ولد من ورق

1. Number of pages.
2. Date of repair.
3. Initials of Reference.

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

RJ/3-8-1942.

407 Fort St George March 1779

To Mr Cheveau

Sir

To Mr Chevreau
To new Claims
for allowances
to be admitted
on Certificates

As the Ships in which We mean
to accommodate you with a Passage to Europe
are daily expected to arrive here, We desire you
will be pleased to prepare every Thing necessary
for your Embarkation, as We will be determined
at every short time.

We apprehend it will not be
possible for us to accommodate on the same
Ships all the Gentlemen of whom you gave
us a List some time ago, nor can We admit
such a Number of Servants as that which you
have specified in the same List. We hope there-
fore it may be agreeable to you to confine
your Suite to a smaller Number and in partic-
ular that you will not think it necessary
that every Gentleman who embarks should
carry a Servant with him.

The List of Persons to be subsisted
at the Company's Expence, which was transmit-
ted to us by yourself and Mr Bellecombe on the
Month of October last, We did imagine was
complete at that time it ought to have been so,
but We have received at different times from
sundry Persons Certificates signed by you
and Mr Bellecombe, setting forth that them

Fort St George March 1779

Persons (all the[se] not inserted in the List) were in the Service of this most Christian Majesty at Pondicherry when the Capitulation was made, and therefore entitled to Subsistance — We have from attention to Mr. Bellecombe and You ordered Payment to every one that has produced such a Certificate but shall now be under the Necessity of putting a Stop to any further Applications —

We have the Honor to be

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servants
Thomas Rumbold
for Select Committee

4th Wrote the following Letter to the Commissioners for the Liquidation of French Accounts

To Messrs Morrice
Sayrenel and
Martins
Gentlemen

X

To Messrs Morrice
&c proposing
that the Records
of the Liquidation
be deposited in
the Rooms here

We have had the Honor to receive your Letter of the 2d December informing us of the Arrangement you had prepared with respect to the Affairs of the French East India Company and requesting our Sanction of the same more approved by us.

Fort St. George March 1779

We cannot approve of any Person's being left at Pondicherry for the purpose of taking charge of the Accounts and Papers belonging to the East India Company and transacting the Current Business of that Company but as you represent that the Preservation of those Papers is highly interesting to the Fortunes of many Individuals both here and in Europe, We are very willing to take Charge of them ourselves and deposit them in the Archives of Madras where they will remain in safe Custody until called for by you or any other Persons authorized to receive them —

With respect to the Subsistence claimed by the Gentlemen employed in the Liquidation of the Company's Accounts as they do not appear to us to be immediately in the Service of His most Christian Majesty or to stand in the Situation of those who claim Subsistence under the Articles of Capitulation, We should not conceive ourselves warranted in allowing it to them —

We have the Honor to be,

Fort St. George
4th March 1779

Gentlemen
Your most Obedient Servants
Thomas Rumbold
& Select Comm

5th Wrote the following Letters to Masulipatam and Ganjam —

No 110 Fort St. George March 1779

To Edward Cotsford Esqr
Chief & Council at
Masulipatam

Gentlemen,

To Masulipatam Bullocks not to be kept up -

We have received your Letters of the 20th Janry and 1st Feby

We approve of what you have done in consequence of the Letter received from the Chief and Council of Poleur, We would have you appoint a proper Person to be present while the Dutch are fencing their Limits, with Instructions to prevent their exceeding the Bounds of their just rights -

We have at your Request again taken under Consideration the Proposal of keeping up a certain Number of Bullocks in the Company's Pay, but We see no fresh Cause to alter our former Resolution in this Respect - Matters and Measures might be attended with Utility We have no doubt and it would be of great Utility, if We would adopt it generally without Loss to the Carnatic and Circars, but while our Neighbours are so precarious and inadequate to the immediate purposing Expences of the Company We are restrained from acting in many Cases as we wish and are obliged to confine ourselves solely to the present

No 44 Fort St George March 1779

Accusations of the Company

We are,

Fort St George Gentlemen,
5th March 1779

Your most Obedt Servants
Thomas Rumbold
& Lieutenant

To Wm Morgan Williams
Chief & Council

at Ganjam

Gentlemen,

To Ganjam
Capt. Bruce's
Battalion to be
removed

Having received Information
from Captain Bruce, that the Commander in
Chief that his Battalion had suffered exceedingly
by not only in point of health but in Discipline
by being detained so long in the Guntoor
District and employed continually on Service
and Captain Bruce having recommended that
the Battalion may for a time be removed to Soher-
-pore or some other Place near the Sea Coast,
where the Seapoys can be kept more together and
in better Health and Discipline than their present
Situation will admit of, We have approved
the Proposal and accordingly desire that it
may be carried into Execution as soon as possible—

We are,

Fort St George Gentlemen,
5th March 1779

Your most Obedient Servants
Thomas Rumbold & Lieutt

Fort St. George 11th March 1779

6th Wrote the following Letter

To Lieutenant Colonel Braillei
Commandant at
Pondicherry

Sir.

To Colo Baillei
the Nabob to
collect the same
duties as on the
Some of the French

We desire you will permit
the Nabobs People to collect all those Duties
at Pondicherry, which he collected in the time
of the French Government.

We are
Sir
Your most obedient Servants
Thomas Rumbold
&c. &c. Select Committee

Fort St George
6th March 1779

At a Select Committee Present
Thursday The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr President
11th. Sir Eyre Coote John Whitehill
Charles Smith
Esqrs. Major Genl. Munro absent on Service
Colonel James Kilpatrick having

Packet arrives
from the Committee
of Secrecy —

arrived with a Packet the Honble the Committee
of Secrecy of the Court of Directors sent under
his Charge by the way of Bussorah — the
same is now opened and the Letters therein
contained having date the 31st August is
accordingly read and read. together with a Copy

of

413 Fort St George 11th March 1779

Of a Letter from the Committee of Treasury to the Governor General and Council of Bengal and another to the President and Select Committee of Bombay

The following Letter brought also by Colonel Leslie from the President and Select Committee of Bombay is next read

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr.
President and Governor &c. Select Committee
at Fort St George

Gentlemen,

From Bombay- the expedition in favor of Ragoba failed

We yesterday received your Letter dated the 7th Ultimo with the enclosed List of Stores required for the Siege of Bulsar We wish We had been earlier apprized of this large demand now made upon us but the Service against Bulsar should suffer any delay for want of the necessary Implements for the Siege, We however assure you that all possible Expedition shall be used in conveying to Bellichery the Ordnance and Stores you have indented for including those before sent, and having no other mode of Conveyance, We have requested the Commander of His Majesty's Ships Asia to

receive

Fort St. George 11th March 1779

receive them on board, which he has consented to, and they will be dispatched off with the utmost diligence —

We now send Advice of this Circumstance to Commodore Vernon and the Commanding Officers of the Forces destined for the Service of Malabar

Colonel Caillaud of your Establishment having arrived from England a few days ago by the way of Bussora, We have furnished him with a Vessel to convey him to Anjengo and send on a Packet to your Address from the Hon'ble the Secret Committee delivered to His Excellency

It is with the utmost concern We acquaint you that the Expedition in Support of Raggoba has failed, who has put himself under the Protection of Mhoodjee Boindia, and our Forces have returned to Bombay. which must prevent any Steps being taken in prosecution of the Orders contained in the Packet now forwarded for establishing him at Poonah —

Enclosed is a Duplicate of our Letter dated the 13th Instant

We have the Honor to be
Gentlemen,
Your most Obedient humble Servants
Wm Hornby
Jno Carnac
D Draper

Bombay Castle
19th Feby 1779

P.S The enclosed Packet for the Governor General & Council contains one from the Court Committee of the Court of Directors We request your particular Care of.

