessary to compleat the Place in the most perfect

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manner which I leave in charge with Major Stevens whose Abilities & attention to the Duties of his Station are so well known to your Honor &c. & I hope you will do me the justice to believe that notwithstanding the urgency of my Affairs I should not have left the conducting of these Works to any one in whose Experience & Deligence I had not the most entire Confidence.

I am with respect

Honble Sir & Gentlemen

Your most Obedient and

most humble Servant

Patrick Ross

Lieut: Col: & Chief Engineer

Fort St George
6th March 1770

Having received from Colonel Ross the foregoing Report it becomes unnecessary to send him the Order mentioned in last Consultation — Ordered that Colonel Ross be informed of our Intention to represent the State of the Works to the Company & to make favorable mention of him in the General Letter by the Duke of Kingston

The State of the Works to be represented to the Company & favorable mention to be made of Col: Ross

Read the following Letter from

Mr John Bruce Cadet

To Major General Munro

Commander in Chief

Sir

I beg leave to request that you would be pleased to procure me permission from the President & Council to resign my appointment of Cadet & to return to Europe.

I.

Mr John Bruce Cadet applies to resign

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I am

Sir, with respect

Your most Obedient

Fort St. George

March 6th 1778.

humble Servant

John Bruce

Agreed that Mr Bruce be permitted

to resign

Read the following Letters from the

Nabob — Country Correspondence No 13. Briefly to the

Petition of the eight Polygars & complaining of Encroach

ments of the Company's Districts

The Board request that the President

will enquire further into the subject of the Polygars &

speak to the Nabob concerning them.

Letter from the Nabob on the subject of a Dam proposed by the French.

Country Correspondence No 14, on the subject of a Dam proposed to be made by the Governor of Pondicherry.

The Board approve of the answer proposed

The Board approve the answer

to be given by the Nabob to the Governor of Pondicherry

Country Correspondence No 15 desiring

From the Nabob requesting assistance to be called the Tinnevelly Tributes

that 6 Companies of Sepoys may be ordered to assist in collecting the Tributes from the Tinnevelly Polygars.

The Order abovementioned has been

already given.

Country Correspondence No 16. On

From the Nabob about arms purchased at Trangue bar

the subject of Arms purchased of the Danes at Trangueber.

The Board cannot avoid expressing

The Nabob to be at Madras he proposes buying them

their surprize that the Nabob should have delayed so long

communicating to them the subject of the aforegoing

Letter; Agreed therefore that he be advised of their Sentiments & ask, whether there be not also Field Artillery

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From the Nabob with Complaints from the Sheriff of Mecca.

& other Marble Stones, & where he proposes to have them Land-
Country Correspondence No 21. Commu-
nicating Complaints from the Sheriff of Mecca against the
Crews of English Ships for irregularities committed in the
Red Sea.

The Nabob to be informed that proper

Orders will be given to prevent any further cause of Complaint
Country Correspondence No 22 - Com-

From the Nabob complains of his Character being aspersed

-plaining of Aspersions cast on his character & Family by malicious
Persons as well here as in England.

The Subject of the abovementioned

Letter was communicated to the Honble Company in the
General Letter by the Houghton - It remains therefore only
to assure the Nabob that the Board will to their utmost
discourage & prevent any Reports which may tend to reflect
on his Character or Credit.

Country Correspondence No 18 - On the Subject

From the Nabob

of the Presidents accession to the Government
Country Correspondence No 19 accompany-
ing Pagodas 30,000.
Country Correspondence No 20 - Com-

Dittto 30,000 Pagd From the Nabob complains of Sepoys being sent to the Annacutta

-plaining that Sepoys had been sent from Tanjore to repair
the Annacutta by Force.

The Repairs of the Annacutta tending

as well to the advantage of the Nabob as to the benefit of the
Tanjore Country it would seem that his objections can arise
on the mode only of executing them. After the dispatch of
the Houghton the Board will endeavour to ascertain what
was formerly the established Custom - In the mean time the
Nabob to be advised of their intention & informed that the Sepoys

of whom he complains were not authorized to employ any kind of Force.

Country Correspondence No 37 Complaining

From the Nabob complains of the Company's not having restor'd Tanjore to him.

of the Company for not having restored to him the Country of Tanjore, & for writing a Letter to his Subjects the Rajah, which Letter he considers an infringement of his Rights & thinks ought not to be delivered without his consent.

This Board will ever be anxious for the Preservation of the Attachment between the Company & the Nabob; of which the latter has received too many instances to doubt the sincerity of their Regard; but with respect to the privilege of writing to different States, Persons or Persons they have always reserved it to themselves to act as they thought proper.

Country Correspondence No 39 accompanying Pagodas 1,000

Country Correspondence No 40 desiring to have a Copy of the Company's Letter to the Rajah of Tanjore.

Tis request refused

When the Board can with propriety they are always happy to comply with any request of the Nabob — but in the present Case they are doubtfull how far such Compliment might correspond with the intentions of the Company & must therefore beg to be excused.

Ordered that the Draft of a Letter to the Nabob be prepared, acknowledging the Receipt of the abovementioned Letters & communicating the sentiments of the Board thereon.

General Munro lays before the Board the following List of Officers with the Nabob.

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List of Officers in the Honble Company's Service at present with His Highness the Nabob

Names	Rank
Charles Rumley	Captain
Thomas Burrowes	Do
Dugald Campbell	Do
James Phillips	Lieutenant
George Mackay	Do
Edward Sourdan	Do
Alexander Read	Ensign
James Campbell	Do
William Hammond	Do
Philip Sullivan	Do

Genl Munro desires a list of officers employd by the Nabob.

W. A. M. Cosby
A.G.C.

The Secretary lays before the Board the following Certificates

By Colonel Ross Lang Commanding Officer of the Honble Company's Troops on the Coast of Coromandel

Whereas it is ordered by the Regulations for transacting the business of the Honble Company's Military Fund, for the relief of Officers & Soldiers, who by Wounds or otherwise are rendered incapable of further Service in India, & the Widows of Officers & Soldiers dying thereof in the Service, that they produce a Certificate from the

The Widow of Capt. Eagles recommended to the Military Fund.

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Commanding Officer, as one of the requisites to entitle them to the Provision made by the said Fund

I do Certify that Edw.d Eagles born in England, was a Captain of Infantry on this Establishment that having served the Honble Company upwards of eleven Years he died at Vellore, on the twenty fifth Day of April last & left a Widow Marianne Eagles who now resides at Cuddalore, & is hereby recommended to the Provision made by the said Military Fund.

Given under my Hand at Fort St George this 23 day of December 1777.

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

Ross Lang
Colonel

By Major General Hector Munro
Commander in Chief of the Honble Company's Troops on the Coast of Coromandel

The Widow of Capt Wm Douglas recommended for the bounty

Whereas it is ordered by the Regulations for transacting the Business of the Honble Company's Military Fund for the relief of Officers & Soldiers who by wounds or otherways are rendered incapable of further Service in India & the Widows of Officers & Soldiers dying in the Service that they procure a Certificate thereof from the Commanding Officer as one of the Regimentes to entitle them to the Provision made by the said Fund.

I do Certify that Willm Douglas

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born in Kinglassie in the County of Fife North Brittain
was a Captain of Infantry on this Establishment that
having served the Honble Company upwards of seven Years
he died at Chinglepat on the thirteenth day of August last
& left a Widow Miriam Douglas who now resides at Madras
& is hereby recommended to the Provision made by the said
Military Fund.

Given under my Hand at
Fort St George this 20th day of Feby 1770

Hector Munro

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

Ordered, the Oath prescribed by the Regu-
lations for the Military Fund be administered to Mrs Eagles
& Mrs Douglas when they will be admitted to share
in the Fund & receive Certificates accordingly.

Mrs Eagles &
Mrs Douglas
to take the ne-
cessary Oaths

Rd Rumbold
John Whitehill
Hector Munro

B Berry

Fort St. George 12th March 1770.

At a Consultation present

The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr.
Governor President

Thursday the 12th March

John Whitehill — General Munro
Charles Smith — Samuel Johnson
Peter Perring

Read a Letter from Brigadier General Stuart dated the 6th Instant containing sundry observations upon our Proceedings regarding him, describing the particular Circumstances of his situation & requesting that the Board will not insist upon his going home at this time, but permit him to remain here until the ultimate Orders of the Court of Directions concerning him may arrive.

Letter from Genl Stuart observations on the Board's Proceedings regarding him, requesting to stay here 'till the Company's further Orders

Although the Orders of the Company relative to General Stuart's going home, are positive, yet from the Doubts that have arisen concerning his cast, the great anxiety he has expressed to have a regular & publick Trial of his conduct, & the probability that such trial might be forever debar'd were he to quit India at this time, We are of Opinion that Brigadier General Stuart may be permitted to remain here, agreably to his request, & it is resolved to signify the same to him accordingly.

Permitted to remain in India

Agreed that a Copy of General Stuart's Letter of the 6th Instant be transmitted a Number in the Packet by the Duke of Kingston now under Dispatch.

Draught of a General Letter

295 Fort St. George 12th March 1770.

to go from this Department to the Honble Court of
Directors by the Duke of Hungerton is now read and
approved and ordered to be copied fair.

Read the following Letter from
Brigadier General Stuart.

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
President & Governor & ca Council
of
Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I take occasion to request your
From Genl Stuart desiring copy of such parts of the Genl Letter as concern him
Honor &c. to be pleased to grant me a Copy of such parts
as concern me, of the General Letter or other dispatch
to the Honble the Court of Directors by the ship
Hungerton, & therefore the Packet
I have the h[illegible]e

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your m[illegible]edient and
most humble Servant
James Stuart

Fort St. George
12th March 1770

Agreed that General Stuart be
furnish'd with a Copy of such Paragraphs of the Letter
to the Company as relate to him.

The Board taking into Consideration the Letter from General Munro entered in Consultation the 16th Ultimo relative to the Cadets which came out in the Borborough and Lord North for Bombay
The Cadets who came out in the Borough & Lord North for Bengal & Bombay allowed 20 Pagodas

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and Bengal, — Agreed that they be allowed 20 Pagodas
each, & that the same be issued by the Military Pay-
master

Tho: Rumbold

John Whitehill

Alex Munro

297 Fort St. George 14th March 1770.

At a Consultation present

The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
Governor President
John Whitehill General Munro
Charles Smith Samuel Johnson
Peter Perring

Saturday 16th March

Minutes of last Consultation read & approved

Read Letter from General Munro in reply to the Letter read last Consultation from General Stuart certain parts of which controvert General Munro's Opinions with respect to the propriety of holding a Court of Enquiry & Court Martial on General Stuart.

Ordered that a Copy of the abovementioned Letter be transmitted a Number on the Packet by the Duke of Abingdon.

General Letter of this Date to the Honble the Court of Directors read & signed

Ordered that the Packet be closed.

John Whitehill

Hector Munro

296 Fort St. George 15th March 1770.

and Bengal, — Agreed that they be allowed 20 Pagodas
each, & that the same be issued by the Military Pay-
master

Thos. Rumbold

John Whitehill

Alex. Munro

297 Fort St. George 14th March 1770.

At a Consultation present

The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
Governor President

John Whitehill — General Munro
Charles Smith — Samuel Johnson
Peter Perring

Saturday 14th March

Minutes of last Consultation read & approved

Read Letter from General Munro in reply to the Letter read last Consultation from General Stuart certain parts of which controvert General Munro's Opinions with respect to the propriety of holding a Court of Enquiry & Court Martial on General Stuart.

Ordered that a Copy of the abovementioned Letter be transmitted a Number in the Packet by the Duke of Kingston.

General Letter of this Date to the Honble the Court of Directors read & signed

Ordered that the Packet be closed.

John Whitehill

Hector Munro

298 Fort St. George 14 March 1778

Wrote the following Letter to Brigadier General Stuart

To Brigadier General Stuart

Sir

We have received your Letter of the 6th Instant, also one dated This Day

To Brigadr in Genl Stuart acquainting him he is permitted to stay in India & to be furnished with copy of such parts of the general letter as concern him

Having taken into consideration the request you make to be permitted to remain here until the ultimate Orders of the Company concerning you may arrive, We think it our Duty to observe, that the letter received from the Court of Directors by the Bridgewater is very express & positive relative to your going home by the first convey-ance; nevertheless as the circumstances attending your situa-tion are so very peculiar, & as your quitting India at this time might debar you the opportunity you so anxiously wish, of vindicating your conduct & character by public Trial, We have taken it upon Us to grant your permission to remain here agreably to your request.

We have likewise upon your ap-plication, ordered a Copy to be sent you by the Secretary of such Parts of the General Letter for England by the Duke of Kingston as relate to the Company's last Orders concerning you.

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

Thomas Rumbold &c.

Fort St. George
12th March 1778

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At a Consultation Present

The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
Governor President
John Whitehill — General Munro
Charles Smith — Samuel Johnson
Peter Perring

Monday the 16th

The following Letter received from Brigadier General Stuart before the Dispatch of the Duke of Grafton is now entered, also one from General Munro

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
President & Governor & Council
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I had the honor of receiving your Letter under date the 27th of last Month, together with a Copy of the resolution of the 24th last month signd by Mr Secretary Oakes & I have since been favored with Extract from Minutes of Consultation of the 16th 23d & 24th of last Month signd by Mr Baine Deputy Secretary; also a Copy of the Paper of Agreement signed by me at the India House.

In the Letter you did me the honor of admitting to me you are pleased to express your sense of Ability on considering the public situation in which I am placed from the nature of the Company's Orders; — Your Honor & you are pleased further to say, that you desire to execute, if possible what seems to be the Company's

[illegible] on Genl Stuart, Observations on the Board's proceedings towards him frequesting to be permitted to return in the India, until the Company's further Orders

intention of my own mind, bid you to give the subject the utmost attention, intending to appoint a Court Martial for my Trial provided it could be done with the least propriety or consistency.

Your Honor &c., then think proper to ask, that on reviewing the acts in which I was concerned & the particular Circumstances attending them, you are clearly & decidedly of Opinion, that the part I took in the Arrest & Imprisonment of the late Lord Pigot, cannot now be tried by Martial Law: & you are pleased to communicate to me the Copy of your resolution on the Subject.

Your Honor & Sn also acquaint me that you have thought proper to continue my suspension from the Company's Service in consequence of their Orders; & observe that it is the pleasure of the Court of Directors that I proceed to England by the first proper conveyance.

I collect more particularly, from a Copy of the resolution abovementioned, that after you had fully deliberated & considered my Case, you are unanimously of Opinion

1st That the Co[illegible] Enquiry, as ordered by the Company is impossible, &

2d That a Court martial cannot now be held on me for the part I took in the arrest & imprisonment of the late Lord Pigot.

Your Honor & Sn, in reasoning, say that it evidently appears from General Munro's Opinion, "that from the nature & tendency of a Court of Enquiry they cannot prepare a charge, but are only to hear evidence upon a given charge; & that, as to the facts touching my conduct

Fort St. George 16th March 1770.

in the arrest & imprisonment of the late Lord Pigot, they are already ascertained on the Records, & are now again acknowledged by myself so as to render a Court of Enquiry totally unnecessary.

Your Honor &c. give as reasons, why you do not think proper to hold a Court Martial for my Trial, the strong doubts you entertain, upon certain points relating to the Constitutional Government of the Company which (in your Opinion) are so connected with the points alluded to, that unless they are decided by high & unquestionable Legal authority, you cannot determine, whether these facts be at all cognizable by Martial Law.

Your Honor &c. are then pleased to say, how much you feel for me in the present circumstances & to relate in what manner I expressed my anxiety for an opportunity to vindicate my conduct before a Legal Tribunal by my producing several arguments to shew my right to trial by Martial Law, & particularly, by pointing out the different Articles of War by which I might be tried.

Your Honor &c. observe that I say, first that my Conduct in arresting the Person of the late Lord Pigot, comes under (my words were "may be tried by") the 2d Article of the 15th Section; - & again, that, in my Letter of the 24th Inst, that I may be brought to trial for Muting. - & you observe the meaning of these two Articles of War - Then follows the decision of the Honble Board "That upon the whole the reasons urged by me have not the least tendency to remove the doubts you have expressed, & until they are removed you are clearly of Opinion & accordingly resolve that no proceeding by Martial Law can be had

Fort St George 16th March 1770.

against me which would in any degree answer the purpose of a trial, if that, fixed as your Honor & are in this resolution you are left to follow the line pointed out by the Court of Directors in the 53d Paragraph of Letter for Bombay 8 conclude by resolving that my suspension from the Service be continued, & that I be directed to proceed to England by the first proper conveyance."

I now proceed, with your indulgence to make some observations upon the preceding Letter & resolution I shall take notice of the other Extracts from the Minutes on a seperate Paper, which it is necessary as a Military Man to support my Opinion already given.

In this stage, I beg leave to observe to your Honor & Co. what I already took occasion to say to the President, that, as the redress I anxiously Looks for is, now only to be had from home, I will not suffer myself to entertain a doubt of your existing, nor to be ashamed to do myself justice by every fair argument in support of my Opinions & principles already known to your Honor & Co. & in so doing I declare it is only meant in self defence, & in no shape arises from personal resentment, or from want of attention or respect to the Honble Board as a body, or to any individual Member of it, with whom as I have hitherto been, so I shall continue to make it my study to be on the best terms.

Allow me, then, in the first place Gentlemen to return you my thanks for your friendly sensibility in union with my private feelings so handsomely expressed in your reflection of the 24th & repeated in your letter of the 27th February.

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My mind was, in truth, greatly agitated at that time, if it pains one to say, that it is no less so at this hour. The former anxiety arose from the apprehensions, lest any argument in favor of my trial by martial Law should perchance pass unnoticed while the business was under your consideration; & this obliged me to come forward with an avowal of the most marked acts where I was concerned in the Arrest & imprisonment of the Late Lord Pigot, but not, that I gloried or took pride in them; for although I still hope to convince my Superiors that the part I took was in every circumstance consistent with my Duty, yet, judging now from consequences, I confess it has been to the last degree unfortunate for me to have been called forward to do such Duty on the occasion. I say, this Gentlemen, in order that the records may bear faith of my true sentiments to the Court of Directors, & that they may know the true reasons why I stated these circumstances in my late Letters to your Honors &c.

My present distress arises from the general consideration of the arguments & reasoning contained in your Letter & resolution, & the offending decision which conclues that reasoning.

I therefore, beg your indulgence & patience to suffer me to explain myself on the occasion.

With due regard for General Monro's Opinion, as stated in the resolution of 28th February, I still maintain my own opinion of the nature & tendency of a Court of Enquiry as described in my letter of the 16th Ultimo; & I further maintain, that, under the 52 Paragraph a Court of Enquiry might regularly have sat; that the charge would have come

either from my own confession, or from the Records of the Company, or from the Company's declaration in Para. 53 expressing the reason why I had fallen under their displeasure; or the Board in conformity to the clear orders of the Company in Para 52 might have given instructions &c. recting the order & extent of the Court of Enquiry's Proceedings; in all which cases I conceive that a Court of Enquiry might have been summoned in the express words of that Para in order to examine into my Conduct & that of the other Officers during the late troubles." — I further say, that after this Court had met, the facts could have been ascertained, & the charges in consequence prepared in a regular Military mode of proceeding.

If I understand it right, General Monro observes "that there is no need for any Court of Enquiry, because "the facts touching my conduct in the arrest & imprisonment of "the late Lord Pigot are already ascertained on the records, & "are now again acknowledged by myself." — You are in possession already of what I acknowledge; but I did not say that these were all the facts to be ascertained — this was left to the judgment of the Court of Enquiry.

With submission, therefore, may I not ask, whether this mode of reasoning & presupposing what the Court of Enquiry would have done, does not in effect supercede the Company's positive orders Para 53, as well as predetermine the conduct of the Court of Enquiry directed to be held, by which court several other facts & circumstances might & certainly would have been ascertained.

But I beg leave to acquaint General Monro, who from Profession, doubtless knows the delicacy of

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an Officers character; & I make the same declaration to
the Hon'ble Board, as a body, to whose sensibility, I appeal on the oc-
casion, that one principal reason why I took the liberty of
pointing out more than one Article of War, whereby I
might be tried, was, that the means might be given me,
on fair ground, as a Military Man, to state precisely all that
passed on the 23d & 24th August 1776, previous & subsequent to
the actual arrest, in so far as I was concerned together with
the particular reasons which induced me to adopt the plan
I followed; & this I certainly could, & would have done without
agitating any Political question of State.

General Monro doubtless knew before
he left England, & I believe every Member of your Hon'ble
Board must have heard or read, in what opprobrious terms
my Conduct has been arraigned, & what scandalous assertions
& reports have been propagated directly affecting my charac-
ter which I ever think it my duty to vindicate, in the first
instance of public Trial.

My case & situation therefore, is the
most singular & the most distressing, because independant
of the Company's Orders which in your own Opinion seem to
favor my having a trial, I can say with great precision,
that in the course of almost thirty one Years Service, with com-
mon observation as an Officer, it has been an invariable
Military maxim, never to refuse the means, whether prepa-
ratory to trial, or by trial, to any Officer of any rank
upon his asking for it, & representing that it was in order
to vindicate his character or Conduct in a Military point of
view in whatever way injured or aspersed, whether by posi-
tive assertions in print, or by general report, or even by declaration

of Superiors of the highest rank.

Therefore with due respect I conf
my disappointment was the greater upon knowing Gener
Munro's opinion & comparing it with the reasons assigne
an opinion which I find unfortunately operates to defeat des
Orders conveyed in Para 52 of Letter from Bgbore.

Because, I make bold to affirm th
it is Military practice to throw open every avenue for trial
for even in Cases of doubt arising perhaps on Grammatical
Criticism, or the arrangement of words, or from opposition
of Collateral questions being brought forward, to go a little
out of the way in order to remove every seeming difficulty
of that nature in order to get at substantial justice by the
only means or mode whereby an Officer representing that
he is injured in his Character or in his situation, can regu-
larly vindicate his Conduct.

I now beg leave, with your indul-
gence, to present to your Honor &c. what I humbly conceive
to be a probable construction which the Para. 52 and 53
in connection will admit of.

The Court of Directors order [para 53]
that a Court of Enquiry be immediately held to examine
into my Conduct during the late troubles, & that I be tried
by a Court Martial, as soon as a Court of Enquiry shall have
ascertained the facts & prepared the Charges upon which the
trial is to be founded.

However [para 53d] as they are not cer-
tain, whether from the nature of my offence, it comes with-
in any of the Articles of War, or that I can be tried by a
Court Martial. In that Case [which as I conceive means if

Fort St. George 16th March 1770

the Court of Enquiry shall not find the facts ascertained to come under the description of Law of the Articles of War / they then Direct. yrs as in that Paragraph.

This Gentlemen, I offer as my reading of the Company's Orders, - it seems natural, indeed on any other way, these two Paragraphs are contradictory to each other & inexplicable; a position, which from respect to the Honble the Court of Directors, I cannot suppose applicable on the occasion.

I ask with deference, then, to whom they leave the power of explaining their own doubts or uncertainties. Is it to your Honor &c as a Civil, or, Brit to General Monro as a Military Man. It does not appear in that light from any communication I have been hitherto favored with.

And, as the Court of Directors did not apply to other authority for solving their doubts, which surely was in their power in England, I think myself, therefore, from very probable construction, bound in the opinion that the meaning of the Court of Directors was to leave the question, "Whether my Conduct in the arrest & confinement "of Lord Pigot came under any of the Articles of War." to be decided by the Court of Enquiry, which Court they knew would be composed of Officers of rank in the Company's Service, who from the words of Paragr 52d had an extensive latitude to enquire into & ascertain all facts connected with my Conduct on the occasion.

With becoming respect to your Honor &c I confess I am at a loss to understand what points, affecting the constitutional Government of the Company, could have been decided upon in consequence of my trial by Martial Law

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I, with your indulgence, Said, that even on the Supposition or admitting that your Questions of that nature might, perchance, have been agitated in the Cause of my trial, yet I flattered myself with the expectation, that no doubt however strong on the part of your Honble Board, would have induced you to decline giving me the only immediate means of defending myself. I for this plain reason. that whatever thirteen, or any number of Military Officers might say, or think of Civil Law or Constitutional Questions, it could not in any degree be decisive upon Mr Thom, or affect the constitution of the Company's Government, because, that their proceedings in that case, must have been laid before your Honor & Co for conformation. The tendency of the Court Martial Proceedings would have been to shew, whether in my Conduct on the Arrest & Confinement of the late Lord Pigot, I acted properly as an Officer according to the rules & discipline of War, to this point only, is their Opinion legally valid.

But, in truth Gentlemen, I know of no points relating to the Constitutional Government of the Company, which at this time remain undecided, & that too, by the highest & most unexceptionable Legal authority, if repeated acts of Parliament, uniform Custom & practice & a series of particular Orders & instructions from the Company, to the latest period, deserve that description; the nature of this address will not admit of entering on particulars or of saying more than this; & even what I have said is foreign to the purpose which is only;

Whether, as a Military Subordinate

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Officer receiving any Orders & instructions, in the manner &
under the Circumstances which I would have brought in proof,
& which ought not to be prejudged before Trial, I executed those
Orders according to the rules, practice & Discipline of the
Army? Or whether my Conduct, or the acts in which I was con-
cerned, were contrary to such rules?

I say, that the decision upon this Deci-
sion, in my humble Opinion, would have come legally and
naturally from a Court Martial after considering the evidence
of Facts & Circumstances, comparing with the Articles of War
& with every clear positive Order of the Company applicable
to Military Officers whether inserted in the Body of the Com-
mission of Government, or the Military Commission of the
Governor, or in any agreement made in England, or in the
Body of the Officers Commissions; & it ought to be supposed
that every officer, of Rank entitled to sit upon any General
Court Martial for my trial, is a competent Judge of the true mean-
ing of all that is there plainly laid down concerning themselves.

Your honor & co Fully do one Justice to
I acknowledge the obligation, in your manner of stating my
anxiety for trial, I have already observed why I thought
myself called on to avow the most striking parts of my Con-
duct, in the arrest of the late Lord Pigot even before trial.

But I confess to your honor & co that I
feel great disappointment in observing your Opinion (after
mature Deliberation) "that what I so earnestly press upon You
cannot be allowed me with the least colour of propriety or
consistency, & that upon the whole the reasons urged by me
have not the least tendency to remove your Doubts, & that
until they are removed, you are clearly of Opinion, I resolve

accordingly, that no proceeding by Martial Law can be had against me which would in any degree answer the purpose of a trial."

I am at a loss to know what is meant by these last words "purpose of a trial" surely, your Honor &c no less than the Court of Directors, could not but wish that I should have every chance for my acquittal, for, although I have felt the effect of their marked disapprobation of my Conduct in Para 53, yet, with all respect, I will not allow that Censure it, even from the highest quarter, before the whole of my Case has been stated & investigated.

I conclude this part by offering my humble opinion that a trial by Martial Law would in my case have served every proper purpose of bringing forward evidence of facts & legal determination upon them, by which I would have had the means of defending my honorable Character & public Conduct as a Military Man, without really pointing or determining upon any Questions of State, affecting the Constitutional Government of the Company; more especially as it would have depended upon your Honor &c to have given your directions before any such sentence, opinion, resolution or Decision could have been published or carried into execution. I here take occasion to affirm, that many essential or necessary proof or evidence, both of my actions & words, in my favor of view applicable to my conduct in the arrest or confinement of the late Lord Rigot, are actually now within this Settlement.

I have read & considered the concluding part of your Letter of the 27th of the 9mber & Consultation of the 24th of last month, resolving "that my suspension be continued, & that I be directed to [illegible]

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proper Conveyance. I observe that your Honor & Mr Sumner this resolution upon the Line pointed out by the Court of Dirrector para. 53 Letter to Bombay.

My heart Gentlemen is too full, &c.

avoid, in such a degree, at the risca or the chance of Leaving the scene in Life, alone, I can be tried by Martial Law, Somewhere, regularly, I am to meet, in the first instance, every Suit or prosecution, Civil or Criminal, that the Laws of my Country or orders of the Company can warrant, I pray, Gentlemen, I am effected by the last words of your Letter to that degree, that I want expression to convey it to you.

An Officer of my rank, for my Situation whether respecting his Majesty's or the Company's Service, is superceded in the highest Command, to which Command he had regularly succeeded in consequence of agreement with the Company before leaving England; he is suspended for six Months, by an order of the Company, without Charge or Crime alleged; — he submits to this; — further Orders arrive by which he thinks there is an opening given him to justify himself for certain Acts which the Company, then, for the first time, clearly may have met with their disapprobation; — he urges repeatedly to the only proper authority his most earnest request to be permitted to be tried; — he states his reasons & requests to be permitted to be tried; — he states his reasons & right to trial, & even presents the Charges which may be brought against him before the Court of Enquiry to be held in consequence of one clear para. of the Company's Orders it avails nothing, difficulties are started upon the construction of the Company's Words in another paragraph, if doubts occur upon a supposed necessity of agitating state Questions in the Course of his trial; if yet, without any forced constr

construction of that second Paragraph, his Superiors intended to give him, in common with every Officer, the means of vindicating his Character & Conduct upon enquiry & trial. — he wishes that his case may be laid before Counsel in order to remove doubts — all to no purpose, both enquiry & trial are barred, his suspension or in other words, public affront is continued the six Months, then elapsed, to a time indefinite, & in this suspended state he is ordered to proceed to England where it is impossible for him to have the benefit of trial as a Military Man, or to be considered in that Capacity in the Company's Service.

I appeal to yourselves, Gentlemen, if there is any Circumstances aggravated in the above picture of my present Situation?

Allow me now, Gentlemen, to suppose (for arguments sake) the possibility that your Honor & co may have mistaken the meaning of the Company conveyed in Para. 52 and 53 & that my Construction is the right one. Would it not affect you, in every sense, if it turned out, that your Honor &c were parties in forcing me to elude that Justice which the Company may have intended in my Case.

I cannot too often repeat, that, if I am to be tried by a Court Martial it is here, only, it can take place, & it is here, that every other sort of prosecution either on the part of Individuals, or on that of the Company, regularly commence.

Here, therefore I desire to remain, in full Confidence that you will reconsider at least this last part of Para. 53, & that you will be pleased also to peruse the paper of Agreement signed by me at the India-House.

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I believe your Honor &c will there find towards the close, that the agreement repeats only what is in the body of every Military Commission viz.t that it is in the power of the Court of Directors, & I believe, in the power of the Board, to dismiss any Officer from the Service without a Court Martial.

I allow it Gentlemen, but am I dismissed the Service by any order? & if I were to be in that predicament does not the Law allow to the meanest Subject a certain time afterwards to remain in the Country.

In truth Gentlemen, I would consider my being in England, in a state of Suspension, as worse than dismission, were there no remedy, but, in every sense, it is virtual dismission, because, in ceasing to receive the Company's pay, & to be totally under their Military Law, I cease to be, in any sense of the Word, in their Service.

The Court of Directors are made acquainted aboard upon what terms, in my own mind, I can in honor, or with any Consistency of Character, continue in the Company's Service, & I wish to wait their further pleasure

Mean while I can, in great sincerity, assure your Honor &c, that at this time, all my ambition & all my views are directed solely to the vindicating of my Publick Conduct & my private Character from whatever quarter attacks.

And although it is my most ardent wish to be enabled to serve the Honble Company without degrading myself, or being degraded, which I add, from the nature of my present Case & situation, that if from this period I receive the Company's Money, it is in order that I

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may legally become the more amenable to their future Orders
to their martial Law, & to every prosecution & trial in Conse-
quence of their Latest Orders received either by Mr Whitehill
or by the Bearers.

There quest therefore, which I now
make to your Honor &c., & I do it without agitating the mat-
ter as a question of right, is that I may be permitted to re-
main in this Country untill the ultimate Orders from the
Court of Directors, concerning me, are made known, after
they have had the means of Considering the Latter Dispatch-
es from this Presidency, the State & evidence of my Case
which I propose to send to them, & the whole of my Conduct
whether, as the second in Command or as the Commander in
Chief of the Army upon this Establishment, or as a Mem-
ber of Government.

I have the honor to be

Horible Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient and
very humble Servant
James Stuart

Fort St. George
6th March 1778

P.S. I beg your Honor &c.a will consider the following
Appendix as connected with the preceding Letter, & that
you will be pleased to forward it to England by the Ships
now under Dispatch. J.S.

Appendix

In reference to the Extracts from Minutes of Consultation
of the 16th 23d & 24th February 1778.

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Extract of the Honble Company's Letter dated 4th July 1777

Extract of the Honble Company's Letter.

Par. 52 "Although by our Orders of the 11th Ulto we have "suspended Colonel James Stuart for six Months from the time of the "arrival of those Orders in India, it is nevertheless our pleasure "that you immediately order a Court of Enquiry to examine into "the Conduct of Colonel James Stuart, Lt. Colonel Easington, Major "Matthew Horne & Captain Arthur Lysaght during the late troubles, "& that they be each of them tried by a Court Martial as soon as the "Court of Enquiry shall have ascertained the facts & prepared the "Charges upon which such trials are to be Founded"

Par. 53 "But notwithstanding our before going "Orders for appointing a Court of Enquiry into the Conduct of Colonel "Stuart preparatory to his trial by a Court Martial, yet from "the nature of his offence we are not certain whether it comes "under any of the Articles of War, or that he can be tried by "Martial Law. In that case we direct in order to shew our dis- "approbation of his Conduct in arresting & imprisoning the person "of our President & Governor his suspension from our Service "be continued, & that he be ordered to return to England by the "first proper conveyance."

Extract of Minutes of Consultation 16th February 1778.

"Read Letter from Brigadier General Stuart dated the 16th "February 1778."

"The Board having taken into Considera- "tion the foregoing Letter from General Stuart, & having atten- "tively perused the paragraphs of the Company's Letter concerning "him, & particularly the 53d Para.; wherein the Court of Directors "have expressed a doubt, whether from the nature of General Stuart's

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"Offence be construed by Martial Law, they think the
"matter of such consequence that it is necessary they should pro-
"ceed with great Caution & first that they should avail them-
"selves of the Opinion of General Munro as the Commander
"in Chief, whose knowledge of the Subject must on this Occa-
"sion be of great use to the Board in forming their Judgment -
"General Munro is therefore requested to take this matter into
"his Consideration & to favor the Board with his Opinion in
"writing as to the mode of proceeding pointed out by the
"Company's Orders respecting General Stuart.

Extract of Minutes of Consultation 23d Feby 1778.

"Read Letter from Brigadier General Stuart dated
"19th Feby 1778.

General Munro delivers in the following
"Opinion in Consequence of the desire of the Board at Cash Con-
"sultation."

"It is my opinion that it is not the duty of
"a Court of Enquiry to prepare a charge against an Officer from
"such Circumstances as may appear before them; the intention
"of ordering such a Court is to make a previous Enquiry into the
"Conduct of some Officer who is supposed to have been guilty
"of a breach of some article of War & they are therefore to hear
"& examine every evidence that may appear, so that from their
"general examination a proper Judgment may be form'd
"how far the Case may or may not require the consideration
"of a General Court Martial"

(signed) Hector Munro

B. G. Stuart

I request the indulgence of the Board
if in order to bring the Argument into one point of view in

what follows, I am forced to a repetition of some parts of my preceding letters to them.

It is my Opinion that a Court of Enquiry is from its nature intended to state facts with certainty & precision without entering into any discussion of their tendency or prejudging in any respect as to the legal authority; but only representing the matter for the information of the Honble Board in order to establish the propriety of summoning a General Court Martial.

With submission I confess myself at a loss to comprehend, how a Court of Enquiry can make any previous Enquiry into the Conduct of an Officer supposed to have been guilty of a breach of some Article of war, or that they can hear & examine every evidence that may appear, & from their general Examination form a proper judgment how far the case may or may not require the consideration of a General Court Martial, unless they will consider such circumstances which would have appeared before them had they been permitted to sit, & as facts, & Circumstances are, according to my idea, Evidence & as Evidence may be collected from them, as well as from the oral testimony or declaration of any individual; therefore the Court of Enquiry, could in duty & in propriety, have weighed evidence of all sort that would have appeared, & comparing the whole with the Articles of War, they would have been able to give an opinion, whether any, & what part of my Conduct as an Officer was cognizable by Martial Law, as also of the particular Articles of war under which my Conduct might be tried, or whether it may or may not require the Consideration of a General Court Martial.

I shall conclude what I have to

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say on the nature & tendency of a Court of Enquiry by ad-
ding, that it is not an institution which has the sanction
of any Law or Article of War, & therefore, has no power
to administer Oaths, & no Oath is administered to any Mem-
ber of such a Court; it is held chiefly in Cases of Moment
according to Military usage & practice, but is somewhat
in its purport & agreable to sound Policy, in order that the
Superior Power with whom rests to summon General
Courts Martial may, in the most impartial & unprejudiced
manner, be informed, with precision of facts, & circum-
stances, so that thirteen or more Officers, may not with-
out necessity be called away from their Stations or the
public Service.

If it is an institution of this nature,
I think I am justified in saying that it also remains with
Superiors to give in general words the manner the Court
of Directors have done [Para. 52] and in Case of doubt
from any particular words [Para. 53] your Honor &c.
might have given your particular directions fixing
the mode of the Court of Enquiry's proceedings in order to
get at all the truth & evidence of facts; which instructions
it would have been their Duty, as I conceive to have
obey'd; & I, with deference, think that after this Court of
Enquiry has heard & examined all the Evidence, it would
have been regular & consistent at Each with Military
Form of Justice, & with the words & spirit of the Com-
pany's Orders to have left it with the Court of Enquiry
to report to the Honble Board any or what fact or
circumstance came within the description of any article
of War, & consequently whether I could or could not be tried

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by Martial Law.

Extract of Minutes of Consultation 23d Febry. 1778.

Extract of Min. of Cons.

"The Court of Directors having in
the 32d Para. of their Letter p. Bombay directed us to order a
Court of Enquiry into the Late conduct of Brigadier General
Stuart, & doubting again in the 53d Para. whether or not an
Court of Enquiry could sit upon so extraordinary a Case; The
President judged it proper in this delicate situation to Re-
commend to the Board to ask as a Military Man, the opinion
of General Munro, but as the Generals opinion tends merely
to shew the nature of a Court of Enquiry, in which the Pre-
sident entirely agrees with the General / Yet, the President
"thinks it again right to ask the General Whether or not such
"an Enquiry as directed by the Company, can from the nature
"& tendency of a Court of Enquiry, be ordered upon Brigadier
"General Stuart."

2d — "Whether or not a charge against a Mili-
"tary Man must not be grounded upon the infringement of
"Military Law."

"Whether or not Brigadier General
"Stuart arresting the Person of George Lord Pigot then Presi-
"dent & Governor of Fort St. George by a special Order from
"George Stratton Esqr. Sir Robert Fletcher, Henry Brooke,
"Charles Floyer, Archoule Palmer, Francis Fourdan and
"George Mackay, part of the Council of Fort St. George is
"an offence which comes under any one Article in the Articles
"of War intitled rules & articles for the better Government &c."

"The General requesting he may have
"time to consider the above Question, & to deliver his answer in

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"writing, it is agreed that the further consideration of the
"business be deferr'd till to morrow."

Extract of Minutes of Consultation 24th February 1770

"General Munro delivers in his answers to
"the preceding Questions"

"Ans.r 1. It is my opinion &c. /see Min.te of Consultation 24th Feb.y/

"Ans.r 2d It is my opinion &c. /see Min.te of Consultation 24th Feb.y/

"Ans.r 3d It is my Opinion, that Brigadier General Stuart having
"arrested the Person of George Lord Pigot out of the Garrison of
"Garrison of Fort St. George is not an Offence that comes under
"any one Article in the Articles of war, entitled rules & articles
"for the better Government &c.a as above."

Signed / Hector Munro &c.a

With submission on my part, I beg leave
to present to the Honble Board the following Opinion & reasoning

B. G. Stuart

It is universally known that Govr. Boch
the late Lord Pigot the Governor, & as such the Military Com-
mander in Chief of the Forces composing this Garrison at a
place greatly within the Guns of this Fort, & on the Fort
side of his own Guard at the Company's Garden House, which
Guard was, & is daily relieved from the Garrison.

I give it, as my opinion, that the Mi-
litary definition of a Governor's jurisdiction as such, (where no
provision is made to the contrary) is the Country adjacent to
the Fort & under the range of the Guns, or in other words
that within there Bounds the Governor is to be considered Legal
Officers as the Military Commander in Chief of the Garrison
of Fort St. George & dependencies as expressed in his Military
Commission from the Company. I am the more confirmed in

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the Justness of the definition already mentioned by the uniform Opinion & Practice in this Settlement to consider that the Ground laying between the Bridges & even much beyond the Governor's Country House comes under the preceeding Description —

As the principal argument seems to lie upon this point, I think myself called upon to give a more particular description of the spot where the Person of the late Lord Pigot was arrested.

One of the two Bridges aforementioned actually touches the Glacis before the Ravelin of Mauley's Gate, from that to the other Bridge towards the Governor's Country House, is, according to my walking, about 400 Paces /1100/ Yards/ — The Ground between these Bridges seems like a sort of Esplanade & is purposely, for Defence, kept clear of all buildings or incumbrances; it is flat ground & makes part of what is called the Island; it is the exercise ground of the Garrison and the Barracks of the Sepoys of the Garrison are situated on the Country side beyond this Island; so that the daily relief of the Garrison either crosses the water forming on one side, the Island, or, from the Barracks opposite the Governor's Country house passes the 2d Bridge before mentioned, which is about a Musket shot from the Barracks towards the Fort; the direct road from the Fort to that house is over the two Bridges & Lord Pigot was arrested half way between them, or about 700 Paces from the Glacis; — even both the Bridges, in strict Military sense, are part of the public Works depending on the Fort; because, they are built upon the Water which comes for immediate inundation or other purposes of defence or convenience to the Fort.

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To suppose that the late Lord Pigot was not then & there the Governor & Military Commander in Chief of all the Troops which Government had appointed for the Garrison of this Fortress, & whose authority is so clearly defined, both by his Commission as Governor & by the Company's instructions of 1774, would infer, in my humble Opinion, this very extraordinary position, that the Governor of Fort St George, when he takes an airing, or walks out beyond the Glacis, either for health or duty, loses his right to give Orders to any part of his own Garrison; not even when he thinks fit to inspect their Barracks; — it would infer, that the Governor sitting in the Country House, allotted by the Company for him, where I believe the greater part of his time is spent, would not there, locally, act in a Military Capacity, as has been universally the practice as well as in my idea, the clear right of the Governor.

I have been thus particular, because if perchance General Munro is mistaken in his Opinion, & it is found that I am well founded in my Opinion that the late Lord Pigot was on the ground & at the time of his Arrest, according to true meaning & Military Construction, within his Garrison, it will follow, I think, in fair argument & inference from General Munro's Opinion, that the act of Arrest comes within the description of some Article of War, & therefore, that I might have been tried by Martial Law.

I cannot leave this Subject without shewing to the Board another point of view in which the Arrest of the late Lord Pigot may be seen as coming under some of the Articles of War.

Had the Court of Enquiry been

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permitted to have sat, it would have appeared that part of the Garrison who were aiding in the Arrest of Lord Pigot had been put under Arms by my Orders, & therefore that act comes under the description of an Article of War, even although the late Lord Pigot had been beyond his Garrison & might have suffered in Consequence if I had failed in proving that it was my duty so to do.

I bring forward this instance like as the former ones in order to shew how delicate it is to predetermine what a Court of Enquiry might or might not, have done; & that, if a Court of Enquiry or a Court Martial has been, or, in future shall be summoned, there are several points of view, & several Articles of War under which I might have been, & still may be charg'd & tried.