John

Fort St. George 11th March 1779

(Minute of the President's proposing the demolition of Pondicherry

The President submits to the Consideration of the Committee whether the Advices and Instructions now received from the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors, the present Situation of our Affairs on the Coast, the threatened Invasion of Hyder Ally, the necessary distribution of our Troops in the different Forts and our inability to afford a sufficient Force in Pondicherry for its protection and at the same time to assemble an Army for the defence of the Carnatic doesnt point out the absolute necessity for our safety to destroy the Works of that Garrison and warrant our issuing the proper Orders for it immediately

(Minutes of the Committee thereon—

The Committee are clearly and unanimously of opinion that the foregoing Reference made by the Committee of Secrecy of the Court of Directors in their present Dispatch of the to their former Orders of the same Committee dated the 15th April last, which authorize the Demolition of Pondicherry and the Confidence by them that their Orders have been carried into Execution, may justly and properly be considered as a further Instruction from Europe relative to the Contents of those Orders, and in that light as

remaining

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removing the Restriction imposed on us by the Articles of Capitulation which express that the Fortifications of Pondichery shall in no way be damaged till farther Instructions are received from Europe —

The Orders of the 15th April having as the Committee conceive by this means resumed the pristine Force, all that is left for their Consideration is the determination of this Question, whether in the present Situation of Affairs and in consequence of the Advices received from Europe that Hostilities have commenced and that a War with France is inevitable tho' not formally Declared, it be eligible or expedient to demolish the Works of Pondichery.

Upon which General Sir Eyre Coote as Commander in Chief of the Forces declares in the strongest Terms his Opinion that while the Works of Pondichery are suffered to remain in their present State — he considers all the Possessions of the Company on this Coast as extremely insecure — that the Force We have is much too weak to afford a proper Garrison for that place and for Madras, and that it would be utterly impossible to put an Army in the Field without abandoning Pondichery altogether, or leaving

Fort St George 15 March 1779

it in a State so insecure as to render it a
easy Sacrifice to any Force however incompe-
tent that might attack it.

The Committee agreeing fully
and unanimously in their Sentiments — it is
resolved That the Fortifications of Pondicherry
be demolished without loss of time, and that
the Nabob be applied to assist us on this
Occasion with as many Labourers from his
Country as he can possibly spare —

Resolution in Consequence

Tho.s Rumbold
John Whitehill
Charles Sevelle

Fort St George March 1779

11th

Wrote the following Letter to General Bellecombe

To Major General Bellecombe

&c &c

Sir,

To Gen.l Bellcombe offering him a passage on the Sartine—

Having received certain Proposals from Mr. Monsieur on the Subject of taking up the French Ship Sartine, as a Cartel Ship, and having consented on certain Conditions to employ the said Ship in conveying to France, a part of the late Garrison of Pondicherry, We think it proper to advise you of these Particulars, and to acquaint you that if it be more agreeable to you to embark with your Suite on that Ship, than on one of our own, We shall chearfully give our Consent to it, reserving to ourselves the Liberty of appropriating the Passage of the Ship after providing you with proper Accommodations in whatever manner We may think proper — But if you choose to embark on one of our Ships in preference, We shall give the necessary Directions accordingly, but We must apprise you in that Case that the Ship on which you embark must go first to England on account of the Company's Cargo —

We have the Honor to be

Fort St George
11th March 1779

Sir,

Your most obedient & most humble Servants

Thomas Rumbold &c &c &c

Wm Hornby

Fort St George March 1779

12th Wrote the following Letter to the Governor General and Council.

To the Hon.ble Warren Hastings Esq.r
Governor General & Council
of Fort William

Hon.ble Sir & Sirs

To Bengal armed Ship sent to convoy Stores to Mocha

We have the Honor to enclose herewith a Packet under your address received from England by the way of Bussorah

We also send enclosed for your Information a Copy of a letter received a few days ago from Hyder Ally

The Stafford with Sir Edward Hughes on Board now proceeds for Bengal in Company with the Britannia Armed Ship. The Britannia and Royal Admiral put into Tondicotary the middle of last Month at which time We had in the road at that place a French Ship with Treasure and Stores for the Expedition to Manie. The imperfect manner of conveying that Vessel in safety to the Malabar Coast induced us to desire Commodore Richardson to send one of Ships to accompany her, which he readily acquiesced in, and appointed the Royal Admiral for that Service

We shall advise you of her arrival

Fort St George March 1779

Arrival have made a request to us to be indulged with something in the nature of the Allowances granted to His Majesty's Captains for Palanqueens &c. but as We did not think ourselves authorised to comply with his request, We informed him only that We should make known the purport of his Application to You.

We have the Honor to be,
Honble Sirs & Sirs,
Your most Obedt humble Servants
Thomas Rumbold
&c Select Committee

Fort St George
12th March 1779

15th Wrote the following Letter to Captain Stewart.

To Captain John Stewart
Commanding the Ship
Mount Stuart

Sir,

I am directed to acquaint you that Mr De Caisne and Mr Montfrin, are embarked on your Ship and are to be conveyed to England on the terms of a Parole signed by them, and delivered to you, by the Dewan (Mayon); you are not to suffer them to go on any other Terms, but on your Arrival in England, you are to inform the Court of Directors, that their Gentlemen are on

Board

To Capt Stewart with Directions respecting French Passengers

42[illegible] Fort St George March 1770

heard and wait their Orders respecting them

I am

Fort St George
15th March 1770

Sir

Your most Obedt Servant
Charles Oakeley

16th Wrote the following Letter to
Masulipatam.

To Edward Cotsford Esqr
Chief & Council
at Masulipatam

Gentlemen,

To Masulipatam to prepare the Presents for the Subah

Having appointed Mr John Holland to proceed to the Soubahs Court, We Desire you will deliver to him the Articles of in the Stores at Masulipatam, which were some time ago purchased as Presents for the Soubah

We Desire also that you will Sent under the Command of Lieutenant Alex[r] Reid one Company of Sepoys which are to attend Mr Holland to Hyderabad

We are

Fort St George
16th March 1770

Gentlemen,

Your most Obedt Servants
Thomas Rumbold
Chas Stuart Smith
White

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17th Wrote the following Letter to the Chief of Tallacoola

To N. Tallama Esqr
Chief of
Tallacoole

Sir,

To N. Tallama. We have received your letter of the 3d Instant. acquainting us that two of your Companys Malloy Soldiers who had killed their Sergeant, were missing, and desiring in Case they should have come to Madras that we would detain them

The said Persons are not to our knowledge arrived here, or in the Neighbourhood of this place, but should We discover them you may be assured We shall detain them agreeably to your Request.

Fort St. George
17th March 1779

Sir,
Your most Obedient humble Servants
Thomas Rumbold
&c &c &c

17th Wrote the following Letter to
General Burdaveegoes.

Fort

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To Brigadier General Desauvergnes

Sir

To Gen.l Desauvergnes
the Godfrey appointed
to carry him home

We beg leave to inform you that
We have appointed the Ship Godfrey to
carry you with your Staff, and that the
Ship only waits to take you on Board.

We have the honor to be,

Fort St George
18th March 1779

Sir;

Your most Obedient humble Servants

Thomas Rumbold

for Select Committee

19th. Wrote the following Letter to
Colonel Baillie

To Lieutenant Colonel Baillie
Commanding at
Pondichery

Sir;

To Col.l Baillie — I am ordered by the Rumbold the
President and Select Committee to acquaint
you that Mr. Dawson Bourcet has represented
that he has a Demand upon one Balagnac
an Inhabitant of Pondichery for 1200 Pagodas
which he is unable to recover and requesting
assistance from them for that purpose —
They desire in consequence that you will call

upon

Fort St. George March 1779

upon Bottomry to pay this Debt if it be
proved to your Satisfaction, and use every
means in your power (except that of Compul-
sion) to prevail on him to do justice to his
Creditor if he positively refuses, the only
resource Mr. Benoist or Bourcat can have, is
to the Court of Justice at Madras.