With my apology for prolixity and incorrectness because I have not time to make it shorter or more correct without depriving the Honble Board of the time which they may think necessary to read & consider before the dispatch of the Kingston, I must submit every thing on this (to me) important subject to your Honor & you, through you, by the present Dispatch, to the Honble the Court of Directors.

Thoug I do not pretend to infallibility yet I hope some degree of propriety & consistency will appear on reconsideration of the Arguments I have used in favor of my request; if not of any right, to have my conduct enquired into & tried by a General Court Martial.

Had it been the good pleasure of the Honble Board to have so far indulg'd me, which I cannot help saying was in their power, I should then, have been

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satisfied & my mind at ease

The Honble Board would in that Case have had no cause to sympathize, neither anything to answer for, as it was at my own request, & I nothing to complain of, as I do at present, Considering the singular hardship of the Case & the indefinite time of Continuing the public affront of Suspension, without the chance given me to vindicate myself in a Legal Customary mode of proceeding never refused to any officer, an example unparalleled in my observation & experience during upwards of thirty Years Service; — Denies, that it is my humble Opinion directly contrary to the words & true Spirit of Article 1st Section 9th Article of war entitled, of redressing wrongs.

Fort St. George
6th March 1778.

James Stuart

To the Honble The President
and Council of
Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Letter from Genl Munro, with Observations upon Genl Stuarts letter of 6th March

Having perused the several Letters with which Brigadier General Stuart has honored the Board; & in particular the last dated the 6th March, wherein the General has been pleased to make several Observations on my Opinions — I think it incumbent on me to make some answer to his Observations, where they immediately concern me; & must therefore request the attention of the Honble the President & Council to the following Lines.

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Brigadier General Stuart observes that he still maintains his own Opinion of the nature & tendency of a Court of Enquiry as described in his Letter of the 16th Ulto Vizt. "The Court of Enquiry which my Honble "Employers have been pleased to order preparatory to any trial "by Martial Law, is as I conceive from its nature, intended to "state Facts with Certainty & precision, without entering into any "discussion of their tendency, or prejudging in any respect, as to "the Legal authority; but only representing the matter for the "information of the Board, in order to establish the propriety "of summoning a General Court Martial."

In the 52d Para. of the General Letter The Honble the Court of Directors order: that General Stuart shall be tried by a Court Martial," so soon as a Court of En- "quiry shall have ascertained the facts, & prepared the Char- "ges upon which such trials are to be founded." As I un- derstand the words, prepared the Charges; I consider them as bringing in the Crimes; a Circumstance I never knew or heard of; & it was therefore that agreable to there. request of the Honble the President & Council in their Minutes of Consultation dated the 16 Feby 1778, desiring me to give them my opinion in writing "as to the most "proper proceeding pointed out by the Company's Orders respecting "General Stuart." That I gave my opinion, that it is not the duty of a Court of Enquiry to prepare a Charge, (or in other words to bring a Crime) against an Officer, from Circumstances, that may appear before them. I then have taken the Liberty to point out, what I think the intention of ordering a Court of Enquiry. And unless an Officer had, or was supposed to have acted, contrary to some Article

of War; I cannot see reason for a Court (which Military Custom alone has introduced) to enquire into his Conduct: I shall say no more on this Subject; The respect due to the Honble President of Council, induced me to give my Opinion, agreable to their desire, & I owed to my Honble Employers to give it according to the best of my Judgement; which I have done, & submit the propriety of it to their decision.

Brigadier General Stuart says,

"That if I understand it right; General Munro observes
"that there is no need of any Court of Enquiry, because
"the facts touching my Conduct, in the arrest & imprison-
"ment of the late Lord Pigot are already ascertained
"on the records; & are now again acknowledg'd by myself.
"You are in possession already of what I acknowledge;
"But I did not say that there were all the facts to be ascer-
"tained; this was left to the Judgment of the Court of Enquiry"

To this I beg leave to answer, that Brigadier General Stuart must have misunderstood it, I did observe that the Records of the Company were not sufficient Evidence to be brought before a Court of Enquiry, or a Court Martial, where Viva Voce Evidence can alone be admitted.

"General Stuart says," my Case & situation
"is the more singular; & the more distressing, because in-
"dependant of the Company's Orders, which in your own Opi-
"nion seem to favor my having a Trial; I can say with
"great Precision, that in the Course of almost 30 Years Service
"it has been an invariable Military Maxim, never to
"refuse the means, whether preparatory to trial, or by trial

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"to any Officer of any Rank; upon his asking for it, & repre-
"senting that it was in order to vindicate his Character, or
"Conduct in a Military point of view; in whatever way
"injured or aspersed, whether by positive Assertions in Print;
"or by General report; or even by declaration of Superiors
"of the highest Rank. Therefore with due respect, I confess
"my disappointment was the greater, upon knowing General
"Munro's Opinion, & comparing it with the reasons assigned;
"an Opinion which I find unfortunately operates to defeat
"distinct Orders conveyed in Para. 52 of Letter from Bombay."

I am sensible Brigadier General

Stewart's Case & situation is singular; & distressing; & agree with the General, that it is an invariable Military Maxim, never to refuse the means to an Officer, to endeavor to clear his Conduct; & I should have been happy to have given my assistance to the General in this instance, if it had been in my power. But in my present situation, 'tis my duty as one of the Council of Fort St. George, to execute the Orders & precepts from my honble Employers with Justice & impartiality; to the best of my Judgment; & as the Honble the Court of Directors have not thought proper to give a Crime themselves against Brigadier Genl Stewart; As a Court of Enquiry, cannot in my mind, give in a Crime according to the mode ~~of~~ prescribed by the Honble the Directors; & as the Honble the President and Council, did not chuse to give in a Crime themselves; The Board has no other method left, but to comply with the Orders of the Honble the Directors in Para. 53d of the General Letter; highly distressing to them to be obliged to do it, & most certainly greatly distressing to Brigadier General Stuart.

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I am sorry that Brigadier General Stewart should imagine that my Opinion, "unfortunately "operated to defeat distinct Orders Conveyed in 52 Para. "of the Letter of 5th Decbr."

As I before observed, I gave my Opinion at the desire of the Honble Board; & I have not the presumption to imagine it could in the least influence them; sensible; that after mature deliberation both the Honble the President, & every Member of the Council gave their Opinion agreable to the best of their judgment, & to the Dictates of their own understanding.

The General says, "I am at a loss to "know what is meant by these last words" Purposes of a "trial, surely neither of our Honors, or the Court of Directors "could not but wish I might have a chance of acquittal".

I hope that General Stewart, could not conceive that the Honble the President, or any Member of the Board would wish that the General had no chance of acquittal: As to myself, knowing as the General observes from profession, the delicacy of an Officers Character; I have ever endeavored to act in such a manner thro life both in public & private, as to shew that I have always had a due sense of that Character; & I flatter myself that my Friends, & acquaintances will do me the Justice to acknowledge, that in every Case, where it has been in my power, to lend my advice or assistance, to any Officer who may have been aggrieved, That I have always been ready to do the utmost, that I could in his behalf; & I hope Brigadier General Stuart will do me the Justice to think, (that tho' my Opinion may not in some

Fort St. George 16th March 1770

Points agree with (his) that I have in the Course of this disagreeable business, acted without partiality; & have given my Opinions, to the best of my Capacity; & I therefore submit the propriety of my Conduct in this Business, to the Judgment of my Honble Employers.

In the appendix to Brigadier Fenwick Stuarts Letter; he gives his Opinion as to the Military Description of a Governors Jurisdiction.

I have only to observe that the Military Power vested in the Governor of Fort St. George is clearly defined in the Instructions from the Honble the Directors to the Governor General & Council at Bengal, dated 29th March 1774 to which I beg leave to refer.

I have the honor to be

Honble Sirs &c

Your most Obedient

humble Servant

Hector Munro

Fort St. George
March 15th 1770.

P.S. I request that this Letter may accompany your Dispatches of the Duke of Kingston.

Copies of the above Letters were sent Numbers in the Packet by the Duke of Kingston.

Read the following Letter from

Vizagapatam.

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr

President & Governor &c. Council

of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

Conformably to your Orders, We have

Fort St. George 16th March 1770

Letter from Vizagapatam advising of the Embarkation of part of the European Soldiers for Madras

This day embarkd on board the Snow Tenby, George Greenley Master one hundred & sixteen Men of the Madras Detachment together with their Baggage, agreable to the enclosed Returns. As it was impossible from the small size of this Vessell to accommodate the sick on board, which amounts to twenty eight Men, We have detained them untill another favorable Opportunity offers, which We hope will be by the end of this month.

Duplicate

It being thought necessary that a Surgeon should attend the Detachment during their Voyage We have in Consequence directed Mr. Patrick Pringle to proceed on this Service, & Mr. Forbes to remain here untill his return.

During the time the Madras Detachment was in Cantonments at Vizagapatam, Capt. Collins kept up the greatest regularity & Discipline amongst the Troops, which We hope will entitle him to your Honor & Cos attention.

We are with great respect

Honble Sirs & Sirs

Your most Obedient
humble Servants
M. Williams
H. Crawford
N. Barton
Chas. Maxtone

Vizagapatam
March 2. 1770

Letter from Captain Lyngthread as follows.

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr.
President & Governor & Cos Council
of Fort St. George

331 Fort St. George 16th March 1770.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I have this day received a letter from

From Capt. Lysaght desiring an opportunity of vindicating his Conduct

the Military Secretary enclosing a Minute of Consultation of the 13th Ult., by which with Concern I find that I have at present been so unfortunate as to incur the displeasure of your Honble Board, but being totally unacquainted with the manner in which the Council of Ganjam have represented the Circumstances of Lalchemah Bunge's being sent out of Camp, for they never so much as intimated to me their intention of laying this Affair before your Honor &c which I humbly think in Common Justice they should / I am really at a Loss upon what grounds to found a vindication of my Conduct in that Affair; I shall therefore upon my arrival at the Presidency pray for Copies of this & the former accusation, when I flatter myself that I shall be able to clear up both to the satisfaction of your Honor &c, which if I do not, I shall not only acknowledge myself to have justly merited the degradation & censure I have met with, but also unworthy of serving the Honble Company a day longer

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect

Honble Sirs & Sirs

Your most humble and Obedient Servant

Arthr. Lysaght

Vizagapatam
2d March 1770.

The above Letter from Captain Lysaght requires no order or remark at present

Letter from Captain Donald Mackay read as follows.

To

332 Fort St. George 16th March 1770

To Charles Oakeley Esqr

Military Secretary

Sir

From Capt. Donald Mackay to know what he is to draw his allow. ances as Inspector of Stores.

I have been favored with a Letter from Mr. Baine of the 3d Instant, acquainting that the Honble the President & Council had been pleased to appoint Captain Reynault Inspector of Stores at Trichinopoly, but as my appointment of Inspector of Stores to the Southern Garrisons, viz.t Madura & Palamcottah, still stands good, I hope the same allowances are continued me, I have hitherto received; & shall be glad to know, if I am to draw it from it from the Paymaster at Madura, as I have hitherto received my allowances as Inspector of Stores to the South. ern Garrisons, from the Paymaster of Trichinopoly.

I am

Sir

Your most Obedient,

humble Servant,

Tanjore

March 6th. 1770.

D.e Mackay

Agreed that Captain Mackay be permitted to draw his Allowances as Inspector of Stores on future at Madura.

Read the following Letter from

Mr William Petrie

at Tanjore /

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr

President & Governor & Council

of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have the honor to acquaint

Fort St George 16th March 1770.

From Mr Petrie delivers the Company's Letter to the Rajah

you that the Company's Letter to the Rajah of Tanjore, was received on the Borders of his Country the 4th Instant, by two Men of distinction in his Household attended with the Cosy guard, consisting of thirty Horsemen, a number of Followers, & Cooroos of the Inhabitants of the Country. In this manner it was escorted to Tanjore, where I arrived yesterday forenoon, & delivered the Honble Company's Letter with the usual forms, about 11 o'Clock amidst the acclamations of several Thousands, whom the Rajah had assembled upon this occasion. When the Letter was read in the Durbar the Rajahs Declarations of Gratitude & attachment to the Company were unbounded as were his assurances of implicit Conformity to every thing they should recommend for their & his mutual advantage, no other subject was introduced, but he has desired to see me again this forenoon, however so much of it has already elapsed, that I apprehend I shall not see him to day, & as the Tappals are about to be dispatched, I thought it my Duty to inform your Honor Gen.a of this part of the execution of your Commands.

I have the honor to remain, with perfect respect.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient & ever Faithfull humble Servant

William Petrie

Tanjore
6th March 1770.

Read the following Letter from

Lieut: Colonel Flemo

To

334 Fort St. George 16th March 1770.

The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr

President & Governor &c. Council

of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Lt Colonel Horne with Letters concerning complaints from Negapatam.

I received two days ago a Letter from the Governor of Negapatam with the accompanying Paper which I now forward your Honor &c.

As information taken at Negapatam in support of the Complaint made to me in Mr Van Bleissingam's Letter, could never be admitted as sufficient Evidence at a Court Martial; I have ordered a Court of Enquiry to sit, & to state such facts respecting this Complaint as they can come at the knowledge of; and likewise the treatment the Subadar & Sepoys met with when taken up & imprisoned at Negapatam; the Proceedings of which I will forward to the General as soon as the Court have delivered them in; a second Letter which I have this day received from Mr Van Bleissingham is of such a nature as to induce me immediately to forward it as well as the former one to your Honor &c., together with a Copy of the answer I now send to the Dutch Governor by his Hircarrah.

I also enclose Extracts of Letters I have received from Lieut: White at Ragore which will shew how little cause the Dutch Governor has to complain of the Conduct of our Sepoys in that Neighbourhood.

Toptoree the place where the Book is mentioned to be stopt I understand is about 16 Miles to the Southward of Negapatam, & Naick & six Sepoys have

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been constantly stationed there under the Orders of the Rajah's
Manager of that side of the Country. I have sent to relieve
these Sepoys & have ordered them to Tanjore as soon as I
obtain information of the truth of this Complaint, I will in-
form your honor &c of the particulars, it is certain the Rajah's
People are disposed to commit any violence in their Power
on the Dutch; And the Sepoys employd on small Detach-
ments under the Orders of the Rajah's Managers are too apt
to commit irregularities; I shall do all in my power to res-
train them.

I have not recriminated on Mr Van
Bleiseningam so fully as I could have done respecting the
Conduct of the Dutch Sepoys & the Inhabitants of their
Villages; these irregularities fall properly under the Censure
of the Rajah & are such as will warrant him in seizing &
detaining them Prisoners; Mr Van Bleiseningam's Conduct
on the whole of this business appears to be very violent; of
this their will be a strong proof before your honor &c in
the Proceedings of the Court of Enquiry Concerning the treat-
ment the Subadar & Sepoys met with in their imprison-
ment, & it seems to me as if he was desirous of picking up
matter to bring forward a public rupture between the Com-
pany & the Dutch; I now write to Lieut. Wylie to inform
him of the purport of this last letter of Complaint; &
shall repeat my former Orders to be very carefull not to
give any just cause of Complaint to the Dutch, or suffer
any of his People to do any thing that may occasion
any—; I have the honor to be with Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

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Tanjore
7th March 1770

Your most Obedient
humble Servant
Matt.w Horne

To the Honble Colonel Matthew Horne
Commander of the English
Company's Troops at

Tanjore

Sir,

With a great deal of esteem have I received your Letter of the 25th Instant. The Contents brought me much Contentment as by the same you prove to be of my Opinion that such hostilities as have been done by the English Sepoys belonging to the Company, in the Dutch Company's Village Vaddecoody could not be passed without punishment, & that is also the reason which made me send them to you, that they might at my desire be punished according to their merits.

With pleasure would I have ordered the Persons molested to Tanjore, as you desire but Sir several are Braminies belonging to the Pagoda of that place & others poor People who live of their daily Labor.

I have then ordered their People notwithstanding you might have trusted in so much to my writings to pass an attestation at our Secretary's Office in Dutch of which the Translation in English inclosed, of all that passed, & who has come to them, out of this Paper you will more clearly see every thing that happened & how they were treated.

Lieut. Edw.d White as also informed

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me that he was sent by you to protect the Rajah's Country,
without that any of the Dutch Company's People have
Committed any hostilities in the same he has also stopt all
importation of Provision & other Articles to this place, at
the same time he permits the Sepoys that are under his Com-
mand to come daily in the Dutch Company's Villages, & pur-
chase what they want of Rice, & other Provisions; When
I request you would order the said Officer to let pass what
is brought to this place or that the English Sepoys may not
come in the Dutch Company's Villages to purchase provisions
or other Goods that by these means all further Disputes & diffe-
rences may be prevented between both European Nations which
otherwise might happen.

I have the honor to remain

Sir

Your most humble &
obedient Servant
V. Bleiswijck

Negapatam
27th Feby 1770

To the Commanding Officer
of the English Company's
Troops at
Tanjore

Sir

The enclosed Letter I had the pleasure
to write to Colonel Horne, but before it went off I had news
he was gone to Madras, the Contents being about Affairs
that concerned the Commanding Officer of the English Troops
at Tanjore, I remit the same & conform the contents in
full.

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Remain with Esteem

Sir

Your most Obedient

& most humble Servant

V. Bleiswingen

Negapatam

8th March 1770.

To the Commanding Officer

of the English Company's

Troops at

Tanjore

Sir

The English Company's Sepoys who are under your Command & by your Orders have been Detached to Nagore & other Places, have a little above Nagore not only stopt the Peons who bring Letters from Madras & other Places; but also our Company's Sepoys have come from our village Mocton (where I am forces to station a few, that the said village may not be plundered nor the Inhabitants insulted as those of Wadakodie) on the other side of the Nagore River to the North & by Consequence must absolutely pass the Rajah's Ground on this side of the River to come here, having brought them to Nagore over they are as yet detained on arrest. The Reasons of such Proceedings I do not as yet know, so that I shall be obliged if you do not stop such vexations & give Orders that they cease, to procure myself by the means given me in Lands the most fulfilling sorts. Factor, as being very certain, that it does not become you Sir, nor the English Nation, to do any vexation to the Lands of the Dutch Company or plague the Inhabitants of the same, I shall leave all the Consequences which

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may proceed out of such Behaviour for your account & Reproval.

I remain

Sir

Your most humble and

Obedient Servant

P. Bleiswijn

Negapatam

5th March 1770

P. S. This moment I receive information, that the English Comp.ys Sepoys at Toptoree, with a small Boat, have detained a large Boat coming from Colombo, taking away her sails Cock a stowards offered to let her go for 2 Pagodas, which the Owner refused to pay, so that he is as yet detained there, if for you do not give me a fulfilling satisfaction, about this Usage as also about the others, I shall be obliged to do the same & take Represailles, also to write to all the Governors of the Dutch Company's Settlements, that they may act in the same manner, with the English Ships & Vessels, as the English Company's Sepoys with Consentment of their Officers, use those of the Dutch Company.

This day being the 24th February 1770

Compared before me John Abraham Bronsfeld first sworn Clerk of Police & Secretary to the respectable Court of Justice of this Fort, the Inhabitants of the Company's Village Wadoecoody, Speyappa Ayon, Speyjayangaren & Wissoowanna Weerpel, who as being their to authorised by the Honble Reynier Van Bleiswijgen Esqr Governor & Director on the Coast of Choromandel at the request of the Aiegar or Inspector of the Villages, Mr Johannes Shenaran con. sessed & declared to be true & effectively, that the weight

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Before the Company's Merchants of Portanovo were at Nagore
stopt & brought away according to their guessing about
two o'Clock, four English Sepoys with arms & two Alcaras
came to the said Village & broke through the back part
into the House of the first attestant, taking out by force 8½
Measures of Paddy which they had afterwards obliged some
Women from this Town who came in the Evening to purchase
Paddy, but remained there & slept the night at the House of
the attestant & in the Neighbourhood by the other two attestants,
to carry that Paddy, & go with them, having before the above-
mentioned Sepoys & Alcaras forced themselves into the Houses of
the other attestants as also into that of one Anna Ayen Cast
finding nothing left them, That the mentioned Sepoys and
Alcaras the attestants as well as the mentioned Anna
Ayen & the Brother of the second attestant by name Spot-
chere Appa with three Sepoys of the Company's who were
also come to that Village to purchase Paddy & remained
that night there, had forced to go with them, but of the last
mentioned they let goon the way two who had their Com-
pany's Turbands.

That the mentioned English Company's Sepoys
had also taken from one of the above mentioned Women
30¼ measures Paddy which she had purchased for nine
Fanams & put into a Bag, taking all the abovementioned
Women & one Company's Sepoy who has no uniform nor
Turband, with them attestants under all sort of Illusage
by kicking, Licking, ill Language, thrusting & tearing of
their Clothes &c to Nagore where they were arrested at
Alocteravy.

That at midday one Rama Christna

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Poelle who Commanded at Nayore Had examined the Attestants & being by them informed that they were Inhabitants of the above mentioned Village & that they had purchased no other Paddy but what was Harvested in their Place, said Rama Ritsna Poelle had permitted them as well as the Sepoy & Women to go their way without giving them their Paddy taken away from: That the attestants being returned that day about Four or half five in the afternoon to their Village, Possessory had found their a Serjeant, two Corporals & twenty five Sepoys of the Company to whom they had related what had happened to them the night before & that day.

That just at that time an Officer & 4 Sepoys arrived going that way to Nayore which they supposed to be same who had carried away the Company's Portonovo Merchants, amongst who the second attestant was very certain to be one of those who the night before with the others had been in his Village & committed all what is above said & upon which they attestants had given intelligence thereof to the mentioned Company's forces who had them arrested, notwithstanding they resisted the said English Sepoy Officer & Sepoys with three Coolies who carried an empty dooley & a Peon who was by the same, that short after this the Commander of the Sepoys Mr. Fregeat arrived at Nadoocoody to whom the attestants related all before said upon which he ordered the Sepoy Officer also Sepoys, Peon & Coolies to the Garden China, signifying herewith declaring the attestants that they have witnessed the real truth.

So made & declared in the Fort of Negapatam date as abovementioned in the presence of

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the Sworn Clerk, John Joachim Has & Paulus Josephus Kerkenberg Clerk in the Secretary's Office mentioned as Witnesses the Original being duly signed.

Which Witnesses

(Signd) John Abraham Bronsfeld

First sworn Clerk

For the Translation

John Godefroy de Rocho

To the Honble Mr Van Bleissingin

Governor of

Negapatam &c

Sir,

I have this Moment received your Letters of the 5th Instant & have also received a Letter from Lieut: White at Nagore informing me that some of your Sepoys with Arms who were in the Rajahs Country had been stopt by your direction & Orders of the Rajahs Managers & brought down to Nagore but that he had caused them to be released immediately

I have given positive Orders that the English do not stop any Letters or Peons &c going to or from Negapatam & I am persuaded these Orders are obeyed by the Officer on duty at Nagore & if any Letters or Peons have been stopt, it must have been by the Rajahs own People over whom I have no authority. You have been informed of the Orders Lieutenant White has received respecting the Dutch Company's Bounds, & I am persuaded that Officer will strictly conform to those Orders.

The information you have sent

Fort St. George 16th March 1770.

me that some English Sepoys in a Boat had detained a large Boat coming from Colombo & had taken away her Sails but afterwards offered to let her go for two Pagodas at a Place called Toptoree, astonishes me much, I will immediately enquire into this account, & if I find it as it has been represented in your Letter, I will punish those Sepoys in the severest manner, I shall only observe on the latter part of the purport of the Postscript of your Letter, that I think it would have been time enough to have held forth such a Language when I refused doing Justice on your former application to me, - my answer to that Letter assured you that I would bring the Sepoys you before complained of to a publick Trial, & if found guilty would punish them. - This would have been done before now had evidences appeared against them, which instead of ordering you have been pleased to send an information taken at Nagapatam, even this Evidence is short of what is necessary to convict a Man upon, is at this very time before a Court of Enquiry who are met to investigate the Conduct of the Subidar & Sepoys you imprisond at Negapatam & who you kept on that situation many days; such a Language as you have been pleased to hold forth, I conceive was very unnecessary, I shall only observe upon it that the English Sepoys on duty at Nagore & the neighbouring Country are employ'd only to protect the Rajahs Country & to assist his Managers in the Government of it, & I should have been happy if this could have been done without giving any Cause of Complaint to You. The Rajah has daily Complaints to him of your People entering his Villages & forcing the Village People to supply them with many Articles Contrary to his positive Orders, and

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also that Grain going to Nagore has been stopt & drove into
your Bounds by armed Sepoys

I have the Honor to be
Sir

Your most humble &
Obedient Servant
(signed) Matthew Horne

Tanjore
7th March 1778.

Extracts of Letters received from
Lieut: White at Nagore
February 24th 1778 to Colonel Horne
Commanding
Tanjore

Sir,

Ext: ——— 4/
6

The Amildar of this place has this day brought me a Man who says he saw the Subidar taken by the Dutch, & who relates it in the following manner. The Subidar went with the Renter Chinnapillay, & the Dutch Merchants that were made Prisoners, part of the way from hence to Trivadore; when Chinnapillay thought himself pretty much out of the reach of the Dutch, he desired the Subidar to turn back to Nagore, who returned the same way he went, & both Times thro' the village of Parravanr Chitty Tirnaval, exceedingly close to Nagorekoie, it was in his return that the Dutch Sepoys who lay in wait at Parravanr saw Chitty Tirnaval seiz'd him, & carried him & the Sepoys to Negapatan.

The Amildar says that the Subidar has committed no Robberies or violence or disturbance of any

kind at Verragoody, or any of the Dutch Villages. The Village of Parsaram Chitty Trevol belongs to the Dutch & I believe a shorter Road runs by it to Tanjore than thro' the Rajah's Country

February 25th Ext 2d

Battle which formerly sold from twelve to fourteen Leaves for a Tanjore Cash, now sells only at four, for the same Cash. The Paulk Nutt they have in plenty from their own Topes, Tobacco is also scarce & Rice they are supplied with by Sea. I am told several of the Council are much dissatisfied with the Governor, & the Black People much distress'd.

February 23d Ext 3

This ought to have been the first Paragraph

This morning he proposed to me (meaning the Manager) by the advice of Espow, who is the Rajah's Vakeel in the Fort to wine the Durbash of the second in Council, which Durbash is now at Karrical, & expected to pass here in five or six days, I refused him, as such doings were inconsistent with my instructions, & totally below the Rajah's dignity. I then ask'd what advantage he proposed from such a step, he replied, that as there subsisted a difference between the Governor, & the second in Council, the latter would lay the blame of the seizure of his Durbash upon the former & create such dissention, as might evidence them to give up Commissapillay, but in my observing that the Governor might retaliate upon Espow, the Vakeel & wine him, seemed to weigh more than any thing I could say about the Rajah's dignity.

February 26th Ext 4th

I will also take it as a favor of you will get Busbanah to mention to Espow the Rajah's Vackeel in the Fort, that he ought to inform me of what is doing there, I have made many attempts to form a connection with him, but always unsuccessfull, especially as it must come thro' the medium of the Annildar of Nagore, & to whom I refused my consent to wine the Durbash of the

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2d in Council at his return from Karrical.

Two Nights ago, I am informed that 10 Coads of Beetle, was convey'd to the Dutch, with 50 Coads of Rice from the Rajah's Village of Caury Paulcum about two Miles N.W. from hence. Upon this occasion Sir I have written this day to Chinnapillay at Tranquebar, under whom the Village is, that to prepare 10 Coads of Beetle & 50 Coads of Rice was the business of two or three days, therefore the Amildar of the Village of Caury Paulcum, must have known of this preparation & consequently connived at it, that therefore it was my opinion, Euthnotary Orders that he should put this Amildar Prisoner which would effectually prevent other Amildars from allowing any Exportations from their villages to the Dutch- what Chinnapillay will do I do not know. But believe an order from Tanjore to confine this Amildar in case the supply work from his Village, would totally deter any others from attempting the like.

February 20. Ext 5th

Since my Letter of Yesterday I do not hear any thing about the Dutch worth acquainting You with, except that the Amildar of this place informed me this day that the French & Danes, have refused to furnish them with the articles [illegible] provision way that they wanted.

[illegible] seems the Embark of the 2d in Council that these People wanted me to sine, was upon this errand & has been unsuccessfull.

March 2. Ext 6th

I understand that last night, some Dutch Sepoys forced three Coads of Beetle away, from the Rajah's Bounds, but this is generally a connivance of the Country People - The Amildar solicits me strongly to send Sepoys some Distance from hence, but I am afraid to trust them

Fort St. George 16th March 1770

As I know how regardless of Order Sepoys are when they have been a day or two in a place I might probably go into the Dutch bounds, as the Villages Lewards to send them to, for ors upon it, or else have some fray with the Dutch Sepoys which would be construed a commencement of hostilities.

March 3d Ext - 7th. Some disturbances that has been made yesterday & this day, by some Dutch Sepoys, in the high road which runs by their Boundaries Leading to this place, & where they have a guard of about 25 Sepoys has determined me to send a Jemidar & forty Men to the Rajah's Bounds opposite to them, they have taken as I am informed a large quantity of Rice that was coming to Nagore, it is certain that the Country People acquiesce in these things, & afterwards pretend to be forced, but this party will put it out of their power to attempt any thing of the kind hereafter. The Jemidar shall have proper Orders of which I will send you a Copy to morrow, & not to be the aggressor, the Party is formed as follows

	Jem.s	Havl.r	Naique	Sepoys
Chicul Company	1	"	1	35
Nagore Company	"	—	1	35
Captain Davies Sepoys at Nagore	—	3	"	16
Tiviatore	—	—	1	8
Total	1	3	3	34

To send a smaller party might expose them to be insulted, whereas now they must answer the end proposed unless that the Dutch mean to break totally with us.

Mr. McPherson writes me this moment that two of Capt.n Davies Sepoys sent about 10 paces in the Dutch Bounds 31 Gunnies of Paddy going from the Rajah's Country - I have written to him to make all enquiries about this again possible, & to know by whose

Fort St. George 16th March 1770.

order the Sepoys acted, & from whence they were detach'd & to detain the Paddy if near him for the Rajah's Country 'till further Orders from me, the particulars of which you shall be fully informed to morrow.

March 4th Ext. — Sir

I have this day received the particulars from Mr. Pherson of the Seizure of the Paddy, which was not allowed in the Dutch Bounds, only to Bullocks out of 31 Loads entered the Bounds & they turned back as soon as they perceived the three Dutch Sepoys that was attending it run away, which they did upon sight of two of Capt.n Davies's Sepoys whom the Amildar sent after the People that were carrying the Paddy to the Dutch — The Amildar has the People to whom this Grain belong'd Prisoners.

The Jemidar's Guard which is detach'd is nine Men short of their Number owing to the Jemidar at Trivalore who has not yet either answered my Letter or sent the Sepoys I applied to him for, this guard requires from the situation it is placed in to be strong as it will incommode the Dutch as much as those of Nagore & Chicull.

The Jemidar who is detach'd has Orders similar to mine, which he promises to attend to punc.tuality.

I believe that the Renter will be able to fulfill his engagements at least he seems to think so.

March 5. Ext. 9th

I have not heard of any irregularity of the Dutch this day, by a singular ... at either side of the Village Vangeremme Marry / the Rajah's Village where the

Fort St. George 16th March 1770

Jemidar's guard is posted in the Dutch Country.

This Guard took last night a Dutch Sepoy who had in Company with him in Company with him one of the English Lascars, whom he had taken in the Dutch Bounds to the Southward of this Village & was crossing the Rajah's Country to go to the Dutch Village to the Northward. This Guard afterwards took two more Dutch Sepoys, going the same Rout but as the parties had committed no disturbance released them tho' they had arms.

The Board approve of the Conduct of Lieut: Colonel Horne in his correspondence with the Governor of Negapatam, such as from the violence shewn by the Dutch Governor in his behaviour & in his Letters, there is reason to apprehend that he may proceed to some open act of hostility Lieut: Colonel Horne must be directed to use great caution, & repeat his Orders to Lieut: White who Commands our Sepoys near the Dutch Bounds in such a manner that the Company may not trespass in the smallest degree beyond the Engagements they have concluded with the Rajah to protect & defend his Country & People from any kind of insult or violence that may be attempted upon either.

Read the following Letter from

Lieut: Colonel Harper at Vellore.

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr

President & Governor & Council

of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have received a Letter from Mr. Baine dated the 5th Instant, acknowledging the receipt of mine

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From Lt Col. Harper concerning Hyder Sheriff Zemindar in Capt. Bruce's Battalion

to the Honble Board of the 25th Ult, wherein he informs me, that the Honble Board desire that I will let them know the Zemindars name, & inform them of what offence he is accused, In consequence of which I now send accompanying the Crimes, & Captain Bruces Letter relative to his character.

I beg leave also to inform you that a Man in the European Battalion Sir, was confined yesterday for a crime which I am apprehensive must be brought before a General Court Martial, should you judge it necessary to honor me with the Power of appointing one.

I remain with the greatest respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

H. Harper

Vellore

March 16th 1770.

To Colonel Harper

Sir

This morning I was favoured me with your Letter of yesterday, in Consequence of which I now send accompanying the Crimes with which Hyder Sheriff the Zemindar of my Battalion stands accused, & as this is neither the first, nor second time of his being brought to a Court Martial, for similar Crimes 'tis needless to point out to you Sir, the propriety of not allowing such proceedings to pass with impunity, particularly to one who has had such warning given him, & such lenity shewn him, as he was certainly broke by one at Vellore; but in hopes of amendment, I interceded for him & he was pardoned; his Conduct since has been such as to give me great reason to

Fort St George 16th March 1770.

believe, 'tis in vain to expect to reclaim him, as he is really a drunken mean fellow, & a discredit to the Corps he belongs to

I am

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

Thomas Bruce

Imboor
9th March 1770

Hufsian Sheriff Jemindar in the 10th Battalion ordered in arrest by me, on complaint of Mooroo Saib Commandant, for breaking his arrest, the Evening of the 23d Ult., for using vile & abusive Language of his Officers on the public Parade, & for disobedience of Orders.

Thomas Bruce
Captain 10th Battalion

Imboor
9th March 1770

Jemidar Hufsian Sheriff of the 10th Battalion ordered under an arrest by me the 23d of February Last, for being Drunk, & behaving in a most indecent manner, in front of the Battalion

J Bowden
Lieut: 10th Battn

Imboor
9th March 1770

Ordered that a Warrant Issue for the trial of Jemidar Hufsian Sheriff of the 10th Battalion by a General Court Martial, & as Colonel Harper mentions in his Letter that he had confined a Man of the European Battalion at Vellore without specifying his Crime, agreed that he be desired to acquaint us what the Man is charged with that we may if necessary order a General Court Martial to try him.

A Warrant granted for his Trial

Read a Letter from the Nabob as entered in Country Correspondence No. 44 desiring to have a receipt for Sundry Sums paid by him.

Agreed that the above payments

be acknowledged

Read a Letter from the Rajah of Tanjore dated the 1st March as entered in Country Correspondence No. 43 advising of the respect full manner in which he received the Company's Letter by Mr. Petrie.

The Town Major requests to be excused being a Member for examining of Sepoy Cloathing

The President acquaints the Board that the Town Major has represented to him that his other necessary avocations will not permit him to give that attendance to the examination of the Sepoy Cloathing which is requisite, & requesting therefore that he may be excused the duty of a Member of the Committee appointed for that purpose.

His request granted

Agreed that the Town Major's request be complied with & that the Quarter Master of the European Battalion in Garrison be appointed of the Committee in his room.

L.d Clive & Mr Ges. Brudenell readmitted into the Service

Mr this the Board in Consultation the 23d Ultimo refused to grant the solicitations of Lieut. George Hodson, & Mr George Brudenell to be readmitted into the Company's Service which they had before resigned, yet as the Friends of those have since privately represented to different Members of the Board that their Resignation was hasty & precipitate, that they had heartily repented of it, & that they would be both reduced to Poverty & distress if the Board continue in the Resolution of not taking them again into the Service, the Board are induced by these Considerations, & by the favorable Characters which those Gentlemen bear to readmit them in the Service more especially Lieut. Hodson, who at the time he made his resignation was not acquainted from the Board of the Company's Orders received this Year for removing him from the artillery to the Infantry Corps

which his friends in England had solicited for him.

Notwithstanding the Board have come to the above resolution in favor of these Gentlemen, they do not think proper to assign them the Rank which they before held in the list of Officers, as their imprudent Conduct takes away all claim to it, resolved therefore that they be placed as youngest of the Rank which they before had viz.t Lieut.t George Hodson as youngest Lieutenant of Infantry, & Mr. George Brudenell as youngest Ensign.

Read the following Letter from Captain Robert Gibbings to the Secretary.

To Charles Oakeley Esqr
Military Secretary
Sir

From Capt Gibbings
of Trail dies

Agreable to General Orders of the 17th January 1776, I beg to acquaint you that Lieut.t James Trail of the 6th Carnatic Battalion of Sepoys, died here the 2d Instant.

I am with esteem
Sir
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
Robt Gibbings

Vellum
9th March 1770.

The following Promotions are now

Ensign Jenkins promoted to Lieut.t

made Ensigns James Jenkins to be Lieutenant in the room of Lieutenant Trail Deceased date of Rank March 1770
James Goodwin Cadet to be Ensign Do — — March 1770.
Thomas Higginbotham Do — Do — Do — March 1770
Florence McCarty Do — Do Do — March 1770.

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General Munro lays before the Board the following Letters which he has received

Major General Hector Munro
Commander in Chief of the Honble
Company's Troops on the Coast of
Choromandel
Fort St George

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint you, there are three Guns, one 18 & 2 six Pounders at Carangoly which were proved, & intended for this Garrison, as the Roads are now good, with your approbation, I will bring them here, but Sir, must request an Order for a Transport Carriage from Cuddalore; I am under the necessity of representing to you the dangerous situation of the Magazine, which has only one thin door, & in many places exposed to the weather, occasioned by lightening. It now contains upwards of one hundred & sixty Barrells of Powder. There are plenty of Materials on the spot, & the expence of building a secure Magazine will not amount to more than 120 Pags. & I believe less will be sufficient. I have the honor to be

From Lt Hearsh desiring Leave to transport some Guns from Carangoly to Pennacoil

Sir

with the greatest respect
Your most Obedient and
most humble Servant
H. W. Hearsh
Lieut: Commanding

Pennacoil

Agreed that the Chief & Council at Cuddalore be directed to send a Transport Carriage for the purpose mentioned by Lieut: Hearsh.

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The President is requested to speak to the Nabob concerning the Magazine for Ponnacoil that it may be built if he has no objection.

Sir

The exercising ground at this place wants making Level & enlarging. I must request you will speak to the Commander in Chief, in order to get me Forty or fifty Lascars, or Coolies, allowed for that purpose, for about a fort night, or if the Sepoys might have Batta for working, I could soon have it done. The Chief says, the Lascars at this place are so much employd with the Companies Cloth, that they cannot be spard for any thing else.

From Captain Bilcliffe

I am

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servt

W. Bilcliffe

Cuddalore
4th March 1778

Agreed that Captain Bilcliffe be permitted to employ the Sepoys for the purpose he desires & that the Gentlemen at Cuddalore be directed to allow them Batta.

Sir,

I have received a Warrant for to hold a General Court martial, to try Venkata Putty Sepoy for Desertion; I have now to request you will apply to the Commander in Chief for another warrant to hold a General Court Martial for the trial of Boanah & Yencoo, two Sepoys that deserted from my Battalion in September Last, & are now Prisoners at this place.

From Capt Bilcliffe requesting a Warrant for the trial of some Sepoys

I am

Sir

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Cuddalore
6th March 1770.

Your most Obedient Servant
W. Bilcliffe

Ordered that a Warrant be sent to Captain Bilcliffe for the Trial of the Sepoys confined for Desertion.

The President's report of the deficiency of Gunpowder at Vellore

The President reporting that there is a great deficiency in the stock of Powder judged necessary to be kept in Garrison at Vellore, & as it has been usual for the Storekeeper there to provide this article, Resolved accordingly that he be directed to make the quantity requisite to compleat the Stock at Vellore in the same manner & at the same price as formerly.

Lieutenant Colonel Ross having departed for Europe on the Duke of Kingston, Major Skeene is appointed a Member of the Committee of Works in his room.

Tho. Rumbold
John Whitehill
Hector Munro

B. Bowring

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Dispatches the following Letter to Lieut.

Colonel Horne.

To Lieutenant Colonel Horne

commanding at

Tanjore

Sir

To Lieut: Colonel Horne to repeat the cautionary Orders to Lieut. White with respect to the Dutch

We have received your Letter of the 4th Instant enclosing the Correspondence which has passed between yourself & the Governor of Negapatam, also sundry Extracts of Letters written to you by Lieut. White who commands the Detachment on the Borders of the Rajahs Country towards Negapatam.

We approve of your Conduct & would have you continue to observe the same degree of caution to avoid any just complaint on the part of the Dutch. This injunction becomes the more necessary as we are apprehensive from the violent & imprudent behaviour of the Governor at Negapatam that some act of Hostility may be committed upon our People. Lieut. White seems to conduct himself very properly, nevertheless we wish you to repeat the Cautionary Orders before given him in such manner that one may not in any shape appear the aggressors but merely acting the part which our engagements with the Rajah compels to take, that of defending his Country and People against every sort of hostility or violence that may be attempted upon them.

We are

Sir,

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Fort St George
18th March 1770

Pd

We enclose a Letter from aby Rahiam Cauon to the Rabob complaining of the Conduct of the people employed at the Annacuntha upon wch we beg leave to enquire into the Circumstances and let us know the Result

Journal Obedient Servants
Thos Rumbold & c.ue

At a Consultation present

The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
Governor President

Monday the 23d

John Whitehill General Munro
Charles Smith Samuel Johnson
Peter Perring

Minutes of last Consultation read

The President Lays before the Board

The following Letter from Mr William Petrie whom Leave was Granted to apply to the Rajah of Tanjore on the subject of the Grant mentioned in his Minute of the 2 March.

The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
President & Governor &c &c

Honble Sir

From Mr Wm Petrie to the Rajah cedes Negore to the Company

In consequence of your instructions to me, relative to Negore, I have for some days past been preparing the Rajah & his Decan for the introduction of a matter which would evince his gratitude to the Company, & dependance upon them for protection, at the same time declaring that it was impossible for the Company to make a request to him that was incompatible with his true Interest. I confess I apprehended opposition from the Decan Batchenah, who is said to be ill disposed towards the Company, & who I believe at first has resolved to counteract any negociation I had to bring forth, but Reports prevailed here, since my arrival, which I believe have not a little

contributed to my success. that my business was either to restore the Dauber, or to propose the cession of the Soubah of Sheally in addition, to the Districts offered by the Rajah. either of these was greatly dreaded, & it was not my Interest to contradict the Report ~ Yesterday was appointed to hear me upon business I waited upon the Rajah, & immediately conceived a good omen from the unusual attention of the Decan, I introduced the subject with as much art as I was Master of, & when I came to the proposal of exchanging the other Districts, for a cession of equal nominal value in and about Nagore, he instantly acquiesced in the most open & liberal manner, without hesitation or consulting his Decan. He repeatedly said that his Country & his life were at the disposal of the Company, that he owed both to them & should at all times be ready to lay them down, whenever the Company's Interest required it of him. He said the writings should be made out immediately, & if I may presume to advise, I think no time should be lost in taking possession of Nagore, as the Dutch are now almost at open hostilities with our Lefroys in that District. I took the liberty of thanking the Rajah in the name of the Company, for the obligation he had conferd upon them, upon which he immediately rose from his seat, & said that considering me as the Company's Representative, he returned me thanks for the unheard of favors & benefits which he had received from them.