In consequence of your letter
of the 20th Inst. and the one enclosed from Mr.
Bellecombe the President and Select Committee
direct that Captain Mackenzye be put
on the List of Officers to be subsisted at the
Company's Expence -

Fort St George
19th March 1779

Sir,
I am,
Your most Obedient Servant
Charles Oakeley

20th
Wrote the following Letter
to Colonel Baillie

To Lieutenant Colonel Baillie
Commanding at
Sir, Pondichery

To Colo Baillie
No agent Genl
Bellecombe on
his journey to
Madras -

We enclose herewith a Letter to
Mr. Bellecombe which you are to deliver to
him - as he is desired in that Letter to come
to

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to the Treasury immediately We direct that you give him all proper Assistance for his Journey shewing him every Attention due to his Rank and Situation — The Chief part of Mr. Bellecombe's Baggage may be sent up by Sea in Boats or by the Fortune French Ship, which We have engaged as a Cartel Vessel, or by any other Vessel coming from the Southward — You must be careful that Mr. Bellecombe do not previous to, or at his Departure, take any Step indicative of Authority which in no shape belongs to him.

I Have
Sirs

Fort St George
20th March 1779

Your most Obedient Servants
Thomas Rumbold
&c &c &c

At a Select Committee Present

The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esq. President
John Whitehill Charles Smith

Monday
22d March

General Munro absent on Service

Read the following Letter from Mr.

Mr. Bellecombe

The Honble Mr. Rumbold

Governor and President &c. Select Committee of

Madras.

Gentlemen

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Gentlemen,

From Mons.r Monacon regard.g the French C.s affairs —

Yesterday I received the Letter which you did me Honour to write on the 4th Inst. to the Office for the Liquidation of the Indian Companys affairs, of which I am a Member. I have had for some days that of the said Office which I address you herewith. as this Last authorizes me to treat with you Gentlemen on affairs which our admission has been laid before yours on the 24th Dec.r Last, I beg of you to consider my actually answer the same as if it were signed by Mess.rs Lagrenie and Martin my Associates in Office, who I dare promise you will ratify the same!

I begin with presenting to you the enclosed Exemplary of an Edict of the King's Council of State of the 29th September 1770. Establishing the form of the liquidation Indian Company — this piece will irrevocably prove to you that the Persons who are therein named, are merely in the immediate service of his most Christian majesty in Asia — the 2d 3d and 4th Articles of the Edict are purely relative to the Liquidation passive (which I had the honour to write you on the 24th Dec.r last) the Articles 5th and 6th have regard to the active Liquidation, which having been never terminated, has no Claim on you in the last Extremity Revolution —

Me

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The only difference which exists is in the Persons, Mr. Martin having always filled the place of Mr Monneron returned in France in 1775 where he has remained

If this faithful account shall not determine you, Gentlemen, notwithstanding the Mediocrity of the Sum, to grant to seven of your Persons attached to the Liquidation a Subsistance so generally allowed by you, We beg that you would at least be pleased to give us a new payments Certificate, in order that We may be able to prove in France to the Ministers of the finances on whom we depend, that we have claimed, and not receive it.

The 21.st Article of the Capitulation leaves us the incontestable right of disposing in the most arbitrary manner of the Deposit of the Papers of the Liquidation committed to our care. Please, Gentlemen, to suggest this Article. But it is not only of this Right that we wish to make use, when we have desired your Sanction to the Arrangements taken by us with the Consent of Mr. Bellecombe to leave our Departure for Europe, Messrs. Martin and Blin de Grincourt, in the transaction of Current Affairs, I dare assure you, Gentlemen, that even were my my nation to have no footing any longer in Asia, it will be to the Interest of yours to preserve

Fort St George 22d March 1779

preserve this office of Liquidation one time
longer. I say more, if this Moment may be
come, or already arrived, the Court of London
would demand of that of Versailles, the
Conclusion of this Liquidation by one of the
Articles of the treaty, Article which would oppose
upon the Expiration of the French concurrence -
I will cite you one Example in favor of my
precedent Observation.

For six years we have labored
in the Examination of the Malabar Ramabrigh's
Liquidation, who was Contractor of Stores for our
army from 1757. to 1765. This man had a
Claim on the French Company - for near 20
Lacks of Rupees - he owed more than three
fourths of it in the Carnatic we have
regulated already two thirds of this Liquidation.
If you should not permit Mess. Martin and
to finish in India what remains, it is to be feared
for those who are concerned in this Liquidation -
that it never will be settled because it cannot be effected
in terms of the Edict, only after the Dissolution on the
Place, of which Dissolution the Judgement must be
given in Europe -

You offer us, Gentlemen, to take
charge yourselves, with the Deposit of our papers,
for nothing would doubt could be more secure
if there were any question of a simple and bare

Deposit

deposit. We have informed you that our Liquidation Papers concerns the fortunes of an infinite number of Europeans of all Nations, and of the Natives - this is a fact, which is very true. but their Consumation is no more important, than the facility of procuring to them Justly in India - the concurrence in any part of the ardent Liquidation apply to us daily for the necessary Papers for their Remburgement or here, or in Europe, if even Peace is extinct, there will be an end of such claims as subsists exist against the Company -

I do not think it necessary to open my Sentiments to you on this matter further, and I am persuaded that those which I have laid before you will be sufficient to induce you to permit Mssrs Hastings and Bling to take upon them the important Labours which we have charged them with -

You will please to observe more, that the Form in which our demand is made, proves not only our good faith, - but the confidence which we repose in you, Gentlemen; the Liquidation having to us the true deposit of our Trust - We might easily transport them into a neutral place, where we might equally attribute to our Depositaries the Character, which we believe necessary to confer them, until the arrival of the Europeis further Orders - In keeping all these

Papers

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Papers in Pondichery, We have believed, conciliate
our duty, with the present Circumstances
I will here in few words recapi-
tulate the whole of our Demands.
1st
Your Sanction to our arrangement
in favour of Messrs. Martin and Blin, without
any Expence to the English Company.
2d
The allowance of a Subsistance
to seven Other Persons in the Liquidation Service.
in default of which a Certificate of their own
Payment
3d
The Passage to Europe of these
said seven Persons
I imagine, that upon Selection on
this Third demand as well as the Passage on the
Briffon, of Mr Dauvergne one of the Companys
Servants, which you have paid, proves that you
make no difficulty in granting this part of our
request, I conclude you will have the goodness to
continue it. Therefore I call to your recollection
that Mr Lagneau, Mr Les Lacks and myself have
secured our Passage on a Portuguese Ship now at
an anchor in your Road. I therefore beg that
you would be pleased to order our Passports to be
delivered, as also the Sum fixed by your Board
for the Passage to Europe of French civil or mili-
tary Officers who may go by a foreign conveyance
They have to observe to you that according to our
custom

Fort St. George 22d March 1779

Custom and Rank, each of us are entitled to take our Servant, you will find subjoined our baptismal names and also that of the Ship, after our Departure there will only remain to be provided with a Passage, those assistants of the Legislature, that is Mess.rs Debels, nicolas Degivrons, and Legnay, I take the liberty to recommend them to your Care—

It will follow in Consequence of my said letter, that if you do accord the Entretenue which is due to us until our embarking, your administration will have to pay us over and above our Passage money. Pay.t 178.½ monthly from the 1st. last October to the 15th January the day of Brissonis Departure from Pondichery Pay.t 163¼ monthly from the 15th Jany to the Day of Portuguese Ships departure — Pay.t 45 Monthly from the Portuguese Ships departure to the Day of Mess.rs Debels, nicolas and Le Guay's embarking —

I all Cases, Pray of you to return to me the Edict Inclosed you, and also the original Letter of Mr. Billecombe which we sent you with our Letter of the 24th December last —

I have the honor to be very respectively,—
Gentlemen,
Your most humble and
most obedient Servant
Morracin

Madras
9th March 1779

Names
La Mesa Senhora do Monte do Carmo.
&c

Fort St. George 22d March 1770

Ste anna — Captain Joseph Fernandes de Carvalho.