Permit me, Sir, to congratulate you upon the acquisition of a Country, not only fertile & opulent, but from its situation, the most valuable to the English of any District in the Kingdom of Tanjore. By the possession of Nagore, you command a navigable River, & obtain a Seaport from whence the Resources of this Productive Country may

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without interruption be convey'd to Madras, as long as
we have the Command at Sea, being the advantage
which by this grant we shall gain over our Command
Rivals the Dutch.

I have the honor to be with much
respect

Sr Honble Sirs

Your most Obedient and
most humble Servant
Wm Petrie

Tanjore
14th March 1770

The Board in their late advices to the
Honble the Court of Directors by the Duke of Kingston ex-
plained their reasons for wishing to obtain the grant of Rogo-
ji &c from the Rajah in lieu of the Lands formerly offered by
him near Daveecottah & acquainted the Court at the same time
with the success of their endeavours by means of the President's
application to the Rajah thro' Mr Petrie. The Board are
well pleased with Mr Petrie's conduct & address on this
occasion, & as the Rajah hath so chearfully consented to
make the Grant agreeably to their desire, it only remains
for the Board at present to expedite the deeds or writings ne-
cessary to be executed by the Rajah on this occasion, so
that the Company may take possession of the Grant without
loss of time.

Wagoto

time

out

For this purpose it is resolved that
the President be desired to write a Letter to the Rajah ex-
pressing the Board's acknowledgements for his ready com-
pliance with their solicitations & requesting him to execute
such a deed or instrument, as may convey the proposed grant
to the Company in a valid & proper manner.

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Resolved also that Mr Petrie be directed to remain at Tanjore to expedite this Business & assist in the necessary measures to be taken after the grand is passed, & as the Board will have occasion to ascertain many particulars from the Rajah & his People in consequence of the enquiries Lately ordered by the Company it is resolved that Mr Petrie be employed on this Service at Tanjore until these enquiries are completed, & that the Rajah be informed of this resolution.

Mr Whitehill appointed President & Mr C.B. Dent a Member of the Committee of Works

As there are at present only two Members of the Committee of Works, it is agreed that Mr Cotton Bowerbank Dent be added to that Committee & that Mr Whitehill be appointed President. The Committee will then be as follows, viz.t

John Whitehill Esqr. President
Mr. John Turing
Major Stevens and
Mr. Cotton Bowerbank Dent

Read several Letters & Minutes delivered in by Mr Turing & Colonel Ross late Members of the Committee of Works wherein there appear to have been some differences between those two Gentlemen concerning an advance of 30,000 Pagodas Lately ordered by the Board for the use of the Contractor for the fortifications, in consequence of which Mr Turing has desired that a public enquiry may be made for the purpose of vindicating his Conduct upon some Charges brought against him by Colonel Ross as a Member of the Committee of Works.

With regard to the advance of money

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The Comm.ee of Works to report upon a Dispute between Mr Twiny & Lt Col. Ross.

abovementioned, it becomes necessary for the Board to Direct how that the whole be applied to the use of the Contractor for whom it was intended & it is ordered that the annual Letters & Papers delivered by Mr Twiny and Colonel Ross be referr'd to the Committee of Works that they may report upon them to the Board

Read the following Letter from

Vizagapatam.

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr

President & Governor &c Council

of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Vizagapatam Kistna Boapety makes disturbances. Capt Murphy ord. against him

In our a.cc.ts of the 2d Instant to the Civil Department, we acquainted your Honor &c.a of our having sent three Companies of Sepoys, against Kistna Boapety & his adherents in the Madegolas Country, since when, we are concerned to aquaint you, he has created fresh troubles, by burning & plundering several villages within 6 Cos of Vizianagram, & likewise attacked Dab.ber Acheps the Rajah's Manager in the Madegolas Count.ry, killed & wounded about fifteen of his Peons: In consequence of this intelligence, & Rajah's application to Us, we came to the resolution of ordering Captain Murphy to march with his Battalion from Chicacole, towards Madegolas, in order to put an effectual Stop, to these troubles, which we hope will induce the Weavers to return to their Villages; & the Investment carried on without further interruption

We are with great respect

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Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient
humble Servants
H. Williams

Vizagapatam
13th March 1778

V. Barlow
Chas. Maxtone

The Board approve of the measures taken by the Gentlemen at Vizagapatam to quell the Disturbances raised in the Circar.

Read the following Letters from Lieut: Colonel Horne commanding Officer at Tanjore.

Major General Munro
Commander in Chief of the Forces

Sir

I have the honor to transmit to you the Proceedings of the Court of Enquiry which I ordered to assemble to state such facts as they could come at the knowledge of respecting the imprisonment of a Subidar & three Sepoys of the 15th Battalion, & one Sepoy of the 6th Battalion at Negapatam, & also into the truth of a Complaint written to me by Mr. Vansittart Governor of Negapatam charging the Subidar & Sepoys with having committed Robberies & many violences within the limits of the Dutch Government.

Although the Officers who composed the Court of Enquiry are Sepoy Officers: Yet as this was a singular case & may in its consequences become a serious affair

From Lt. Col. Horne with Proceedings of a Court of Enquiry into the Grounds of a complaint made by the Govr. of Negapatam

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I desired the Fort Adjutant to assist the Court & to write their Proceedings; The Town Major & Captain Davies Commanding the 15th Battalion of Sepoys I desired also to attend the Court & see that they proceeded regular & if possible to come at the real truth of this Complaint; and from all accounts I can learn, the Circumstances are justly related in the Courts Proceedings.

I also enclose you a Copy of Lieut. White's Letter to me in answer to one I wrote to him in Consequence of the Dutch Governor's Letter to me of the 5th Inst. a Copy of which I enclosed him; by his answer & the proceedings of the Court of Enquiry I think it fully appears that the whole of Mr Van Bleiswingan's Conduct has been violent & hostile towards the Company, in imprisoning the Subidar & Sepoys & keeping them in close confinement & treating them as if they were Felons, knowing at the same time one of them was an Officer; The cause he assigned for this treatment appears to be groundless & ill founded even by the accounts he himself has sent up in a deposition taken at Negapatam; as that only takes notice of one of his Prisoners having been among the Sepoys who the night before they were taken was one of those that stopped the Grain going out of the Rajahs Country into the Dutch Bounds; and this was done by Orders & authority of the Rajahs Managers, who he ought to have applied to had he conceived the Government at which he resides had been any ways injured.

Lieut. White has sent a Subidar to Toptonee to enquire into the particulars of the Complaint concerning the Boat; I have also sent to relieve the Sepoys

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ed that Station I have sent Hircarrahs to make minute en-
quiry concerning it, no accounts are yet arrived of this
Affair, I expect them in a day or two when I will inform
you of them.

As Mr Van Bleissingens last letter was
of such a tendency as induced me to lay it before the Board,
I do not know if it would be proper for me to let him know
the sense I entertain of the Complaint he preferd against the
Subadar & Sepoys in consequence of the Enquiry into the
foundation of that Complaint, as in that case I should be
oblig'd to protest against his Conduct, & to set it forth in
the colors it really merits I shall therefore not answer him
on the subject unless you conceive some notice should be
taken by me as Commanding Officer of the Company's
Troops in this Country for ill treatment received by Men
acting under my Command: I have the honor to be
with great respect

Sir

Your most Obedient
humble Servant
Matw. Horne

Tanjore
March 13th 1770

P. S. Captain Dugood of the Engineers, has applied
to me for two Officers & 20 Men to proceed to Vellum
to clear & then load the mines, which he proposes spring-
ing; there were not sprung before on account of the setting
in of the Rains.

Proceedings of a Sepoy Court of Enquiry held
by Order of Lieutenant Colonel Horne at Tanjore
the 7th March 1770.

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Meer Saib Commandant President

Lechimie, Nimbagerow } Subadars / Serrudars } Shaick Ebrahim, Tangapah

Shack Emall Subadar in the 15th Battalion, Shack Ouliah, Shack Ouzain, Ringaudy Sepoys in the same Battalion, and Mooteiah Sepoy in the 6th Battalion, being called before the Court in order to be interrogated on the grounds of the Charges alleged against them by Mr Van Bleysingin Governor of Negapatam in his Letter to Colonel Stevens of the 17th of February last, & for which they were taken up & confined in Negapatam, which Letter & several Paragraphs of Lieut: Whites Letters to Colonel Stevens, which have reference to this affair together with the judicial declarations of some Inhabitants of the Dutch Settlements are laid before the Court for their further information, & inserted herein according to their several Dates.

No 1.

Dutch Governors Letter to Colonel Stevens.

"To the Commanding Officer
"of the Honble English Company's
"Forces at Tanjore

"Sir

"For some days ago were taken up
"by our Sepoys in the Dutch Company's Village Maddekondee
"of Captain John Davies's Battalion, a Black Officer named
"Shack Emall Subadar, & four Sepoys, Shack Ouzain, Shack Ouliah
Rangachy & Mooteiah, who with English uniform & arms

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"committed there, several outrages & insolences, as breaking up
"of Houses, stealing of Paddy, obliging the Women that came
"to the market of that Village to carry the stolen Paddy to Nagore
"keeping them at that place in Arrest, tearing their Cloths as also
"those of several Inhabitants of said Villages, & taking them
"away, with more other misbehaviours too long to mention.
"I have kept them in arrest, & considered what I should do with
"them, but I have taken the Resolution to send the said Black
"Officer & Sepoys to you with request that you would punish
"them according to their works, for it is not permitted to go into
"Foreign Powers Country & commit such Outrages & insolences.
"I beg also you would give Orders to the Troops under your
"Command to let the Dutch Company's District & villages un-
"molested, for, if I should take up any more of such bad be-
"having People I shall be obliged to punish them according
"to their Works".

"I remain with Esteem

"Sir

"Negapatam
"17th February 1770

"Your most humble and
"Obedient Servant
(signed) "Van Bleiswyck

On receipt of the Dutch Governors
Complaint, Colonel Horne immediately sent down Orders to
Lieut: White (who is stationed at Nagore with two Companies
of Sepoys) to make every possible enquiry relative to that trans-
action, to which Mr White writes in answer as follows.

"To Colonel Horne
Commanding
"Tanjore

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No 2, Para.s of Lieutenant
Whites Letter of the 23d

Sir

"Your Letter of the 22d I received at 12 o'Clock
last night, & will make every enquiry I can relative to the
"Subadar. the Amildar having varied in his story requested to be
"allow'd to inform himself more fully by to morrow, as he did
"him whatever he said he must put his name to".

Thereafter Colonel Horne received another Letter from Lieut.t
White as follows

To Colonel Horne
Commanding
Tanjore

Sir

No 3
Para.s of Lieut.t White's Letter
of the 24th

"The Amildar of this place has this day
"brought me a Man who says he saw the Subadar taken by the
"Dutch, & who relates it in the following manner, - The
"Subadar met with the Renta Chinnapillay, & the Dutch Mer-
"chants that was made Prisoners part of the way from hence
"to Trivalore, when Chinnapillay thought himself pretty
"much out of the reach of the Dutch, he desired the Subadar
"to turn back to Nagore, who returned the same way he went.
"& both times thro the village of Parsaram Chitty Trawol,
"exceedingly close to Wadakinday, it was on his return, that
"the Dutch Sepoys who lay in wait at Parsaram Chitty
"Trawol, seized him, & carried him & the Sepoys to Negapatam.
"The amildar says that the Subadar
"has committed no Robberies or violence or disturbance of any
"kind at Watonkadie or any of the Dutch Villages, the
"Village of Parsaram Chitty Trawol belongs to the
"Dutch, & I believe a shorter Road runs by it to Trivalore

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"Mean this the Rajah's Country"

N.A. Declaration of the Inhabitants of the Dutch Village

"This Day being the 24th of February
"1770 compared before me John Abrahim Brousfield first
"mover Clerk of the Police & Secretary to the respectable
"Court of Justice of this Fort the Inhabitants of the
"Company's Village Naoochaidee, Sjesjappayer, Sjesjanyer
"& naren. & Vissoowanada Noorkal, who as being thereto au-
"thorized by the Honble Reynier van Bleiswinger Esquire
"Governor & Director on the Coast of Chormandel, at the
"request of Adigar or inspector of the villages Mr. Johannes
"Schimann, confess'd & declared to be true & effectively that
"the night before, the Company's Merchants of Ports Nova
"were at Nagore kept, & brought away according to their
"guessing about 2 o'clock, four English Sepoys with arms,
"& two Harcarrah's came to the said Village, & broke thro' the
"back part into the house of the first attestant, taking out
"by force eighty four measures of Paddy, which they had
"afterwards some Women from this town who came in
"the Evening to purchase paddy, but remained there & slept
"the night at the house of the attestant, & in the meighbou-
"hood by the other two Attestants, to carry that Paddy & go
"with them, having before, the abovemention'd Sepoys
"& Harcarrah's forced themselves into the houses of the other
"attestants, as also into that of one Anna Ayen, but find-
"ing nothing left them, that the mention'd Sepoys & Harcar-
"rah's the attestants, as well as the mention'd Anna Ayen
"& the Brother of the 2d attestant by name Sy Akbere &.
"paya, with three Sepoys of the Company's who were
"also come to that village to purchase Paddy remained
"that night there, had forced to go with them, but of the last

"mentiond, they let go on the way two who had their Company's
"Turbans — The mentiond English Company's Sepoys had also
"taken from one of the abovementiond women 38 ½ measures
"of Paddy which she had purchased for 9 fanams & put it into
"a bag, taking all the abovementiond Women & one Company's
"Sepoy who had no uniform nor Turban with them Attestants,
"under all sorts of ill usage by kicking them, licking all Language,
"thrusting & tearing off their Cloaths &c. to Nagore, where they
"were arrested at Alacherry. That on Friday one Ramia Kistna
"Poelle who was commanded at Nagore had examind the attestants
"& being by them informd that they were Inhabitants of the
"abovementiond Company's Village, & that they had purchased
"no other Paddy but what was harvested in their place,
"said Ramah Kistna Poelle had permitted them, as well as
"the Sepoy & Women to go their way without giving them their
"Paddy taken away.

That the attestants being returnd that
"day at about four or half five in the afternoon to their Village
"Waddekoodee, had found there a Serjeant two Corporals &
"twenty five Sepoys of the Company's to whom they had related
"what had happened to them the night before & that day.

That just at that time an Officer
"& four Sepoys arrived going that way to Nagore which they
"supposed to be the same who had carried away the Company's
"Porto Nova Merchants, amongst who, the second Attestant
"was very certain to be one of those who the night before
"with the others had been in the village & committed
"all what is abovesaid, & upon which the attestants had
"given intelligence thereof to the mentiond Company's Peons,
"who had then arrested them, notwithstanding they resisted

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"the said English Sepoy Officer & Sepoys with three Coolies who
"carried an empty Dooley & a Peon whereby the same, that short
"after this the Commander of the Sepoys Mr. Fregalaar arrived
"at Wassekoibie to whom the attestants related all before said,
"upon which he ordered the Sepoy Officer, alls Sepoys, Peon
"& Coolies to the Garden China Sinisher, herewith declaring
"the attestants they have evinced the real truth, somade &
"declared in the Fork of Negapatam date as above mention'd
"in the presence of the sworn Clerk in the Secretary's Office men-
"tion'd as Witnesses, the original being duly signd which Wit-
"nesses John Abrahim Brownfield first sworn Clerk, for the
"translation, John Godefroy de Keeho.

Shake Esmall Subadar being called before the Court & interrogated upon oath, That in January last several Companies of Sepoys having been ordered to march from Tanjore into the Country in order to assist the Rajahs amildars in collecting the Revenues, he with his Company was then ordered with on that duty; The instructions given him by Colonel Kerne were to obey all orders he should receive from the Amildars respecting the collecting the Revenues of the Country, that he was detached to the village of Trivalore & was soon thereafter ordered by Chinnapilley the amildar of that Village to march with one Havildar one Naigue & twelve Sepoys & accompany him to Nagore, that he immediately did so & arrived there that evening & put up with his Sepoys at the Cutcherie, where there were four Guards of Sepoys from the same Battalion, that he was directed by the Amildar to remain there till he the Amildar should return from the Country where he said he was going for a few days; That the Amildar came back to

Nagore in seven Days, & three days thereafter he received orders from him to apprehend seven Men who arrived there that day in Palankeens being informd by the Annulsar that they were Merchants who owed Money to the Rajah, that the Annulsar told him he was going to a Choultry about five or six Miles off on the road leading from Nagore to Tranquebar & to carry his Prisoners to that Choultry where he should receive further Orders; that the Declarant went accordingly to the Houses where these Merchants put up in order to execute his Orders, but found all of them were already made Prisoners by a Subadar of Captain McKinnie's Battalion who had three days before come to Nagore from Manercoil along with the Annulsar & had been charged with the same Commission by him) that the declarant & the above Subadar, as directed, carried them to the aforementioned Choultry where he found the Annulsar, that here he received Orders to leave a guard of a Naigue & six Sepoys over the Prisoners & proceed with the remaining three Sepoys to Nagore, having left one of the twelve behind him at the Cutcherie, that he accordingly marchd from the Choultry & proceeding about a mile & a half, they came to a Choultry situated in the Angle of the road where it diverges, one Road leading to Nagore & another to Negapatam, & on coming in front of this Choultry there came up immediately to him a Dutch Subadar with a Company of Sepays, who challengd "who are you" to which the Declarant answered "who are you that ask" & the Dutch Subadar replying that he was an Officer of the Dutch Company's, the Declarant told him that he was another in the Service of the Honble English Company, upon which the Dutch Subadar said he was ordered by the

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Governor to take him Prisoner, & that he & the Sepoys must surrender & deliver their Arms, The Declarant answered he had no connection with him & that he would not Deliver up his arms, but the Dutch Subadar telling him that he would Compell him, the declarant thought it advisable to surrender, on which their arms were taken from them & Centries posted over them in the Choultry; that here they were kept for four or five hours till the Dutch Subadar returnd from Negapa. tam, either he had gone to give information of what hap. pened, that then there came to the Choultry from Nega. patam along with the Dutch Subadar, an European Dutch Officer, two Serjeants & two Topasses with two Baskets of ammunition, which was distributed to the Company of Sepoys in the Choultry, that the Declarant, by order of the same European Dutch Officer, was conducted under a guard to Negapatam together with the three abovemen. tiond Sepoys & likewise another Sepoy of the sixth Battalion & four Coolies of Chiringopolies / who carried an empty Dooly / & happend at this time to be passing the Choultry, & were arrested by the Dutch Sepoys, that on their arrival at Negapatam, the Declarant & the rest of the Prisoners were carried before the Governor who / by his Interpreter / askd who he was, & who the Sepoys & Coolies along with him were, that the Declarant informd him he was an officer in the English Company's Service & four of the others, Sepoys in the Service, upon which the Governor without further question, ordered the Declarant, Sepoys & Coolies to be sent Prisoners to the main guard where they were confind to the Corjee-house, & remaind there for fifteen Days, during which time they were fed on a scanty allowance

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of boiled Rice, Pepper water, & Greens, without any salt. That the Declarant & most of the other Prisoners are of different Casts, that no straw or other bedding was provided for them, & no distinction or preference shown to the Declarant, but his victuals served to him promiscuously with the other Prisoners, that on the 14th day of their confinement a Serjeant took down the Declarants name, & the Sepoys & the Battalion & Compannies to which they belong'd, & the same day the Coolies were released that the following day the Declarant & four Sepoys were carried under a guard to the Governors house, where he gave Orders for their being conducted without the Dutch bounds & there dismiss'd, that they were accordingly carried beyond the Bounds, had their arms delivered to them, & then permitted to go about their business, that they went immediately to Nayone whom he met with Lieut: White & related to him what happened, who told him that he with the Sepoys who were made Prisoners must proceed by order of Colonel Horne to Tanjore directly, which they accordingly did.

The Declarant being asked by the Court whether at the time he & Sepoys were made Prisoners by the Dutch, they all had their uniforms on, answers in the affirmative.

The Court is adjourn'd till Monday 8 o'clock

Tanjore March 9th 1770 — The Court being met accor-
ding to adjournment, proceed to the Examination of Shack
Hussain Sepoy in the 15th Battalion, who being called on and
interrogated apart declares that he was one of the Sepoys who
composed the guard that marched in February last with
Shack Emall Subadar from the village of Trivalore
to Negore along with Phinapilly the Armelon & expres

in every thing with the above Declarant in regard to the taking Prisoners the Dutch Merchants, & there being made Prisoners themselves by the Dutch.

D. ——— Ringathey Sepoy in the 15th Battalion being called on declares, that sometime in the months of February last, he with eleven other Sepoys of his Battalion, marched under the Command of a Havildar from Onamercoil to Nagore, that about eight days after their arrival at Nagore, Shack Emall Subadar (the first Declarant) arrived there with four guards of Sepoys, & was, the same day, ordered by him to go along with eleven of there other Sepoys, to conduct seven Dutch Merchants whom they had made Prisoners, to a Choultry about six miles off on the road Leading to Trivalore which they accordingly did, where on their arrival they found the Amuldar of that Village; that a Guard was left over the Prisoners here, & he the Declarant was ordered with two other Sepoys to go back with the Subadar to Nagore; That on their way back to Nagore they were met on by some Dutch Sepoys at a Choultry in the Angle of the main road where it diverges to Negapatam & Nagore, & carried Prisoners to & confin'd in Negapatam, exactly in the manner already related by the preceding Declarants.

4th ——— Mooteah Sepoy in the sixth Battalion says that in the month of February last he was at Nagore with some other Sepoys under the Command of Chinnatombi a Subadar of that Battalion, who having apprehended seven Merchants there, by order of the Renter of Trivalore & who were conducted by a Subadar of the 15th Battalion

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with a party of Sepoys to a Choultry about six Miles off from Nagore, he the Declarant was ordered to proceed to join them at that Choultry, how soon he should collect some Money for the above Renter of Tirulore, that having finish'd that Business he set off for the place directed, but on coming to a Choultry lying between Nagore & it. a Dutch Subadar & some Sepoys came up to him & ask'd who he was & where he was going, that on informing them they made him Prisoner, as they said, he had done to some Negapatam People, that there were at this time in the Choultry a Subadar & three Sepoys of the 15th Battalion whom they had likewise seized on, & some Coolies. In other particulars he agrees exactly with the preceding Declarants.

5th Shack Dulcah Sepoy in the 15th Battalion says, that some time last month he with some Sepoys of his Battalion were ordered to go to Nagore with a Hircarrah of the Rajah's that about ten days after their arrival there, he & four other Sepoys were ordered by his Havildar to go with the same Hircarrah, whose Orders they were to obey, to a Choultry about four Miles off on the road to Tirulore, that on their coming to this Choultry which is situated in the Center of the Road where the Negapatam & Tiruloe road strike off, the Hircarrah ordered two Sepoys to be posted in the rear of the Choultry close by the side of the Tiruloe road, & the Declarant to be posted in front of the Choultry with Orders to these Centries to stop all People passing with Paddy, that next morning about day break two Men & twelve Women were coming along the Tiruloe road towards the Choultry one Man & one of the Women having a quantity of Paddy in Bags on

their heads, that on coming within eight or ten yards of the Choultry, they were called to stop by the two Centries behind the Choultry, on which the Man who had the bag of Paddy immediately threw it down on the ground & ran off, that the Horcarrah ordered the rest to be kept Prisoners till he should return from a Village at a small distance the name of which the Declarant does not know, that the Horcarrah soon after returnd with two Braminies who he said sold the Paddy to these People, all whom he ordered the Sepoy to carry to Nagore, which they accordingly did. That on the Horcarrahs telling the Prisoners he had orders to stop all the Paddy going to Negapatam from the Rajahs Country, they made no difficulty of going along with the Sepoys to Nagore, & one of the Women, on being desired took up the bag of Paddy that had been thrown away by the Man as abovementioned & carried it into Nagore, that neither the Declarant, nor any of the other Sepoys beat or abused any of these People, or tore their Cloaths or gave them bad Language, for they had no reason to do it as the People made not the smallest resistance, that on their arrival at Nagore they carried them to one of the Rajahs Amuldars who kept the Paddy & let the Man & Women go about their Business, & likewise the two Braminies, after cautioning them for the future not to sell any more Paddy to the Inhabitants of the Dutch Settlements. That about nine o'clock in the morning of the same day the amuldar gave Orders to apprehend seven Merchants who had just come into Nagore, but who had previously been taken by a party of Captain Mc. Kenzies Sepoys, That these Merchants were carried Prisoners to the Choultry mentioned

by the former Declarants, by the two Subadars, the Declarant being one of the guard of nine Sepoys under the Command of Shack Ismail, that on their arrival here a guard of one Naigue & six Sepoys of the Declarants Battalion being posted over the Prisoners he the Declarant was ordered by his Subadar to go back to Nagore with him & two other Sepoys, that proceeding about a mile & half on the road to Nagore within sight of the Choultry where the People who had the Paddy were made Prisoners that morning, a Dutch Subadar with a party of Sepoys came up to them & took them Prisoners, in the manner related by the former Declarants with whom this Declarant agrees in every particular that passed afterwards.

6th Quimatombee Subadar in the 6th Battalion of Sepoys being called on, says, that some months ago he was detached with his Company from Arcandingy to Imanarcoil with Orders from his Captain to obey such Orders as he should receive from the Rajahs Amuldars, that some time in February last he was ordered by Chinnapillay Amuldar to go to Trivalore with three guards of Sepoys, & from thence the same Day he accompanied the Amuldar of Nagore, & three or four days after his first arrival there having twice accompanied him backwards & forwards from Trivalore to Nagore, he was ordered by the said Amuldar to apprehend seven Men who arrived there that Day in Palankeens, That the Declarant told the Amuldar he believed they were Dutch Merchants, as they had Dutch Sepoys with them, & that he did not know what Business he had with them, to which the Amuldar replied that that did not signify, for they owed Money to the Rajah

and he must take them Prisoners, which he accordingly Did, as directed by the Amuldar, he & a Subadar of the 15th Battalion carried them immediately to a Choultry about six Miles off where the Amuldar was waiting for them, that from this place the Declarant with his own Sepoys & one Naigue & six Sepoys of the other Subadars, immediately carried the Merchants Prisoners to Trivalore, being accompanied by the Amuldar & a Number of his match-lock peons, The Declarant being further interrogated says, that at the time he took the Merchants Prisoners they had four Dutch Sepoys with them with Firelocks & wooden Drivers in them that they were at that time eight or ten yards distant from the Merchants, & never offered to interpose or spoke a word on the occasion & followed the Merchants in the car to Trivalore & remained with them there till they were released, The Declarent believes these Sepoys were given as an escort to the Merchants, with, which he is informed the Dutch generally indulge their Merchants when travelling thro' the Country on their paying Batta to them; the Declarant further says, that when he took the Merchants Prisoners they told him they were Porto Nova Merchants, had been at Negapatam on business & were again returning to Porto Nova.

2d ——— Arinachalem Declarth to Colonel Horne being called on to inform the Court what Orders he gave by direction of the Colonel to the Subadars that went into the Country in January Last, says that the Colonel desired him to inform them that they were sent into the Country for the purpose of assisting the Rajahs Amuldars in collecting

Moores, & that they were to obey all orders they should re-
ceive from the Annudars relative to that business,
which instruction he pointedly delivered to the Subadars,
That the 27th or 28th of January last he received a Cadjan
by the Rajahs Tappall, from the Subadars Shack
Amall & Ebrimatoomlee preceding Declarants, inform-
ing him that they had received Orders from Guntoo-
poolie the renter to post Centries along the bounds of
the Dutch Settlements, in order to stop Paroy, Bettle or
any things else from passing out of the Rajahs Country
to Negapatam or any other of the Dutch Settlements,
& desiring to be informed whether they were to obey these
Orders; that having acquainted Colonel Horne of this,
the Colonel desired him to inform the Subadars that
whatever Orders the Annudars gave them with respect
to collecting the Revenues of this Country, or preventing
the Rajahs People from having any intercourse with
those of the Dutch they must obey, but upon no account
whatever to pass the bounds of the Dutch Territories,
that the Declarant accordingly sent a Cadjan by the
Tappal to the Subadars first mentioned acquainting them
of these Orders.

The two Subadars Shack Emall
& Ebrimatoomlee being called before the Court & asked
separately whether they received these new instructions declare
they never did or any others but those first given them.

W.G. President

To

38 Fort St George 23d March 1770.

To Colonel Horne

Commanding

Tanjore

Sir,

I am this morning favored with
your Letter of the 8th enclosing the Dutch Governors
From L'Colvile in answer to several complaints made by the Dutch
Letter containing his Complaints & of these there is only
the stopping the Tappals & detaining the Peons & the in-
tercepting the Sepoys between Trinchinopoly & Negapatam
Country that can relate to me.

In answer to which Sir I am
to inform you that I have never given Orders for stopping
Tappals or Peons going to or from Negapatam or for
stopping any Tappals or Peons whatever, nor has any
such People ever made me acquainted with their being
stopp'd or detain'd, nor has application from such People
to pass ever been made to me.

As to the Sepoys that were inter-
cepted between Trinchinopoly & Negapatam they were only
three, they were taken with Arms at Vangaram Marcy
in the Rajahs Country & of these three, only one was
brought to Nagore, who had with him an English Lascar,
which this Sepoy had taken in the Dutch Limits, & was
carrying along with him, when the Jemidars guard
at Vangaram Marcy took him, this Sepoy Recieved
directly Orders to release the other two which was
immediately complied with. This properly speaking was
only detaining three armed Men till Liberty was obtained
for them to pass which was immediately granted with
out their suffering in their Persons or effects. Neither

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People belonging in any Station whatever to the Dutch have been brought here or detain'd any where Prisoners by my Sepoys.

My reason Sir, for posting the Jemidars Guard at Vangarum Mooty, are that my instructions allot I am not to molest the Dutch in their Country, & yet I am to protect the Rajahs Country & his Subjects from violence in the Rajahs Limits. The manager of this Village & the Renter of this Country has often inform'd me that Grain coming to Nagore had been drove from the Rajahs Country near Vangarum Mooty by Dutch Sepoys into the Negapatam Country, & as these Complaints increas'd daily, I found myself under the necessity of complying with my instructions & of ordering a Jemidars guard for the protection of the Rajahs Subjects in the Rajahs high road to Nagore, which Order the Jemidar who Commands this guard by his reports to me has follow'd exactly.

As to the Complaint about the boat coming from Colombo, I have only to observe to you that if such an action has been committed by the Company's Sepoys it has not been by any of mine, but by the Sepoys given to the Renter before my arrival & who are dispersed for the Collection of the Revenue. A Subidar is gone to Toptoree is said to be about fourteen Coss from hence, when he returns I will report to you the result of his enquiry. Therefore the Dutch Governors information of such things being done by Orders or consent of Officers is very erroneous, I will be much obligd to you to justify me on these heads to the Honble Board at Madras.

The Renter is this morning

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in the Country & when he returns will observe that part of your Letter relative to the Dutch Governor, & if any station near Arangwerum marry which is in the Rajahs Country will answer equally for the protection of the Rajahs Subjects I will place the Sepoys guard there.

None of my People have as yet gone into any of the Dutch Bounds, but for fear they should I will repeat my Orders on this head.

I remain with respect

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Edward White

Nagore
9th March 1770.

P.S. The Communication between Negapatam & the Mountain Country has been so open that the Dutch have relieved their Guard at the latter this day previous to the receipt of your Letter.

Major General Munro

Commander in Chief of the Forces

Sir

On a thorough examination of the Dutch Governor's complaint of one of their Boats having been stopt at Toptoree by our Sepoys, I find he has been misinformed respecting that particular Boat, & mistaken the fact; nevertheless it appears our Sepoys have been employed by the Rajah's Amildar in stopping Boats coasting along that part of the Coast & my Orders sent for preventing any thing of the kind being carried on by our Sepoys, have been

From Lt. Col. Nixon advising strengthening the Troops stationed at Nagore.

intercepted by the Rajahs Managers, as I conceive, they not having been received by the Officers they were sent to, & being sent through the Rajahs Tappals renders this Surmise probable; as I laid the Dutch Governor's Letter before the Board, I have this day wrote them an account of the particulars of this Affair as far as I have been able to come at the truth of the whole of it; I therefore beg leave to refer you to that Letter.

The Dutch Governor still denies any knowledge of Comara Saheb, though the Rajah's People a short time was sent by him to Jafnapatam; He talks of sending for Troops to Ceylone. And from the Character he bears he is a Man likely to go extraordinary lengths if in his power would bring on a Rupture. His Conduct shewed his disposition to have Commenced hostilities when our Army lay at Nagore soon after the reduction of Tanjore I should not therefore be much surprised if these disputes between him & the Rajah are not soon terminated if he should make a sudden attack on our Sepoys under some pretence or other; I am therefore of Opinion if matters are not made up the two Companies now down are not a Force sufficient to defend themselves against an attack even if joined. But if the Rajah is to be supported in the present measure three or four Companies more of Sepoys should be ordered down with a Brigade of Guns, the whole drawn together in a Centrical Situation from whence small Guards may be detach'd to keep the Rajah's own People in obedience to his Orders, & the main Body remain in a Situation of security from any rash attempt of Mr. Van Bleiswyken.

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I have spoke to the Rajahs Minister concerning the Amildars employing the Company's Sepoys in such Duties as detaining Boats belonging to foreign Nations &c. he has promised they shall not be employd on those occasions in future, & has ordered the Rajahs Packeel to inform the Dutch Governor, he has given Orders not to stop any Boats belonging to them going along the Coast

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

Matt.w Horne

Tanjore
16th March 1770.

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr.

President & Governor &c.

of Fort S.t George

Hble Sir & Sirs

From Lt Colonel Horne giving an accot of the several Boats that has been stopp'd by our Sepoys

I have examin'd very particularly into the Complaints made by the Dutch Governor respecting the Company's Sepoys having stopp'd a Dutch Boat from Colombo going to Negapatam; that part of the Complaint respecting the taking from the Boat her Sails, & detaining her & offering to release her on paying two Pagodas I find is without foundation; the whole of this affair is as follows.

The Sea Coast on the Southward of Negapatam to the Boundaries of the Maravar Country is under the Manager of the Mannercoil District, a Naigue & 6 Sepoys were stationd at Toptonee, at Vadamary about two Miles from Toptonee & at Carecarry a place

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about 12 Miles from Cadarany; this guard were under the Orders of the Amildar of Carcany, who says he has Orders from Chinnapillah the Rajahs Manager to stop & search all Boats Coasting along shore; in Consequence of these Orders, three of this guard of Sepoys were Stationed at Carcany with Orders on the appearance of any Boat near Shore for two of them to go off & detain her till a pass should be obtained from the Rajahs Manager; in Consequence of these Orders, on the 25th of January a boat was stopt, from Colombo for Karical, & detained nine days loaded with Cocoa Nuts & Betle, the owner hearing of it & that the market was a good one sent Orders for the Cargoe to be sold at Tranquebar which was done, from this boat it appears that the two Sepoys received Rice to the value of Ten Pagodas Fanams.

A few days after they stopt a boat from Adirapatam who was returning to Madras, being empty she was released as soon as she was brought in to Carcany.

The third boat stopt was loaded with Tamerinds & was detained two or three days & then released by Binnapillah & the Amildars Orders.

The fourth a boat loaded with Legions from Colombo, to Tranquebar or Karical which was detained a few days & then released by the Amildars Orders.

The fifth & which by the time must be the Boat the Dutch Governor alludes to in his Letter, was a large Boat, the two Sepoys went off in their small boat as ordered & on approaching the Dutch Boat called to her to bring too, which they refused, hoisting Dutch Colors & continuing their Course, in this Boat there were

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some Europeans aboard & four small Guns; the Sepoys returnd
ashore, but after the Boat had proceeded about five Miles
the wind being unfavorable she came to an anchor, where
she remaind two Days but no Sepoy went near her.

This account which I have ob-
tain'd from a close examination of the Peigne & Sepoys who
are now here corresponds with the accounts I have obtain'd by
an Peicarrah I sent down to make a particular enquiry on
the spot & also with the accounts which Lieut. White's re-
ceived from such enquiries as he has been able to make

It is necessary that I should observe here
that at the commencement of this disturbance between the
Rajah & the Dutch, being apprehensive that the Rajah's
Managers would make use of our Sepoys on improper oc-
casions I directed Letters to be written to the two Subidars
on duty in the Tranquebar Districts in the Country Lan-
guage directing them to give strict Orders to our Sepoys not
to enter the Dutch Bounds nor to Commit any hostilities
whatever but to Confine themselves to obeying such Orders
as they should receive from the Rajah's Managers respecting
the Collection of the Revenues & Government of the Country
& having afterwards heard in January of a Boat being stopp'd
on the Coast by our Sepoys, ordered another Letter to be written
the Subidars informing them that the Sepoys were by no
means to be employ'd on such Duty. These Letters were sent
by the Rajah's Tappals, but the Subidars deny ever receiving
them & Dam forwarded they were stopp'd by the Rajah's Ma-
nagers.

I have inform'd the Rajah's Ministers
of the Dutch Governor's Complaint respecting what

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he says about stopping their Boats &c. of the impropriety of employing the Company's Sepoys in a business of that kind, especially as he was informd of the Orders given the Subidars on that head, he lays the Blame on Chinna Pillah & lay the Rajahs Orders had wrote to the Brachmen at Negapatam & has furnished me with the following Paragraph of his Letter Viz.t

"We have positively Commanded our Amildar of the Mannargoil District that he is not on "any account to pass our Territories or go into the Dutch "Bounds; neither is he or any under him to insult or "give offence to any of the European Dutch, or People under "their protection; moreover he is not to stop, or cause to be "stopt any Boats or Vessels going along the Coast, on pain "of our displeasure."

These Orders together with mine have prevented any excuse, will I am perswaded put a stop to any more irregularity's of this Kind indeed the Sepoys cannot be blamed as they obeyd the Amildar's Orders, except in the Article of the ten fanams worth of Rice which the Amildar says was with his knowledge & voluntary on the part of the Boat People however I have confin'd these two Sepoys & shall try them for the offence as they receive Batta from the Company when employd on the Country Duty

As the Sepoys have for some time been detachd when on the Country duty without European Officers, to prevent Numbers of Complaints that I understand were constantly making by the Renters of interference &c.

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though without much Cause y to prevent their having any ex-
cuse for any deficiency in their payment on that account
the Black Officers only have been sent upon this duty y directed
to give every assistance to the Managers y Comply with their
requisitions, nevertheless some inconveniences have ensued;
The Sepoys have been employd on many occasions very im-
properly by the different Amildars, great irregularities
have been committed in the Country, y the Discipline of
the Sepoys greatly injurd; but the situation we are placed in
respecting the Settlements of Negapatam, Karreical y Tran-
quebar, renders the trusting our Sepoys in the neighbourhood
of those places solely under the Orders of the Rajahs Mana-
gers without any European Officers to check their Conduct
or to give immediate information of what they are doing
somewhat inconvenient particulars as these Managers are
too apt to commit many irregularities to serve private pur-
poses — I should conceive a prudent Officer constantly sta-
tiond at Nagore would be of great use on this account
y on many other occasions, y give no just Cause of Complaint
to the Rajahs Managers; as I have found repeatedly that
the Orders I have sent to the Black Officers in different
parts of the Country by the Rajahs Tappals have not
been delivered, y Letters of information they have sent to
me by that Channel have not always come to hand so
soon as they ought, — I have posted Tappal Peons from hence
to Nagore which during the present Dispute with the Dutch
I hope your Honr y Co. will approve of my Continuing.

I have the honour to be with respect

Honble Sir y Sirs

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Tanjore
16th March 1770.

Yours most Obedient
humble Servant
Matt.w Horne

To Lieut Colonel Horne Fort Transmit.

Observations & Resolutions of the Board on the above Subject

To all the Correspondence that has passed between Himself & the Governor of Negapatam with the Proceedings of the Court of Enquiry ordered to examine into the Conduct of the Subadar & Sepoys who had been viewed by the Governor of Negapatam & confind in the Main-guard there, it is resolved to write a letter on this subject to the Governor & Council of Negapatam complaining of the hostile & violent Behaviours of the Governor Mr Van Bleiswyck & acquainting them at the same time that as we have & shall continue to give strict Orders to prevent any irregularities being committed by our Sepoys in the Tanjore Country, we shall expect on their part that nothing be attempted, which may in its Consequences affect the tranquility we wish to preserve with the Servants and People belonging to the Dutch Company.

In consequence of the intimation which has been given to Lieut: Col: Horne Capt.n Lysaght & Captain Eddingtown, it is now resolved that they be directed imediately to repair to Madras, & that Lieut Colonel James Fitzgerald be appointed to Command the Fort & Garrison at Tanjore.

Lt Col: Horne, Capt.n Lysaght & Eddingtown order'd to Madras

Read the following Letter from the Military Storekeeper.

To

391 Fort St George 23 March 1778.

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
President & Governor & Council

Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

From the Military Storekeeper with Statements of Gunpowder on the Coast

Agreably to my Letter of the 16th I have now the honor to lay before you a Comparative view of the Gun Powder upon the Coast, shewing the quantity stipulated, remaining in Store, & wanting to Complete each Garrison.

I am respectfully
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your very Obedient
humble Servant
John Turing

Fort St George
18th March 1778.

A Comparative view of the Gunpowder on the Coast of Choromandel shewing the quantity Stipulated, remaining in Store & wanting to compleat each Garrison

	Quantity as by Stipulation	Remains in Store	Wanting to compleat
Barrels	6084	6084	6084
Fort St George	1500	857	643
Masulipatam	1000	2154	1846
Ganjam	1200	115	1085

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Samundcottah	150	150	300
Condapilla	230	252	05
Viragapatam	400	598	-0
Chongleput	1100	67	1033
Cuddalore	300	254	46
Permacoil	260	160	100
Tiagar	200	62	138
Vellore	2200	931	1269
Amboor	240	98	142
Trichinopoly	2300	1180	1120
Madura	1200	292	908
Palamcottah	750	260	490
Tanjore	2300	1472	828
	32130	16375	15755

The annual expence of Gunpowder cant be ascertained as many of the Returns for the out Garrisons are wanting but allowing for the annual expence for exercising the Infantry only without including the Powder expended in saluting & artillery practice &c.a &c.a it will appear by the undermentiond Statement that it will require 5 Years to compleat the several Garrisons with Powder as stipulated in the General Statement calculated for aming to attack.

Wanting to compleat the several Garrisons 60 Barrels	15755	
annually made at both Mills	3200	
D.o receivd from Europe	1000	
	4200	
D.o Expended for exercising the Infantry	2275	
Annual Surplus	1925	

Fort St George
10th March 1770.

John Turing
Military Storek.r

Fort St. George 23 March 1770.

To be laid before the Committee of Stores

Ordered that a Copy of the Report delivered by the Military Storekeeper relative to the stock of Gunpowder in hand & wanting to compleat, be transmitted to the Committee of Stores who are to Consider of & report the best means of increasing the Manufactures of Powder so that the proper stock necessary for the several Garrisons may be compleated. — The Board have already determined that the Storekeeper at Vellore shall make up the quantity necessary for that Garrison, but the Committee must enquire whether a greater quantity cannot be made there, & whether this Article cannot be manufactured at other places on the Coast besides Madras.

As there appears to be a very considerable quantity of Powder expended for Salutes & exercise, General Munro is requested to consider whether it cannot with propriety be reduced.

Read the following Petition from Mr Alexander Cranstoun.