Simon Lagrenée de Meziere
Jean Francois de Moracin
Charles antoine Lestache } Things Commissaries for the Liquidation &c to the said Liquidation

Trois Domus Lignes —

The foregoing Letter being taken into Consideration it is agreed that the following Answer be written to it.

To Mr. Moracin

Sir,

To Mons.r Moracin on reply —

We have received the Letter you were pleased to write us dated the 7th Instant concerning the Affairs of your Nation & contrary and enclosing an Edict of your King to show that the Persons employed in the Liquidation of the Companys Accounts are immediately in his Service.

In Consequence of that Edict and of the Representations you have made on the Subject of the Concerns remaining still to be adjusted, We have come to the Resolution of granting Permission to Mess.rs Martin and Blin de Grencourt to stay at Pondicherry in charge of the Companys Accounts and for the purpose

Fort St George 22 March 1779

of transacting any Current Business relative thereto; reserving to ourselves the Liberty however of revoking this Permission in Case our Superiors should disapprove of it — We would have it also understood that these Gentlemen are to confine themselves solely to the Current Business of the Liquidation and not engage in any other Concerns or Transactions whatever

We have also consented to allow a Subsistence to the Gentlemen of the Liquidation in the same manner as to the other Servants of the King of France —

With respect to the Allowance for the Passage of the Gentlemen of the Liquidation, We think it necessary to observe that as the Capitulation leaves it in our Option to convey them to France or the Mauritius, it is our Intention to embrace the latter, and those who embark on foreign Ships at their own Expence can only be allowed the same Passage Money that was allowed for the Passengers that went lately from Pondicherry to the Mauritius on the Brisson. This Allowance We are ready to pay you & the other Gentlemen who embark on the Portuguese Ship

We have the Honor to be,

Fort St George
22d March 1779

Sir,

Your most Obedient humble Servants

Thomas Rumbold

Lieutenant
Brigadier

Fort St. George 22d March 1779

Brigadier General Desauvergnes the Colonel of the Pondicherry Regiment having had a Guard placed over him for refusing to sign a Parole which had been signed by every other French Officer that had arrived from Pondichery the President now lays before the Committee a Narrative attested by the Town Major of the manner in which the Governors Orders respecting Mr. Desauvergnes were executed

Narrative of the Manner in which the Town Major executed the Orders he received from the Right Honble Thomas Rumbold Governor &c. respecting Brigadier General Desauvergnes —

Narrative of the Town Majors proceedings in respect to Genl Desauvergnes —

On the 26th Dec.r last, I received Orders from the Governor to wait upon Brigadier General Desauvergnes, with a Parole of Honor, the same as that which had been signed by all the French Officers who were arrived at Madras from Pondichery, which Parole of honor was to be here tendered to him to sign — not being perfectly versed in the French Language myself, I requested Mr. Charlton, a Writer in the Companys Service to accompany me the next Morning to Mr. Desauvergnes House at St. Thomé — We went accordingly — Mr. Charlton explained to Mr. Desauvergnes the Business I came upon, and the particulars of the Parole

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Parole he was required to sign, and added, that as a Compliment to him, the Governor did not mean that he should sign the Paper with the Bulk of the Ground Officers, and had therefore sent a separate Parole for him alone — The Insurgent answered, that he could not think of subscribing his name to that, or any other Paper, that tho' he was sensible it contained nothing but what was consonant to the Laws of honor, yet that while he respected those Laws and knew what was due to the Government under whose Authority he was placed, those Feelings were our best Security, nor could he with honor subscribe to any written Articles whatever — When I asked him (Lieut. M.Charlton) what Objection he could have to giving a Parole which Mr. D'albenac, the Lieutenant Colonel of his Regiment, and the other Officers, had signed without Doubt or Scruple, as thinking it a Security which this Government had a right to demand from them; — He replied, that their Conduct was not a rule for his, that he knew what he owed to himself — and knew also that the Articles of Capitulation, by which he was bound, did not oblige him to give his Parole while he remained here — Is it was not my business to enter into any discussion with Mr respect to the Propriety

or

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on impropriety of his signing the Paper — I told him that it was necessary I should receive a Categorical Answer from him to the Message which I had delivered from the Governor, and I demanded to know whether he would or would not sign this Parole — He then gave me an absolute Negative, and said he should write a Letter, which he desired I would deliver, to Mr. Saunders, with his full and determined Sentiments on the Subject. — After the Governor had read this Letter, he directed an Answer to be wrote to it, expressing his Concern that Mr. Desaveugnes should refuse to sign the Paper which had been presented to him, which Paper has been signed by all the principal Officers but himself belonging to Pondicherry, and that he was the more concerned as, in case he persisted in his Refusal, he should be under the Necessity of placing a Guard over him

To this Letter Mr. Desaveugnes returned no Answer and after the Governor had waited two days in expectation of hearing from him, and with a hope that he would reconsider better of the matter, and, by consenting to sign his Parole, prevent his being reduced to Measures which he wished to avoid, he sent for me, and directed me again to wait upon Mr. Desaveugnes to know his Ultimate Determination — I did so — with

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Mr. Charleton, and found him perfectly the first Resolution — He said that he had received a Note, which Note told him that a Guard would be placed over him, and that he had been waiting in expectation, that, that Threat would have been carried into Execution. He added, that he was engaged that Day to dine at General Munro's and that he wished to know if the Guard would come before Dinner, as in that Case he would acquaint the General with the Reason of his not waiting upon him, — This was a question which I could not resolve, but when I mentioned it to the Governor on my Return he told me not to send the Guard till the Evening. Mr Desaubrygnes dined at General Munro's. and at 5 o'Clock that Evening the Fort Adjutant, in Consequence of the Orders I had received from the Governor, was directed to place a Guard of an Havildar, a Naigue, and 12 Sepoys at Mr Desaubrygnes's House, with Orders to consider him as a Prisoner, not to permit him to go beyond the limits of his House and Gardens, but, at the same time to treat him with Attention and Respect, and the Centries to give him the Compliment of a Rest whenever he approached them — The Governor considering the Day following; that Sepoys without repeated Cautions are apt to insult those who are placed under Charge

and

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I am heavy unwilling to send an European Guard at such a distance from their Corps I found an Order that before the Guard over Mr. Desaussures was relieved by the Sepoys, of an usual Battalion, the non commissioned Officer of the new Guard should wait on the Fort Adjutant for Instructions — This Method has been observed ever since the Guard over Mr. Desaussures was first placed — I have never heard that it has ever failed in respect towards him, nor has his Friends or any other Person been prevented from having free access to him at all times —

Fort St George
11th March 1779

Wm Sydenham
Deputy Major

Read the following Letter received from Mr. Desaussures the 7th Instant —

(Extract Letter)

To the Gentlemen of the Committee at Madras

Gentlemen,

From Genl Desaussures complaining of our entertaining the Soldiers by his req.

I have the Honor to send You a Copy of the Letter which I wrote this Morning to Mr. Rumbold — the Matter to whom is therein discussed is interesting to Honor, Good Faith, Justice, and the Rights

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Right to of Men, those are the only arms which I can oppose to Force, they ought to be victorious, and I will presume to say, that their Victory will be productive of as much Glory to you, as it will of pleasure to me -

I have the Honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most humble
and most Obedient Servant
(signed) Desauvergnes

St Thome
ye March 1779
at 8 P.M.

(Translation)

Sir,

Fourteen Soldiers of my Regiment left Madras with their Luggage Thursday Morning; Forty six, one of whom is of the Artillery left Pevanamalee yesterday - One named Augustus has been for some time at Madras the English Uniform; it is said many of my Musicians are engaged in your Service, and it is reported that most, if not all, are already, or are to be embarked on the Ships bound for Bengal -

The 9th Article of the Capitulation says that "on no account it shall "be lawful to force, nor even solicit the

Soldiers

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"Soldiers or Sailors to enter into the Service
"of His Brittanick Majesty, or the India
"Company"

Tending the Spirit of this
Article, you will perhaps adhere to the
letter of it, and say, that neither force, nor
Solicitation has been used, but that you
have only availed yourself of the favorable
Disposition of those who have offered themselves
I suppose, Sir, that this Subtle interpreta-
tion may politically be admitted, but have
not you by this deprived yourself of the
advantages which you could have obtained?
In order to avail yourself of this Subterfuge,
the Troops ought to have been left under the
Inspection, under the Direction of their Officers,
but you have taken them from under this
Care and vigilance, you have seized them,
they are in your hands a found Deposit
of which you owe an exact account, a faith-
ful restitution, of which the least Demini-
tion is an attack upon that Law, which
among all Nations makes a Deposit sacred—
so that, Sir, very far from having a right
to appropriate to yourself the Private Sol-
diers, you have imposed upon Yourself the
Obligation of watching over them, of preserving
them, of restoring them— Force has put them
under your care, and the Law of Nations makes

you responsible — I claim them, as a Deposit, which you have taken from me, and for which I am answerable to the King, my Master, and if the Spirit of Justice do not ensure Success to my Claim — I protest against every engagement made, or which may be made with the French Soldiers, as an Infraction of the Treaty, and a Violation of the Rights of Nations —

I have the Honor to be,

Sir,

Your most humble and
most obedient Servant

Signed Desauvergnes

St Thomé
24th March 1779

The President lays before the Committee the following Answer which he wrote to Mr Desauvergnes Letter to him — which is approved —

President's reply thereto

Mr Desauvergnes

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive your Favour of the 7th Instant.

Allow me to acquaint you that I do not apprehend any Transaction of this Government can possibly demand a public Correspondence with you or any Point except

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except what may relate to the 5th Article of the Capitulation for Pondicherry, wherein it is permitted "That proper Passages, and accommodations shall be provided at the Expence of the Government of Madras to transport Mr. Duvauvignes, Brigadier General and Colonel of the Regiment of Pondicherry his Staff and Attendance to France, his Baggage and Papers shall not be searched, nor those belonging to his Staff - This Article particularly takes notice of such of your Suite as are allowed to proceed to Europe with you, and you have already been informed Sir from the Committee that a Ship is daily expected here for your accommodation that you might have time to make the necessary Preparations for your Embarkation

I have no doubt but you will see the Necessity on your part of being ready to comply with the Article in the Capitulation which so particularly respects Yourself.

I am,
Sir,
Your most
humble Servant
(Signed) Tho. Rumbold

Fort St George
9th March 1779

With great Consideration,

General

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General Billecombe having in a long address received before the dispatch of the last Ships complained that We had infringed the Capitulation for Pondicherry in several Instances, and amongst the rest touched upon the Subject of our enlisting the French Prisoners which is also mentioned in Mr. Desaussures letter above entered. The said address of General Billecombe with our answer, another letter from Them with two Letters that passed between them and the Governor, all on the Subject of the Capitulation are now entered as follows—

(Translation)

To the Honble Mr. Rumbold

Governor, President, and to the Gentlemen of the Committee at

Madras.

Gentlemen,

Letters & replys from M.G. Billecombe on the same subject

The Embarkation of the Garrison of Pondicherry, and its Staff for France was to have taken place in January last, or as near that time as possible; there is however more than a Month elapsed since then, and you have, not only, not begun to execute your Engagements, but you have not even taken any Measures, which manifest

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manifest a certainty of your fulfilling them.
A Vessel is arrived from Bengal and although I perso-
nally attend at General Coote, one of your Board,
it is known, that no Steps are taken to imbark
the Troops. It is only by indirect advices, that
I am informed of the Arrangements, which are to
make the Merchant Ships the Service a Battle
Ship; you have not yet communicated to me
any thing of your Proceedings on this Subject —

Your Silence, Gentlemen, at
length obliges me to break mine, which I
have preserved until the present hour, and
as it is but too clear that the non Execution
of your Engagements proceeds from your own
inclination and not from any real impossibili-
ty of performing them, I can no longer defer
exclaiming against their non performance and
against every thing, which has been occasioned
by your Conduct since the date of the Capitu-
lation, which you have not hesitated to violate
whenever you have found it your Interest, your
Convenience or your pleasure to do so —

The Detention of our Troops
is a manifest Infraction, and is most repugnant
to this respectable Treaty, your Conduct to-
wards the Officers of this Garrison is a conse-
quent Step of this first attack upon our
Rights, and the abuse of power could alone
Inspire the violent and scandalous proceedings

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used by you against Mr. Desaubrygnes —
Brigadier of the Kings Forces, and Colonel
of the Regiment of Pondicherry.

The first Article of the
Capitulation assures Liberty to the Garrison
in a manner as pointed, as it is glorious —
It was the honorable reward of its gallant
Defence, and you may believe, Gentlemen, upon
my word, that the Capitulation which has
saved the lives of many English as well as
French should not have been signed by the
Commandant of Pondicherry, without that
Condition — By what Right then is the
Garrison deprived of Liberty? I shall not
stop here to argue with Mr. Bumbeck upon
his Pretensions to consider them as Prisoners
of war in Asia, allowing at the same time
that they are to be sent upon their arrival
in France, — The Code of Nations, the Laws
of War pronounce between him and me —
I subscribed, Gentlemen, to the only Restric-
tion introduced by General Monson in the
1st Article to secure your Government from
the abuse which they might have appre-
hended from that Liberty, which the
Capitulation preserved to our Soldiers —
The Garrison marching out with the
Honors of War, grounded their Arms upon

The

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Glacis, — Sir, were You with Confidence
Delivered over to your Troops, under the Pro-
tection of Honor, and of a Treaty, of which
the sacred Character would expell every
Doubt of the manner in which it should be
observed — Ought I Then to have expected
the treatment which both Officers and
Soldiers have experienced from you since
their arrival at Madras?

After having imprisoned
the Soldier and removed him from the
Discipline and Care of his Officers, who
became of course the Security for his
peaceable Conduct, you have used violence
in exacting from the Officers an engage-
ment, which nothing could oblige them to contract,
and which gives a very unfavorable idea of the
Principles upon which such a Measure was judged
necessary — Nothing could authorize such a
Conduct on your part, and if I have a little
derogated from the Rights which are Sacred by
violated, by not Disapproving of the Officers
giving the Parole which you Demanded, by
presenting them with the alternative of signing
or of being disarmed and imprisoned — I was induced
to make this Sacrifice by any Person and by the
Necessity of putting a Stop to acts of violence, of
which the Consequences might have occasioned
Disorders fatal to Humanity

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I had reason to think, Gentlemen, that finding me so well disposed to make you easy you would at length have confined yourselves to the bounds prescribed by Law, and Honor, especially when no pretext for acting otherwise existed - The Prosecution incensed against Mr. Desmoveaux is an excess of such a nature as to be difficult to be believed by those even who have the misfortune of being witnesses of it -

Such, Gentlemen, are the Reasons which you made successively of the Capitulation, to the particular prejudice of the Individuals of the Garrison of Pondichery, and against which I exclaim, and protest in the most formal Manner -