Mr Alex.r Cranstoun petitions to be made conductor of Stores at Vizagapatam

To the Honble the President and Council of Fort St George

Humbly Sheweth — The humble Petition of Alexander Cranstoun

That your Petitioner has been in the Honble Company's Service for several Years, during which time he has discharged his duty with fidelity to his Masters, & honor as a Military man to his Commanders, & has at different times has been Genl Joseph Smith, Colonels Charles Campbell, Donald Campbell, Willm Flint Humphery Harper Capt George Smith, & many others in this Country who can give a very

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advantageous Character of your Petitioner

That your Petitioner is informed that there is at present a Vacancy for a Conductor of Stores at Vizagapatam, & your Petitioner being at this conjuncture in want of Employ, & he knowing the fitness of a Conductor perfectly well, most humbly prays that in Consideration of his long services to the Company, they will be pleased to appoint him a Conductor of Stores, in which Capacity he will make it his invariable study, to discharge his duty to the utmost of his Abilities, & with the utmost fidelity.

That your Petitioner has served under Alexander Davidson Esqr, when he was Paymaster at Trichinopoly, & had the charge of the Stores, who can give a Character of the Capability of your Petitioner to fill the Employ he now solicits.

That your Petitioner most humbly prays you will take his long Services into your serious Consideration, & should you not condescend to appoint him to the employment he is desirous of, requests you will be pleased to Confer on him such an appointment as to you shall seem fitting, - & your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray

Alexander Cranstoun

Fort St George
19th March 1778.

Agreed that Mr Cranstoun be appointed Conductor of Stores at Vizagapatan

The following Appointments are now made.

Mr Flemming & Mr George Stringer to be Cadets & Mr Simon Stuart to be a Practitioner Engineer

395 Fort St. Geo.e 23 March 1770

The President reporting that a Serjeant of the European Battalion is under Confinement for desertion, Ordered that a General Court Martial be directed to sit in this Garrison on Monday next the 30th Instant.

Agreed that General Munro as Commander in Chief, & Major Stevens as Chief Engineer be appointed Members of the Committee of Stores.

Tho.s Aumbold

John Whitehill

Hector Munro

B. Berwing

396 Fort St. George 25th March 1770

At a Consultation present

The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr

Governor President

Wednesday the 25th March — John Whitehill, General Munro, Charles Smith, Samuel Johnson, Peter Perring

Minutes of last Consultation read.

The Board having resolved in Consultation the 2d March that an Oath of Secrecy should be administered to the several Members of Council, the Secretaries of both departments & their Assistants, the Persian Translator & the Ajutants on his office, the following Oath of Secrecy to be taken by the Members of the Board & the two Secretaries is approved & administred accordingly.

Oath of Secrecy administred to the Members of the Board & two Secretaries.

"I A. B. do swear that I will not before any account whatever disclose any transaction or intended transaction or Resolution of this Board (where of I am Member) that the Board at the time of taking such transaction or resolution into Consideration, declare their desire that it may not be divulged until the same shall have been regularly & officially made known thro' the President and Council or their Secretary, or carried into effect by their authority; nor will I at any time discover the vote or Opinion of any particular Member of the Board, unless required to give evidence thereof, as a Witness, by a Court of Justice in due course of Law."

Ordered that the Ajutants in the different Departments & the Persian Translator be directed to attend the Board next Council to take Oath of Secrecy.

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General Munro acquainting the Board that he is of Opinion from the Report Delivered at Last Consultation by the Military Storekeeper relative to the Gunpowder in store & the quantity necessary to Compleat, that for the present only half the quantity usually expended for Salutes & Exercise, be delivered for that purpose. Agreed accordingly, & General Munro is desired to give the necessary Orders for that purpose.

Gen.l Munro's Minute about Gunpowder

Tho. Rumbold
John Whitehill
Hector Munro

E. Perring

396 Fort St George 25th March 1770

Dispatched the following Letters

To Mr William Petrie

Sir

To Mr William Petrie to examine into the disputes with the Govt of Negapatam.

time you for some time longer at Tanjore, We desire you will examine into the State of the disputes with the Governor of Negapatam relative to the Conduct of our Sepoys in the Tanjore Country, & give us such Lights on the subject as you may be able to obtain — We enclose you a Copy of the Letter we have written to the Gentlemen at Negapatam on this occasion.

We are

Sir

Your affectionate Friends

Fort St George
25th March 1770

Thomas Rumbold & Co

To the Honble Reinier Van Vlissingen Esqr

Counsellor Extraordinary & Director

for affairs of the Dutch Company

on the Coast of Choromandel and to the

rest of the Council thereof,

at Negapatam

Honble Sir & Sirs

We are now to acquaint you

To Negapatam complaining against the Govt conduct in imprisoning some of our Sepoys

that the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr has taken charge of this Government, having arrived here lately for that purpose on a Ship from Europe.

From several representations that

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have been made to us by the Commanding Officer of our Troops at Tanjore, we are much concerned to find that disputes have arisen between him & Mr. Van Vlissingen your Governor relative to the Conduct of our Sepoys employd in the Tanjore Country & that Mr Van Vlissingen hath in consequence taken upon himself to seize & disarm by a Military Force a Subadar & four Sepoys belonging to our Company & to carry them to Negapatam, where it appears they were thrown into Prison & treated in a very disgraceful manner, no distinction being made between the Subadar who is an Officer of Rank & the Common Sepoys - That they were detaind in Prison 15 days & then carried without your bounds & released.

With respect to the Complaint on which this Conduct of Mr Van Vlissingen was founded, we have perusd all the Papers that have passd between him & the Commanding Officer at Tanjore on the subject, but we do not find any thing therein that could have authorizd such an act of hostility & violence committed upon our Sepoys without any formal Complaint or remonstrance being first made to us or any steps pursued to obtain Satisfaction or redress for any supposed injury that might have been done by those Sepoys.

This proceeding is contrary to the usage & custom of Nations in amity with each other, & is in other respects so extraordinary that we cannot forbear complaining in the strongest terms of this violent Conduct on the part of Mr Van Vlissingen & even protesting against him for any Consequences that may ensue from it injurious to the Interest of our Employers or the English Nation

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We remark that in the whole of this business Mr Van Velsingen's name only appears & indeed from the nature & tendency of the Proceedings which We have mentioned we cannot in any wise deem it the Effect of a deliberate Resolution of your Government.

We think it proper on this occasion to transmit to you enclosed a Copy of the Proceedings of a Board of Enquiry held at Tanjore to examine into the Complaint exhibited against the Subadar of Sepoys who were then said & confind at Negapatam, & to remark that these proceedings could not be made compleat on account of Mr Van Vlissingen's having declind to send the People who complaind of the Sepoys, to Tanjore to be examind; however in the state they are, they will be sufficient to evince the violent Conduct observed by that Gentleman.

At the same time that we think it our duty to remonstrate against the act of hostility aforementioned, we are far from desiring to countenance in any shape whatever, any irregular Conduct of our Sepoys or others belonging to our Company towards your People & upon a well founded complaint we shall be forward to render you all the justice & satisfaction in our power. The Sepoys of our Company being at present employd in assisting the Rajah of Tanjore in making his Collections from the Country, it is not impossible but some irregular acts may be committed, but the Laws given & shall continue to send positive Orders to prevent them as much as possible, & We doubt not on your part that We shall find the same endeavours to preserve & strengthen the good understanding which ought to subsist between

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the Servants & People of our respective Colonies.

we have the Honor to be with perfect

esteem

Hon^ble Sirs & Sirs

Your most Obedient and

most humble Servants

Thomas Rumbold

J. Cartier

Fort St. George

25th March 1770

At a Consultation present

The Hon^ble Thomas Rumbold Esq^r.

Governor President

John Whitehill — General Munro

Monday 30th. — Charles Smith — Samuel Johnson

Peter Perring

Minutes of last Consultation read.

Agreeably to the Resolution of last

Council the following Gentlemen Assistants in the Military

The Assistants to the Military Department sworn to Secrecy.

Department attend the Board in order to take the oath of Secrecy. viz^t Mess^rs Hugh Craig, John DesChamps, Thomas Kingscote, Hugh Maxwell, William Oram, Charles Nicholas White, George Tyler, Robert George Latham, Walter Balfour, Ford Wadsworth & Isaac Van Mierop.

The following Oath of Secrecy is

then severally shewn to them for perusal, & afterwards

administered by the President.

You do swear that you will

not upon any account whatsoever divulge any transaction

or Proceeding which may come to your knowledge as an Assistant in the Military or Civil Department until the same shall have been regularly & officially made known thro' the President & Council or their Secretary, or carried into effect by their authority, nor will you at any time discover the Vote or Opinion of any particular Member of the Board unless required to give evidence thereof as a Witness by a Court of Justice in due course of Law So help you God.

The following Letters lying on the Table for Consideration are now read.

Letter from Bengal dated 26th Jany

Letter from Bengalread

& entered in Consultation the 23 February, relative to the disposition of our Troops & requesting an account of the Nabobs Forces.

Agreed to inform the Gentlemen at Bengal that before the receipt of their Letter we had determined in contemplation to collect the principal part of our force in some convenient position near the Boundary & that we shall take such steps shortly to accomplish this Object as our Situation will admit.

Agreed also to request of the Nabob to give us an account of his Cavalry & Sepoys & to inform us what stock of Provisions & Stores are laid up in the several Garrisons of the Carnatic, that we may know what we have to trust to in Case of War, also to desire that he will permit one of our People in those Garrisons where we have Troops to examine in Company with his own Servants the different Stores & Grains once a Month that we may be perfectly acquainted

Permits thereon

The Nabob to be requested to give an Accot of his Troops.

Fort St George 30th March 1770.

with the State of them.

And as the Nabob's Cavalry tho' at present it consists of a small Number, may if properly maintained & paid, be rendered a very useful Corps, it is agreed that the President do converse with the Nabob on this Subject & endeavour to engage his Consent to some plan for putting them on a better footing.

Read a Letter from the Committee of Stores entered in Consultation the 19th January with their Minutes Journey & other Papers sent in for the Consideration of the Board.

Resolved that the said Minutes & Papers be referr'd to the present Committee of Stores, that the Board may have the benefit of General Munro's Opinion thereon with that of the other new Members who form the Committee.

Read the following Letter and Minutes of the Committee of Stores dated 27th Instant.

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
President & Governor &c Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

Herewith we have the honor to lay before you our Proceedings of the 26th Instant with the Report of the proof of Madras Gunpowder, & a comparative view of Gunpowder, stipulated, remaining & wanting to compleat, on the removal Garrisons, on the Coast of Choromandel.

Letter from the Committee of Stores with their Minutes

We

Fort St George 30th March 1770.

We are with respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient

humble Servants

Fort St George
27th March 1770

Hector Munro
John Touring
Wm Stevens

At a Committee of Stores present

Major General Hector Munro
Mr John Touring & Major Wm Stevens

Lieut: Colonel James underfood

The Military Storekeeper lays before the Committee a Comparative view of the Gunpowder on the Coast of Choromandel, shewing the quantity stipulated, remaining in Store, & wanting to compleat each Garrison. By the examination of the Report there appears to be an alarming deficiency, which requires the consideration of the Board. Agreed therefore, to lay before the President & Council a Copy of the Report, & recommend to them, that all possible means may be used to make up a sufficient quantity of Gunpowder, by erecting another Powder Mill at Madras, & enquiring what quantity can be provided at Vellore, & Ganjam, where the Committee understand Powder can be made. — The Commander in Chief informs the Committee, that he has proposed to the Board to limit the expence of powder for exercising the Troops to half the usual quantity untill a larger supply can be procured.

The Clerk lays before the Committee

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Report of the proof of Gunpowder, made at Madras, Agreed to lay the same before the Board —

The Military Storekeeper reports to the Committee that Transport Carriages, Gun Carriages, Guns, Blinds, Frontlets, Trunnions & all the Platforms are wanting to compleat the Statement for the defence of Fort St George, & the other Garrisons on the Coast, Agreed to refer this matter to the Consideration of the President & Council, & to recommend, that these Articles be provided by Contract, — & that those required for this Garrison be made up with all possible expedition

Hector Munro
John Turing
Wm Stevens

Fort St George
26th March 1770.

Report of Proof of Powder — Mount 3d March 1770.

No.	Nature of Mortar	Weight of Powder	Shell	Elevation	Weight of Shot	Point blank Distance	Medium Distance	Remarks
1	10 Inch	Two Pull	96	2 —	45	16	1265	1267½
2	"	"	"	"	"	16½	1270	
1	"	"	"	"	"	16	1200	1175
2	"	"	"	"	"	15	1250	
1	"	"	"	2	"	16	1101	1075½
2	"	"	"	"	"	14	1050	
1	"	"	"	"	"	16	1250	1250

Edward James
A.G.G.

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The Comparative view of Powder mentioned in the Minutes of the Committee of Stores was before delivered to the Board & appears in Consultation the 23 Instant.

The Board are anxious to encrease the stock of Gunpowder as much as possible, for this purpose they have approved of General Munro's recommendation to open the Quarantine for Saltpetre & exercise if they will give every encouragement for making a Larger Store at Madras, but with regard to erecting another Powder mill, they wish to know from the Committee, in what manner it should be done & what will be the Expence.

General Munro Lays before the Board the following Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman at Ganjam which was delivered to him by Major Stevens containing an Offer for making Gunpowder there

Mr Robert Hughes at Ganjam will engage to make Powder there equal to the medium of Madras proof at the same price as is paid for it at the Presidency provided the Board will order a quantity of Saltpetre to be sent to Ganjam with which he can be supplied on paying for — He will put the Company to no expence for erecting any Buildings if they will take all he can make & give him six Months notice when the agreement is to cease. He will make 5 or 600 Barrels the first year & afterwards one thousand Barrels per Annum.

Mr Robt Hughes offers to make Gunpowder at Ganjam

In consequence of the above Offers it is agreed that the Chief & Council of Ganjam be desired to make a Contract with Mr Hughes under a penalty for delivering the quantity of Gunpowder stipulated in his offers. - Agreed also that a quantity of Saltpetre

his offer accepted

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be sent to Ganjam to be delivered to Mr. Hughes on his praying for it.

Read the following Letter from the Storekeeper at Vellore.

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr

President & Governor & Council &c

of Fort St George

Honble Sir

In consequence of the Orders of the Honble Board convey'd to me yesterday by Mr Secretary Oakeley, to make up the quantity of Gunpowder necessary to Compleat the Stock kept in the Garrisons of Vellore & Arnbore.

Mr Thos Ogilvie applies for Salt Petre to make Gunpowder at Vellore

I beg leave to enclose you an Indent for the quantity of Saltpetre wanted for the above purpose, which the Export Warehousekeeper acquainted me could be easily spared.

I must request you will be pleased to order the Indent to be complied with as soon as possible, (the dry season being far advanced) that I may be able to manufacture a quantity sufficient to provide against all accidents before the rains set in.

I am

Honble Sir

with much respect

Your most Obedient and

very humble Servant

Tho: Ogilvie Storekeepr

Vellore

28th March 1770

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Ordered that the Indent be referd to the Committee of Stores, informing them that as the quantity of Saltpetre requir'd by Mr Ogilvie cannot be spared at once, they must specify what quantity may come for the present, that it may be forwarded.

Ordered that Mr Ogilvie be desired to acquaint us whether he can make a larger quantity of Gunpowder than what has been already Ordered.

The account several repairs wanting to the Company's Buildings laid before the Board Ordered that it be referrd to the Committee of works to report such repairs as are absolutely necessary to be made.

Read the following Letters from

Ganjam

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
President & Governor & Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

We have been favord with your Letter of the 18th, as also one from your Secretary under Date the 17th Ultimo.

From Ganjam Mr Forster proceeds on a Survey of the Gumsur Country

Since our Letter of the 9th February we have ordered back the Veragapadam Detachment to its former station in that District, & the Coffree Company together with the heavy Artillery into Garrison at Aska, & the Commanding Officer having informed us that the Goomsur Country continues in a state of

perfect tranquility, without any prospect of future Dis-
turbances, We have required him to march with the
Troops under his Command into Garrison, leaving only
a sufficient Force at Goomsur, Collarah & Cokerabah
for the protection of the Country.

We have this day received your
favor of the 27th Ultimo, previous to which we had or-
dered a General Survey of the Goomsur Country to be
made, & in order to ascertain the value of the Zemindar-
ry with as much precision as possible, We desired Mr.
Forster a Member of our Board, who has a knowlege
of the Country Languages, to proceed on this Enquiry,
assisted by the Company's Dubash, but as all our
endeavours towards gaining a knowlege of its value
would be without effect unless the principal Inha-
bitants, from whom alone, we could obtain any cer-
tain information, returned to the different Villages,
We thought it proper & necessary to desire Lachema
Bungo, to whom the Inhabitants in general are well
affected to accompany them on this business, in which
he readily acquiesced.

We shall not fail to inform
Vickram Bungo of your favorable intention towards
him provided he Returns & makes a suitable Attonement
for his late disobedience, sending him Cowle for the
safety of his Person; We purpose limitting him to six
weeks to make his submissions, giving him every
encouragement to return to his duty, but informing
him at the same time that if he does not avail him-
self of this last opportunity of regaining the Company's

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favor he will be considered as having forfeited all claim to it in future.

We are unable at this time fully to reply to that part of your Letter of the 27th Ultimo re-garding the present Collection from the Goomsur Country, which we must therefore defer doing until we are more precisely informed of the dispoal of the Cash Large Crop which was almost entirely cut, & gathered in, before the expedition took place.

We beg leave to recommend to your Honor &c. that the post of Cooterabbah, a Fort of inferior considerable strength, be destroyd, as the possession of it appears no ways conducive in preserving Tranquility in the Country, & serves only to encrease our Military Charges.

We herewith transmit to your Honor &c. Plans & Estimate of Boomproof Barracks proposd to be erected in this Fort, together with Copy of the Engineers Letter accompanying them, which we beg leave to submit for your perusal.

We have the Honor to be very respectfully

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most obedient
humble Servants
R. Maunsell
R. Hughes
J. Oakes

Ganjam
11th March 1778

To

Fort St. George 30th March 1770

To Robert Mounsell Esqr

Fort William at

Ganjam

Gentlemen

From Lt Theobald enclosing Estimates of Bombproof Barracks at Ganjam

Agreeably to an Order received from you through your Secretary, I therewith do myself the pleasure of Laying before you Plans &c. & an Estimate of two Sets of Bombproof Barracks sufficient for the accommodation of about 130 Men.

The only ground in the Fort proper to erect the above mention'd Buildings upon, are the two Spots situated, one on each side of the North Gate agreeably to the dimensions of which the accompanying Plans are laid down.

I am with respect

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient

humble Servant

Signd John Theobald

Lieut.

Ganjam
11th March 1770

A true Copy
F. Oakes Secy.

Estimate of Materials &c required for building Bombproof Barracks at Ganjam

	Pagodas	Fs	Cs
160219 Large Bricks	737	8	67
30000 Terras Bricks	27	15	34
997 Parrahs of Chunam	453	10	—
857 Tears Jagry	122	15	34

To Fort St George 30th March 1770

Iron	150	..	..
Teak Timber	114	30	69
Country Timbers	60	15	35
Charcoal	17	5	11
Bricklayers Hire	696	..	..
Carpenters Do	57	10	61
Sawyers Do	9	30	69
Smiths Do	34	10	23
Coolies Do	1247	5	24
Pags	3727	22	27

Ganjam
18th March 1770

Signd John Theobald
Engr

A true Copy
Js Oakes Secry

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
President & Governor &c Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

We herewith enclose to your Honor &c Copy of a letter received from Mr. Hughes respecting the Bomb proof Barracks proposed to be erected on the Fort of Ganjam, Plan & Estimate of which accompanied our address of the 11th Instant.

From Ganjam with proposals from Mr. Hughes for building barracks at Ganjam

Agreeably to his desire we beg leave to submit the same to your Consideration, & We have the honor to be very respectfully

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedt. Hble Servants
Robt. Haunsell
Robt Hughes

Ganjam
10th March 1770

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To Mr. Robert Haunsell

2nd Council of

Ganjam

Gentlemen

Having made enquiry of the exp-
-pence of executing the several kinds of Workmanship in
the intended Bomb proof Barracks - I am willing to under-
take what is estimated at Current Pagodas 12044. 21.17 for one
thousand seven hundred Pagodas, & the Buildings shall be
finish'd as expeditiously as the Materials can be collected
& delivered to me.

I shall require an advance of one
fourth of my Contract, & in the manner agreable to the
Reports of the Engineer relative to the forwardness of the
Building.

As the plan is already gone to the
Presidency I request you will forward this as soon as
convenient to the Honble Board, who I doubt not will
approve of what may be said relative to this my Propo-
-sal

I am very respectfully

Gentlemen

Your Obedient Servant

Ganjam
17th March 1778

Sign'd Robert Hughes

A true Copy
Fcts. Fras. Barrington
Acting Secretary.

A Cowle to be granted to the Rajah of Ganjam for the safety of his person

As it is possible that the Ganjam Rajah may still entertain some ill founded apprehensions for his security in case of his return to the Ganjam Dis-
-trict, It is agreed as a further inducement to him to throw

himself upon the the Company's Protection, that a Letter or Cowle of safe Conduct be sent him from the President renewing the assurances that have been already given him thro' the Chief & Council of Ganjam.

Ordered that the Post at Cockrabadah be destroy'd agreably to the recommendation of the Chief & Council of Ganjam.

Before the Board come to any resolution regarding the proposed Barracks at Ganjam, resolved that the Chief & Council be desired to send an Estimate of their Cost without allowing for Bamboos.

Read the following Letter from Lieut. Colonel Horne

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
President & Governor &c Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have the honor to transmit for the Monthly returns of February of the Troops in this Garrison & dependancies & the Returns of Ordnance & Stores.

From Lt Col. Horne Gunpowder & carriages wanted for Tanjore

Two Boats with Powder arrived at Adrapatam & the whole of what they brought is safely got up, amounting to 360 Barrels of Europe Powder & 670 Barrels of Country Powder, this is short of our Indent, 140 Barrels of Europe Powder & 330 Barrels of Country.

As we have heard nothing of the other Stores indented for being ordered up I take the

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liberty of enclosing a Duplicate of that I indent,
which I hope your Honor &c will direct to be com-
plied with.