The general Conduct of your Domination relative to this solemn Treaty has been an uninterrupted Succession of detrimental Attacks against the Interest of the Party, which it is my Duty to justify Me in an authentic manner - When I capitulated in Pondichery, the Power of observing the Conditions upon which I surrendered the Place, remained in your Hands - you sent those Vessels which might have been employed in transporting us to France on a Voyage, which exposed them to the risk of not being able to fulfill the Object - This risk was well known to you, not to say more -

A Ship arrives from Bengal

Bound

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bound for Europe, and you neither embark the Troops or Men of the Garison, notwithstanding the Engagement which you have made to transport them to their Country as soon as possible, and notwithstanding the Agreement made by me to General Coote that M.r Desaubrygnes should embark with part of his Regiment — You have not only, Gentlemen, with knowledge on your side given cause for an impossibility of transporting the Garison of Pondichery to France, you have not only declined availing yourselves of the Opportunity which you have of sending some part, but (what is still more galling) you avail yourselves of the Effect of your first act of Violence in taking away from Subjects of the King, whom you were bound by the Capitulation to restore to their Country; also by I am assured, more than 70 Men by a most criminal Seduction have been engaged by you and taken from a Detachment of which you had the temporary Charge, under the Security of a Treaty — Do not deceive yourselves, Gentlemen, it is very different to receive and employ Soldiers who are free, and who are induced from their national Inconstancy, or from any proposed advantages to change their Masters; or to, appropriate to yourselves, by any means whatsoever, those Men, of whom your honour

to them

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taken Charge, ought to insure their Preservation for their King, as it prevents their opposition to your Interests - The act of taking them away in whatever manner it may be done, is a manifest breach of the Capitulation, and a Contempt of the Laws of all polished Nations — I therefore, Gentlemen, in the name of the King, claim them of You, and all others, who may have been taken until this time - I demand, that the Garrison be transported to France without any Diminution, and by the most short route, agreeably to the terms of Capitulation; and in case of refusal, I protest in the strongest manner, against it, as I do also against the forced detention of their Troops, against the Violence used against the Officers to oblige them to give a Parole, which you had not any Right to demand, and also against all the excesses, of which you have been guilty with respect to Mr Desaugeons, whom you have detained a Prisoner upwards of two Months at Madras, making you, at the same time personally responsible, as well as the India Company, under whose name you act, both to the King and his Subjects, for all the Consequences which may result from the Conduct which you have observed with respect to the French in Asia, and for all the reparations and Damages which they

may

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may be entitled to claim.

I have the honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most humble and
most Obedient Servant
Signed) Bellecombe

Pondichery
21st March 1779

(Translation)

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold
Governor, President and to the Gentlemen
of the Committee at
Madras

Gentlemen,

I have had the honor to receive
your letter of the 11th Instant, informing me of
your resolution to dispatch the Merchant
Ship the Sartine as a Cartel Ship with a
part of the Garrison of Pondicherry, and offering
me a Passage upon that Vessel — In my present
Situation, Gentlemen, it is not for me to chuse
upon what Ship I shall embark: I can only
demand the performance of the 10th Article of the
Capitulation which relates to me, and which
specifies that I shall be transported to France
by the most expeditious and direct Route —
You are to appoint the Vessel which may with
Security fulfil that Object I shall embark
upon

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upon him — I only request, Gentlemen, that you will be pleased to signify to me your Intentions on this Subject as soon as possible, as also what measures you have taken for the Embarkation of all the Men of which I am desirous of being assured, previous to my Departure — I Desire also, Gentlemen, that you will be so good as to inform me whether I am to embark here or at Madras.

I have the Honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most humble and
most Obedient Servant
(Signed) Bellecombe

Pondicherry
13th March 1779

Sir,

Mr Duteuil has informed me of a proposal made to him to sign a Paper presented to him from you — and also of his Refusal in short of the Step you have taken to confine him a Prisoner to his house where you have placed a Guard — At the time when I did not disapprove that the Officers, who conducted the Garison to Madras, should subscribe their Names to such a Paper, my view was to prevent by that compliance, every Pretext, and every occasion of Suspicion, and of all irregular Conduct to which Disposition I saw too much tendency,

but

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but I little expected you would ever dream of
extending that Excess of precaution further and
flattered myself that Superior Officers, who
had served under me would have been entirely
exempted from any Requisition on that
Subject, indeed their Rank gives them pretensions beyond those confined to common Society — those
Pretensions are not merely founded on their Rank
but as it gives an assurance of their more perfect
knowledge of their Duty and of the Laws of polished
Nations — You have no Right then, Sir, to exact
any Oath of me from Mr. Des Bouverains who is not a
Prisoner of War — If you will thoroughly consider
the Answer he returned you, you will find it
contains, in the most solemn and open manner,
the Words and Engagements contained in the Paper
you are desirous he should sign, — It is therefore
only form, pure formality, that you have procured to so rigorous an exactness to an Officer not less
distinguished, by his Military Talents than by his
Rank and Merit — It is my Duty then Sir, to
protest against this act of Violence, and to
request you will put an end to it immediately —
I think it my duty also to represent to you,
that it must be equally disgustful to English
as well as French Officers, because in spite of
honor each Nation is governed by the same
Laws — If by an over exactness of the Duties
of your Station, you will not speedily confess

yourself

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Yourself of my Sentiments I appeal to your
Heart and understanding and shall exhort with
the greatest Confidence the most favorable
Decision.

Pondichery
4th Jany 1779

I have the honor to be,
&c.
Bellombe

Sir,

I have the Honor of your Letter
of the 4th acquainting me of the Information you
have received from Mr Duchemin, it is very
true Sir, that a Paper was tendered to him to
sign the same as to the rest of the Officers, it's
true that he refused to sign it, and that a
Guard in consequence is placed over him, and it
is also as certain that the Guard will remain
over him till he complies with what I have
a right to demand — and from which no
Rank can exempt him — I consider all the
Officers taken in Pondichery as Prisoners of war
till their Arrival in France the Articles of
Capitulation Run set them at liberty —

I have all the respect for Mr
Duchemin's Military Talents and Merit,
your announcing them is a sufficient confir-
mation to me that they are deserved by great
merit on my own part and Understanding to
which

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which Sir you intend to take till me that no Individual should on his own opinion be allowed to stand simply against the Just and wise precautions of Government and tho' the Difference of Rank between a Colonel and Subaltern of a Regiment is great the Military Line of Honor amongst Officers is laid on the same Principles: nor can I comprehend that any of the French Officers are dishonored by the Paper they have signed, and that if Mr Desauvigny had considered it in that light, he would in Justice to the Officers of his Regiment have entered his Protest to the Act in their Behalf before it came Lastly to himself. It is my wish Sir, to shew all attention and respect to those gallant Officers you have had the honor of Commanding - but in acts that relate to Government I must be left to my own Judgement and any further representation on the point in Question will be unnecessary

I am with the most perfect
esteem and Consideration
Sir,
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
Thomas Rumbold

Fort St George
8th Jany 1779

To

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To Major General Bellecombe

&c. &c.

Sir,

We have had the honor to receive your Letters of the 11th and 13th Instant, the former of which the contents, hath filled us with a degree of Astonishment, to which We cannot give utterance, - That a Gentleman who bears so distinguished a Rank in the Service of his most Christian Majesty, and to whose Character We have always annexed the idea of Politeness and good breeding, should in any Situation or upon any occasion have addressed a public Body in the Language of Insincerity and Passion will hardly be credited by those who are unacquainted with the Fact, and yet Sir in the Letter from you to which We now allude, there is such a ample room given Us to charge You upon this head, that it is with great Difficulty, We can prevail on ourselves to return any answer to it, but as the vehement and Declamatory Style of this Performance may possibly make some Impression on the Minds of those who may not have inclination or leisure to investigate Facts, We shall take the freedom to examine and reply to the several Accusations you have been pleased to bring against Us, and We desire you will do

Us

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Its the custom to forward this our reply for the confirmation of such Persons as you may think it necessary to furnish with Copies of your Letter.

You begin your said Letter by observing that "the Embarkation of the Garrison "at Pondicherry and its Stores for France, was to "have taken place on January last, or as near "it as possible, that there is however more than "a Month elapsed since then, and they have "not only not begun, to execute our Engage- "ments but have not even taken any Measures "which manifest a Certainty of our fulfilling "them".

On referring to the Articles of Capitulation, We do not find it any where expressed that the Garrison of Pondicherry was to be embarked in the Month of January or as near it as possible. The Words of the Capitulation are, "All European Officers and "Soldiers shall proceed to Madras where, on its "Neighbourhood they will be properly accommoda- "ted, till such time as Ships can be provided by "the Government of Madras to transport them to "France which shall be done as expeditiously as "possible. It is true We find in the 8th Article with regard to your own embarkation, that you shall be provided with a Passage "in the Month of January or as near it as possible" but your

extending

 Fort St George 2 Decbr 1779

extending those words to the whole Garrison of Pondicherry seems unwarrd at least, if it be not calculated on purpose to mislead —

When you mentioned Sir so roundly to assert, that "We had not even taken "any measures which manifested a Certainty of "fulfilling our Engagements", and again That, "the non execution of our Engagements proceeded "from our own inclination and not from any "impossibility of performing them"; You should have informed yourself clearly upon the Subject and not have taken up, on mere conjecture, what it was your duty to have ascertained with Precision, before you grounded so far as to found a Charge upon it —

In reply to these vague and ill grounded Assertions, We shall here shew the Steps that have been taken to fulfill our Engagements, and submit to more candid Judges than Mr Billecombe whether or not they manifest a Certainty and Desire of executing them —

On the 25th of October last only seven days after the Capitulation was signed We wrote a Letter to the Governor General and Council of Bengal in which are the following Words exactly copied from the Original —

"In consequence of the Stipulation for sending "the Garrison and principal Inhabitants of

Pondicherry

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"Pondichery to France, we are to request you
will be pleased to order all the Costhang's
"Ships which may be dispatched from Bengal
"this Season to call here in their way, that
"We may put on board them as many of the
"French Prisoners as possible. Again on the
"9th of December, before We had received any
"answer to this Letter We wrote to them in the
following Words. "In our Letter of the 25th
"October, We requested that you would be
"pleased to order all the Bengal Ships to
"call here in their way home that We might
"have it in our power to accommodate the
"late Governor of Pondichery and as many of
"the French Officers and Soldiers as possible
"with Passages to Europe. We are at present
"put to considerable Expence and suffer much
"Embarrassment on account of the Number of
"Prisoners We have to subsist here, but exclusive
"of these Circumstances it appears in a
"Political view of so much Consequence to
"send every Man of them to Europe, that We
"earnestly wish it may be communicated to you
"to comply fully with the request We have
"made for shipping and that one or two
"Ships may be sent early in January to
"carry home Mr Bellecombe and the principal
"Officers.

Not contented with this
Provision

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Provision which We have made for transporting the Garrison of Pondichery to France, We accepted a Proposal from Mr. Marcin a Gentleman of your Nation to make the Sartine a French Merchant Man, a Cartel Ship for the exchange persons & carrying a part of your Officers and Soldiers to France, You acknowledge yourself that you had received indirect advice of this last Measure and yet in the same breath assert, that We had not taken any Measures which manifest a certainty of fulfilling our Engagements, and then transported by the warmth of your Imagination which exceeds all Bounds you positively exclaim that "We have not hesitated to violate the Capitulation whenever We have found it our Interest "our Convenience or our Pleasure so to do" —

You say further that when you ~~that when you~~ capitulated in Pondichery the Power of observing the conditions upon which you surrendered the Place remained with Us, that" We sent those Ships which might have been "employed in transporting your Garrison to France "on a voyage which exposed them to risk of not "being able to fulfill the Object" — This Risk "you remark was well known to Us, not to say "more" — The meaning of these last words We confess is unintelligible to Us — with respect

to

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to the Vessels you allude to, which We suppose were the Company's Ships employed at the Seige of Pondicherry, it is true We sent them on the Voyage they were originally destined for, when the Seige was at an end; but it is equally true that no part of the Garrison of Pondicherry, could have been sent to Bengal on those Ships without exposing the Troops to every sort of Risk and Danger, and the Reasons must have been obvious even to Yourself. Those Ships had long been employd on actual Service, and were at the Conclusion of the Seige totally unprovided with every thing necessary for the accommodation and Subsistence of Troops, but the principal Objection arose from the Season of the Year. You who have long resided in India must know that after the 15th October it is extremely dangerous for Ships to remain on the Coast, on Account of the violence of the Monsoon. The Capitulation was signed the 18th October. Now Sir would You, or could you consistently with those Principles of humanity which you lay claim to, wish that those Ships had been kept on the Coast, and your Men embarked at a time when it would have been impossible for a Boat to put from the Shore without

almost

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almost a Certainty of being lost, and when the Ships must have been exposed to every sort of Danger that could be apprehended from the known violence of the Monsoons on this Coast, had we ourselves indeed made a Proposal of this nature to you, We might and no doubt should have been accused of inhumanity - But you Sir, yielding up all your objections to the violence of your indignation have not disdained to adopt an Idea which We should have shuddered at, and which certainly Does not great honor to your Feelings -

In the former part of this letter will show that We took the measures to provide Shipping for the Garison of Pondicherry as expeditiously as the Season would admit. If the Ships we expected did not arrive with us exactly at the time you wished, we are not to blame. We can only govern ourselves by the Articles of Capitulation - You say that a Ship is arrived from Bengal and that We neither embark the Officers nor Men of the Garrison - Give us leave to tell you Sir that on that Ship and on another Ship which is since arrived, We had taken Measures for embarking M. Des Chevergnes with his Staff, Attendants and the Grenadier Company

A

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of the late Garison of Pondichery and those which compose as great a Number as the two Ships can carry, will be actually embarked in a few days -

We have been thus full in answer to the Charge of wantonly detaining the French Ships with the view of convincing every candid and unprejudiced Person that our Conduct hath been diametrically opposite to what you have supposed, tho' We should have thought, had you not taken so much pains to assert the contrary, that our inclination to free ourselves at this Period from the burthen of so many French Officers and Soldiers situated within and in the Neighbourhood of our principal Settlement, must have appeared self evident.

From the Charge of detaining your Troops in violation of our Engagements you proceed to the Case of Mr Dubois Surgeon who had a Guard placed over him for refusing to sign a Parole which had been signed by every other Officer belonging to the Garison of Pondichery: This proceeding you positively term violent and scandalous and in another place you call it a Persecution and an Excess of such a Nature as to be difficult to be believed - Believe us, Sir, expressions

and

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and Language so unbecoming the Character you
represent can do no Service to your Cause. They
are inconsistent with that Politeness which gives
weight to every Representation public or
private and must always in the Minds of sensible
Men convey unfavourable impressions of their
Author —