In August Last, a Smith and
Carpenter arrived from Madras & took the dimensions
of a Number of small Guns of all Natures in order
to have Carriages made for them: I was in hopes
we should have got these Carriages by Sea before
the Southerly Winds set in; as this Garrison is so
very extensive, & tho' Works now constructed in a
manner that requires a great number of Cannon
every Gun we have of every kind is of importance,
I therefore take the Liberty to mention these Carriages
& to recommend that they may be ordered to be got
ready & sent up.

No establishment of Lascars has
ever yet been sent for this Garrison we have hitherto
had part of what belongs to Trichinopoly & some
from Vellum & the Rajah occasionally assists us with
some of his Lascars. But these often fall short of
what this large place requires.

On the application of the En-
gineer I have ordered two Officers & 20 Europeans to
Vellum to clear out & Load the mines which remained
unsprung when the Monsoon set in, & were defeated on
account of being then too damp. In a few days
they will be ready for springing; I have given Leave
to all the Cadets to proceed to Vellum to attend this
duty in order to improve themselves in the knowledge
of Mineing.

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I have the honor to be with great Respect

Sir

Your most Obedient

Tanjore

10th March 1778.

Humble Servant

Matt: Horne

Ordered that the above Letter be

referr'd to the Committee of Stores, & the Indent for

Tanjore compleated as soon as possible

Read the following Letter also

from Lieut: Colonel Horne

The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr

President & Governor & Council

of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have received another Letter

from the Governor of Negapatam, which I now

enclose; I have not yet answered this Letter, as I should

be under the necessity of expressing the sense I have

of his Conduct respecting the Subadar & Sepoys he

imprisond & afterwards grossly exaggerated a charge

against; which being known to the General, by

the Proceedings of the Court of Enquiry I forwarded

to him; I wait to know his sentiments on.

I must observe that the affair

of the Dutch Vessell being endeavored to be stopp'd

by two of our Sepoys, is nearly represented by the

Dutch Master, as the Sepoys represented that

Business; this was the only Vessell belonging to the

Letter from Lt Col: Horne with me from the Govt of Negapatam

Fort St. George 30th March 1770

Dutch that was endeavored to be stopt; the Court at Top-
sore which he mentions I have before given upon your
Honours on account off.

I have received information from
Lieut: White that the Amildar at Nagore having infor-
mation of a boat sailing from Tranquebar laden
with Rice, Beetle & other Articles; bound for Negapatam;
sent out had her seized & brought into Nagore none of
the Company's People were employd on this occasion;
nor was Mr White informd of the Amildar's intention;
& knew nothing of the seizure untill the Boat had been
some time in Nagore; on his enquiring into the cause
of this seizure the Amildar declares he has orders for
what he has done.

On my receiving this information
which was a conduct so different from the declaration
the Rajahs Vackeel at Negapatam had orders to make
to make to the Governor; I sent to inform the Rajah
of the advice I had received & which the Amildar de-
clares was done by Orders from Tanjore, but received
for answer that the Rajah was much displeased with
the Amildar that he would order the Boat to be released
& send for the Amildar to Tanjore; at the same
time he expressd his surprise that the Governor of
Tranquebar should suffer Grain Beetle &c to be
sent from that place, which he had promisd not to
suffer, he having been written to not to interfere in
the present dispute; and they seem to think here they
have a right to prescribe rules on this occasion to
that Settlement, as well as Karricall

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I have repeated my directions to Lieut. White to be very circumspect in his Conduct & by no means give the Dutch Government any just cause of Complaint & not to suffer the Rajah's Managers to precipitate him into any unjustifiable measures, from his prudence & deligence I doubt not he will use every necessary precaution.

I have sent to make exact enquiries into the Complaints contain'd in the Letter from the Nabob's Manager, & as soon as I obtain the information shall transmit it.

I have the honor to be with great respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient

Tanjore

Humble Servant

Dth March 1770

Matw Horne

To the Honble Colonel Matw Horne &c &c

Commander of English Company's Troops

at Tanjore

Sir

Your friendly Letter of the 7th

Instant I have Duly received, & in answer to the same

From the Govr of Negapatnam with further complaints against our Sepoys & Deputation of the Commr of a Dutch Sloop

serves, that the Sepoys who were taken up on the ground of the Rajah absolutely, as I have already mentioned in my former must pass that territory to go the Village Mutton belonging to the Dutch Company, as their is no other way to the same, being surrounded with Lands belonging to the Rajah. And tho' you are pleased to say that as well our Sepoys

as our Peons with Letters, that may be arrested
their, must be by the Rajah's People over which
you have no authority, there People who have done
this forcibly, have always been assisted by the
English Company's Sepoys of which their are too
many proofs to be denied.

The to a private man belonging
Boat or Vessell coming from Colombo & by force by
the English Company's Sepoys detaind at Toptoree is
I remains as yet their in arrest; what the Sepoys
shall alledge to their defence, we must expect, this is
certain that the affair is so, & it was reported me at
the request of the owner of the arrested Vessell by a
Tranquebar Gentleman who was just at that time
at Toptoree & who take upon him to give me intel-
ligence of this mismanagement.

Concerning the former affair
about the Subdar & 4 Sepoys you will be pleased
to observe that they were taken up before Lieut. White
of the English Company came or arrived at Nagore
& may be unacquainted with the aforesaid given
strickt orders, but for all that do not deserve any
release, for what I sent them to you, that they might
be rewarded according to their merits, for not-
withstanding I might have punish'd them &c.
cording to their works, which I did not that
the friendship & close Alliances which exist be-
tween both nations might not be broke.

And as a Secretaries declaration
made up by People who are not judged capable

Fort St George 30 March 1710

of my bad expressions by all Nations, as well in Civil as Justice matters is acceptable, I have meand that it is not unnecessary to go against Custom in this affair, as it is not practicable to send subjects from the Dominions under which they belong by force, to another Country were they should be exposed to suffer any unreasonable usage which might be done them.

And about what you allege as that our armd Sepoys should have been in the lands of the Rajah & have compelld the Inhabitants to bring to this place Paddy & other necessarys which they intended to have carried to Nagore.

It is far from thence Sir, the Boyars or other common People bring of from the Rajahs Lands into the District of the Dutch Company now & then some Paddy which our Sepoys escort to the Market & is sold there for a much higher price then they can get at Nagore, it may be that the same People when they come again in the Rajahs Country out of fear for punishment alledge that they were forcd by our Sepoys to convy their goods to our Markets.

It would be unnecessary that I should write to you about all these affairs if the English East India Company troops remaind in the limits of their duty & those who have the Command over them did not act against the Treaties, agreed mate between England & Holland, besides that there Proceedings done by order of the Rajah or his Ministers are just contrary to the Treaty & alliance mate & agreed with the Rajah of Tanjore Ratapa

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Pretappa Tyagaja Rajah Praha Rajah Sahb in the year 1748. so that the English East India Company's Troops are employ'd against the Lands & Inhabitants of the Dutch Company in the most unreasonable manner by a Country Rajah or his evil intentioned Ministers, who goes against all reason & equity.

I shall in this not open myself further Being of intention to protest against all these unreasonable Proceedings of the English Company's Troops, done the Lands & Dominions of the Dutch Company & acted contrary to the in Europe between England & Holland agreed Treaties, also with those made & settled Lyes with the former & present Rajah of Tanjore, & I shall address myself to the place were it must be done

I remain with Esteem

Sir

Your most humble & Obedient servant

Vegapatam
March 1770

Van Vaisingen

P.S. To convince you more Sir of the outrageous behaviour of the under your Command standing Sepoys who are at Toptonee, I enclose send you the Translation of the sworn declaration made here by the Mate or Commander &c. of the Dutch Company's Sloop the Papagay of what happend to them on their passage from Jaffenapatam to this place, by Toptonee.

This day being the 14th March 1770 Compeard before me John Abraham Bronsfield first sworn Clerk at the Secretaris Office of this

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Commandeur Government en presence of the undermentioned Witnesses the Boosman & Commander of the Dutch Company's Sloop the Papagy, Jacob Groeneweg, the Quartermaster Jacob van Der Slem as also the Sailors Robert Williams & Anirym De Haan who together at the requisition of the Honble Reynier Van Vlissingen Esqr Governor & Director for the Dutch Company on the Coast of Choromandel & Dependencies have declared to be sworn & in reality true.

That they on their Oath respectively from Jaffanapatam to this place on the 9th Instant at about 8 o'Clock in the afternoon being come to the South of Sopteree to the Windward of them out of Sea, had come sailing up a longside of their Vessel a Boat called a Tally Thoney, that the first Declarant by one of the Black Sailors to two English Sepoys who appeard alone on that Boat & did call to the Declarants, had demanded what they wanted.

That those two Sepoys had then pretended that they Attestants should shorten sail, that they might come to visit the Vessell on which they had replied that it was a Company's Vessell Loaded with Corn from Jaffanapatam for Negapatam & they for no reason dare retard their voyage.

That the Declarants had hoisted their flag & continued their way the Calle Boat with Sails & oars doing the best to get aside of their Vessell which was prevented by her good sailing so that the Calle Boat remained backwards.

That so long as they were

about that Latitude they had seen this Cattle Boat every morn.
.ing come Sailing out of the Bay, who in one Day had
detaind in their Voyage a Parré & 2 Tonys sailing to the
South.

Finishing the Attestants declard to
have witness'd the real truth being ready if required to
conform by Oath the Declared.

Somnaoe & declared at Negapa.
.tam date as above in the presents of Paulus Josephus
Kerkenberg & Christian Bernhardie Dirkse Clerks at the
above mention'd Office as witness the Original being duly
sign'd.

Which Witness Sign'd John A: Bronsfield
For the Translation
John Godefroy de Recho

The Board having already written
to the Governor & Council of Negapatam on the subject
of the above Letters agreed to wait this answer, before any
further Resolutions be taken.

Read the following Letter from
Lieut. Colonel Harper.

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
President & Governor & Council of
Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Lt Col: Harper enclosing the Crime of St James Roperter

I have received a Letter from Mr
Baine dated the 8th Instant, accompanied with your
Warrant empowering me, to appoint a Court Martial
for the trial of Hyder Cawn Sheriff — at the same time ac-
quaints me, that it is the Honble Boards desire to be

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informed of the name & office of the European, who is con-
cerned — In consequence of which I now forward his
Crime & the particulars relative thereto; as stated by
Major Hopkins Commanding the Battalion

I remain with respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

your most Obedient and
humble Servant
H. Harper

Vellore
25th March 1770

James Ropeler Private of the
3 Battalion 2 Regiment, confined by order of Major Hopkins
the 9th Instant for talking in the Ranks, & making a com-
mon practice of it refusing to go Prisoner when ordered,
taking Serjeant Pope by the Collar, & attempting to strike
him in the execution of his Duty, & afterwards threatning his
his Life.

The above mentioned Man was born
in England aged 17 Years, arrived at Madras the 20th June
1776 from on board the Norfolk Indiaman, & received a
Recruit into the above Battalion on the 11th of July follow-
ing — he has been tried once by a Regimental Court Mar-
tial for a trifling Crime of which he was acquitted, not-
withstanding which his Character is but very indifferent.

Vellore
5th March 1770

Charles Hopkins
Major

The Board being of Opinion that
the above Crime may be tried by a Regimental Court
Martial agreed that Directions be sent accordingly.

The President laid before the
Board the following Letter to him from Mr Petrie
at Tanjore.

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To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr.
President & Governor of
Fort St. George

Honble Sir,

I beg leave to acquaint you that
the Rajah of Tanjore has desired of me to represent that
the number of Sepoys employd in his Country are not suf-
ficient for the purposes of supporting the authority of the
Amuldars, in quelling of disturbances for securing the
incursions of the Colleries, & for the collection of the Revenues,
he therefore pressingly requests to be favord with an addi-
tion of five hundred to the present Establishment. He
says that he repeatedly wrote upon this subject during
the administration of Mr. Stratton, but could obtain
no answer, by which he alleges the Revenue of last
Year, fell short about two hundred thousand Pagodas.

If necessary, I beg you will do
me the honor to lay this Letter before the Honble Board.

I remain, most respectfully

Honble Sir,

Your most Obedient and
most humble Servant
Will.m Petrie

From Mr. Petrie
the Rajah applies
for 500 Sepoys to
collect the Revenues

Tanjore
31st March 1770

Agreed that the Commanding
Officer at Tanjore be desired to lend 500 Sepoys more to the
Rajah to assist him in making his Collections.

desired

Read the following Letter from
Mr. Gabriel Mueller to the President.

To

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To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr

Sir

From Mr Gabriel Dutler setting forth his Claim to grain in the Tanjore Country

Having been stationed on Tanjore by his Highness the Nabob whilst that Country remaind under his management, I was induced to advance to the cultivation of the Land a sum of Money, a quantity of Grain then in the ground, from a view of selling it at a future Day for a fair profit; I had in due time collected it into my Graniaries & marked it with my own Chop. When the Deposd Rajah was reinstated by Lord Pigot the particular Orders issued on that occasion respecting the Grain then gathered in, would leave less in me to mention, but apprehensive that some mistake might occur to my prejudice, I waited upon his Lordship & complaind to him that the Paddy I laid claim to was my private property, honestly purchasd, & received his assurance that as the General Orders only included the Circar Grain mine should be securd to me, however upon his departure from Tanjore in the confusion of collecting the publick Crop being absent myself from the post wherein I had deposited my Concerns; they were seizd upon by violence as belonging to the Circar notwithstanding the remonstrances of my People & being sealed with my own Chop. The particulars of the fact I represented to the Rajah & afterwards to Lord Pigot, but unfortunately before was deposd ere my Letter reachd him, I then applied to redress to Mr Stratton finding that the Rajah at the last always confessd himself satisfied with the reasonableness of my demand unwilling to accord it to me, Mr

Fort St George 30th March 1770.

Mr Stratton convinced of the injury I might sustain unless he took some notice of it wrote frequently to the Rajah on this subject as did also Mr Whitehill during the time he held the Chair & with their protection, I proceeded to Tanjore, flattering myself that as my business appeard just & right not only to himself, but to the different Gentlemen in power here, who have been kind enough to investigate the merits of my Claim, I should find no difficulty in obtaining ample Justice at his hands, but have only been answered with acknowledgements, vague Promises & evasions, a treatment I had but too fatally experienced on former applications in the late fluctuating & unsettled Government at Madras, & this at last I received from him (the Rajah) the strongest assurances that he would pay due regard to the Letters I carried with me "desiring he would examine the matter & do what was "right & fair," my hopes were continually thwarted by delays & frivolous excuses untill your arrival which I soon found to be a new cause for his postponing that Justice he has many times declard to be my due & which I have hitherto sought in vain with infinite anxiety, trouble & expence & shall despair of succeeding unless you will vouchsafe to allow me your protection which alone will enable me to recover my money the whole (thro' care & industry) I have been able to save in the course of eight Years service in this Country. The Papers necessary to give a minute insight into this matter are in my possession & ready for your inspection whenever you will be pleasd to call for them in the meantime I take

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the Liberty of subscribing myself with the greatest respect

Honble Sir

Your most Obedient and
most humble Servant
Gabriel Mueller

Madras
25th March 1778

The President is desired to request of the Rajah of Tanjore to examine into Mr Mueller's Claim & discharge what may appear justly due to him.

Read the following Letter from Major Stevens

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
President & Governor &c Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs.

From Major Stevens recommending Instruments to be purchased of Col. Roy

I herewith enclose a list of sundry good instruments left by Colonel Roy which he wishes to dispose of & as they are wanted for the Service of the Honble Company I beg leave to recommend the purchase of them.

I am with the greatest respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
Wm Stevens
D Engr

Fort St George
10th March 1778

Agreed that the instruments recommended by Major Stevens be purchased for the Company.

General Munro lays before the Board a Bill for Clasps required to fix the new

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Accoutrements of the 1st Battalion 2d Regiment amounting to 35 Pagodas which is ordered to be paid.

Ensign Johnstone of the 19th Battalion of Sepoys having died lately, Mr Simon Dalrymple Cadet promoted in his room to rank from this day.

General Munro says before the Board the following Letter to him from Colonel Lang

To Major General Hector Munro
Commander in Chief
Sir

From Col. Lang applying for the command of Tanjore

As the hurry of publick affairs must be now considerably abated, I hope I may without intrusion, bespeak your attention to my particular Concerns.

I beg leave to inform you that this I have served the Honble the Company upwards of twenty three Years, with more fidelity & activity than it becomes me to declare, yet the measure of my Labors & rewards has borne no sort of proportion, & the sum total of my pecuniary advantages has not exceeded three thousand Pagodas; after the Tanjore war, as a recompence for past fatigues, I was appointed to the Command of Trichinopoly, but with the general removal of the Troops I was removed to the Presidency: upon the second seige of Tanjore, the President & Council finding it necessary that an Officer of rank & experience should command in Madras, the Fort being then in a very unfinished defenceless state, thought proper to call me from the Command of Vellore on that occasion & thereby deprived me of the benefits that occurred from that service. Lord Pigot on his arrival declared it highly irregular that an Engineer should command, & at his

Fort St George 30th March 1778.

Lordships particular desire, the Board was therefore pleas'd to call me again from Vellore, upon the receipt of the late Orders for the suspension of General Stuart, my attendance at the Presidency became again indispensably necessary.

From these few instances, Sir, you will be able to conceive the many untoward circumstances that have combin'd to injure my Fortune, & perhaps you will agree with me in opinion that I have sacrificed rather too much to the occasional exigences of the Service.

Permit me also to observe that it is no small mortification to me to see my Juniors entrusted with Commands of honor & profit, to the exclusion of one who has for so many Years attended to every call of his duty, & both here & in Bengal (in the Year 60 & 61) has faced every danger & fatigue.

To your judgment & candor, Sir, I beg leave to appeal, & thro' you to offer myself a Candidate for a Command suited to my rank & Services.

I therefore humbly hope, that thro' your kind influence, & a recapitulation of the facts here stated, I may be appointed to the Command of Tanjore, & thereby stake my future hopes & reputation on the most religious observance of the orders of my Superiors, in that or whatsoever Station they are pleas'd to allot me.

I am

Sir

Your very Obedient Servant

Ross Lang

Fort St George
15th March 1778.

To

131 Fort St George 30th March 1778.

To Major General Hector Munro
Commander in Chief

Sir

I am not a little distress'd to find by the orders of the 24th Instant, that my Letter to you of the 15th, applying for the Command of Tanjore, has either been by accident withheld from the Consideration of the Honble the Board or by them treated with an indifference it by no means deserv'd.

Col. Lang claiming of Judica done in appoint. Senior r, to the mand of. ne

I am neither qualified nor inclined to make exceptions against Lt Colonel Fitz Gerald, on the contrary, if merit & long services are to be rewarded at my immediate expence, it is no small alleviation to reflect that I contribute to the welfare of so worthy a man; But, Sir, he is my Junior, & therefore the original cause of my application & complaint remains in full force, & permit me to suspect that your approving of, or submitting to the supercession of the Company's oldest Servants is the effect of some infamous calumnies whispered to my prejudice, upon no other foundation than falsehood or personal interest.

However as I apprehend the grievance is now past the hope of remedy, I shall for the present, desist from the pursuit.

I am sensibly obliged by your offer of the Command of the Circars: but as I learn from the best advice that such an appointment will neither advance my honor or my fortune, unless my attendance there be a necessary means of the Service I beg

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your permission to decline it.

I have now only to request that I may be appointed to the Command of Pellore; should the long talked of Plan of Cantonments, be hereafter adopted, if you should deem your presence there unnecessary, I hope I have your Interest and Support for that Command; I Trust you will do me the justice to believe that no station or situation however advantageous, shall supercede my ambition of being usefully employed; & that I am ready at all times to take the field.

I am also to request that this and my former Letter to you may appear on the Records of Consultation.

I am

Sir

Your very Obedient Servant

Rob^t Lang

Fort St George
March 27th 1790

Col: Lang appointed to the Command of Pellore.

Agreed that Colonel Lang be appointed to Command the Garrison of Pellore agreeably to his request.

Capt. Geo^e Burrington to command Pallamcottah & Capt. Alex^r Duncan to Chinglepet

Captain George Burrington is appointed to Command the Fort and Garrison of Pallamcottah, and to take charge of the 4th Battalion of Sepoys until further Orders — and Captain Alexander Duncan is appointed to relieve Captain Burrington in the Command of Chinglepet.

General Stuart delivers in the following Minute —

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Major General Munro is of

Opinion that the appointment of a Quarter Master

General for the Forces on this establishment is

not only very proper but highly necessary. He is

convinced that the savings which might be made

on the expenditure of Stores would be much more

than sufficient to defray the expence to be incurred

on that office.

That as it is proposed to dis-

pose of the Troops as that they may be formed

and ready to act in considerable Bodies on the short-

est notice, a Quarter Master General to arrange the

March Routs, to have charge of Camp equipage

& to be in the habit of seeing that all there things

which are requisite for so large an army are ready

for immediate Service, will be indispensably neces-

sary.

The General therefore hopes that

the Honble Board will readily concur in opinion

with him as to the propriety & expediency of this

appointment, which he for the foregoing reasons propos

should immediately be made.

It is also proposed for the good

of the Service that three Subaltern's be added to the

Sepoys Battalions, which will make one to each

Company. General Munro hopes the Honble the

President & Council will concur also in this ap-

pointment.

As General Munro has thought

it expedient to recommend the appointment of

Gen.l Munro's Minute recommending the appointment of a Dr. Dr. Genl & the addition of three Subaltern's to each Batt.n of Sepoys

the

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Major Mackellar
appointed 2d Asst
Genl

Quarter Master General to the Army, the Board are
of opinion subject in their opinion have much weight,
do resolve that the office of Quarter Master General
be established & that Major Alexandar Mackellar
be appointed thereto with the nominal Rank of
Lieutenant Colonel & the same allowances as are
annexed to the office of Adjutant General

The Board approve of the
General's recommendation for appointing three
more Subalterns to each Sepoy Battalion.

Tho.s Rumbold
John Whitehill
Hector Munro

F. Perring