By what Article of the Capi-
tulation Sir, do you contend you might be
required a Parole from the Officers of the late
Garrison of Pondichery. What Security does
the Capitulation give us upon those Points
on which the Parole is taken? absolutely none —
You have not yourself produced a single Line or
expression to prove that it does — If then the
Capitulation be silent as to those necessary
Points do not the Laws of Honor warrant and
the Laws of providence dictate — that we should
supply the deficiency by such Restrictions as are
apparently necessary for the Peace and Security
of our Government — Can it be prejudicial to the
Honor of any Gentleman however dejected his
Rank to give us that Security, and will Mr.
Bellecombe say that he considers any one Article
in the Paper which Mr. Du Chevegnes refused
to sign as dishonorable in any shape whatso-
ever, surely not, otherwise he would not have
suffered every other Officer to sign it

without

Fort St. Geo. 22d March 1779

without making the least Remonstrance on the Subject. But it seems the Rank of Mr. Des Ruveignes should have exempted him from any requisition of a Parole. This is a Doctrine quite novell to us. The point of honor appears to us to be the same in the General and the Subaltern. No Security can be taken from one that may not with equal Propriety be taken from the other. If there be any difference the Security of the General should be stronger for obvious Reasons. We are much surprised Sir, to hear you gravely advance this Doctrine of Rank, and lay so much Stress on the Distinction due to it. You who must have well known that the Count D'Estaing a French Officer of high Rank in the last war, treated his Parole with no Ceremony whatever, and who have now an Instance before you in the Case of Mr. Dunbigware, that late Lieut. of Maryland who gave a verbal Parole of Honor to our President there and afterwards violated it in the most unhonourable manner, declaring that he did not think it binding because it was not reduced to writing. With such experience as this to form our Judgment upon, are we to be reproached for the precaution we took in regard to Mr. Des Ruveignes, and is the proceeding which necessarily followed. That

Gentleman's

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Gentlemen's obstinate Refusal to give us the Satisfaction We had a right to require, to be termed scandalous and treated in the Language of Sometime – &

The only part of your Letter now remaining to be answered is That which concerns the treatment of the private Soldiers of Your Garrison, your Language and reasoning upon this Subject is equally strong and polite with the rest of the Performance – You say that the 1st Article of the Capitulation assures liberty to the Garrison in a manner "as pointed as "it is possible" – We have carefully perused that Article without being able to discover any such liberty further than relates their marching out of the Fort with the Honors of War – The 2d Article says, "They are to proceed "to Madras when or in its Neighbourhood – They "will be properly accommodated till such "time as Ships can be provided by the Govern- "ment of Madras to transport them to France" The latter part of this Article indeed assures liberty to "the Black Troops by allowing them to go where they please but is totally silent in regard to the Europeans nor is it any where mentioned in the Treaty that the Soldiers are to be under the care and discipline of their own Officers – This idea

&

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of Liberty is now for the first time taken up at the distance of 5 Months after signing the Capitulation — If it were warranted by any Article of that Treaty why was no Remonstrance made against the Restriction on said the Soldiers under, upon their Arrival here — The Truth is, that Restriction being no where forbid by the Capitulation, your own good Sense must have pointed out to you, that it was impossible for us to suffer six or seven hundred Men to range at large in an Enemy's Garison or its Environs — All that could be expected was, that they should be lodged in healthy and convenient places, which has been done, and their own Officers have been permitted to visit them whenever they required it.

The 9th Article of the Capitulation says that "it shall not be lawful to "force or even to solicit any Soldier or Sailor "to enter into the Service of his Brittannick "Majesty or the East India Company" We have neither forced nor solicited. Several of the Soldiers of your Garrison have freely and voluntarily offered themselves to be admitted into the Service of the Countries, and we have accepted their Offers in which We are fully warranted by the above Article. When what

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ground for do you pronounce this to be a
most "Criminal Seduction", We allow that
your Soldiers are depended with by us under the
Security of the Capitulation, and that We are
bound to render an Account of them agreeably
to the terms of that Capitulation; but if
those Terms allow us to receive the voluntary
application of any Man who may choose
to enter our Service, whom lies the Criminality
of such a Conduct? We have used neither Force
nor Solicitation, nor authorized them to be
used in any Shape by them, and We have now
by us the written and voluntary Applica-
tions of every Man that has been enter-
tained in our Service -

When you next so much upon
the supposed Liberty assured to your Garrison
by the 7th Article of Capitulation, as to declare
upon your word, that you thought that Condition
the Articles should never have been signed
by you We are disposed for that you
allowed that Article to pass in the Form
in which it now stands, for upon the most
impartial Examination, We cannot discover
a word in the Article as altered by General
Monson that assures further Liberty to the
Garrison than to march out of the Fort
with the Honors of War - The truth is in
fact

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fact, that the Garison was reduced to the Extremity of accepting almost any Conditions that had been offered and had not the Commanding Officers of the Fleet and Army been actuated by those Principles of humanity and Generosity which is strongly marked this Characters, the Garison must have accepted of much harder Conditions than were offered, or have embraced the Alternative of standing an Assault within a few hours with Enemy. Disadvantage on their Side

We attribute the Confidence which you have been pleased to bring against us, more to the Misinformation that has been conveyed to you from time than to any thing which you may have been able to gather from your own knowledge, for at the distance of 60 Miles from this Island it is impossible that you Yourself should be able to examine into the truth of the particulars you have advanced, with such an air of Certainty — The great Indulgence We have shewn in complying with your several Requests and particularly in allowing you to remain so long at Pondicherry on Family Considerations, within the Articles of Capitulation stipulated that you should remove to Madras in twenty days

Fort St. George 22d March 1779

probably have led you to suppose yourself in a different situation from what those Articles place you, however this may be, We now think it necessary to require you to repair to Madras immediately and remain there until you embark for France — You demand that the Garrison of Pondicherry be transported to France "by the most short Route agreeably to the terms of the Capitulation" and in case of Refusal you protest &c. You are not more fortunate Sir, in this reference to the Capitulation than in any of the others which you have made, in the Course of your Letter, The terms of our Engagements no where express that the Garrison is to be transported "by the shortest Route" The most Direct Route in which English Ships can convey them with safety is by the way of England from whence they may be sent to France in a few days — We have no power to order our Ships direct by to France and as the Capitulation does not require it, We shall certainly not expose them to any Risk by sending them thither —

We have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedt humble Servants

Thomas Rumbold

Fort St George
19th March 1779

Lt Colonel Commdt

A

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A Letter having been
received from the Nabob's private Creditors
before the Departure of the last Ships, a Copy
of it was sent to the United Court of Directors
the said Letter is now entered as follows—

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr
President and Governor &c. Members of the
Select Committee of
Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

We the Creditors of the Nabob
of Arcot whose demands were liquidated by public
Agreement with his Highness in November 1777
humbly beg leave to lay before your Honble Board
the Circumstances of our distressed Situation, in
full Confidence of receiving from your Justice,
that Support which the Nature of our Embar-
rassment requires, and which We hope will be
thought due to the Cause of so many British
Subjects living under the Company's Protection—

By the several Papers which
We the Honble Court's Inclosure herewith, it will appear
clearly upon what Grounds the Nabob proposed
and entered into the Arrangements concluded
with his Creditors in 1777— The Nabob himself
in his Letter to the Governor upon this Subject
dated the 29th December 1777 explains the

From the Nabob's private Creditors

4th Fort St. George 22d March 1779

Motives on which he acted in the following
Words "Having given the most serious atten-
"tion to the letter from the Governor General
"and Council of Bengal to your Board of the 1st
"April last, and to the Extract of the one from
"the Court of Directors of the 15th June, I approved
"such an Arrangement to my Creditors, as would
"ensure payment to them by degrees" and
shortly after he adds "Agreeable to the recom-
mendation in the two abovementioned Letters
from my Friends. I have withdrawn all the
Suits and Assignments I had granted
on my Revenue and Zemindary.

Thus it appears by the Nabob's
own showing, that the Proposition for an
Arrangement with his Creditors came voluntar-
ily and unsolicited from himself, that it
was founded on what he conceived to be the
wish of the Honble Court of Directors and
of the Governor and Council of Bengal, and
that he was entitled by this Arrangement to
call in all the Suits and Assignments
granted on the Carnatic, a measure which
was recommended to him in the strongest
terms, and which could have been accomplished
in no other way.

With respect to the written

Agreement

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Agreement formally entered into by the Nabob on this occasion, We humbly conceive that the Terms therein proposed for discharging the Principal and Interest of this debt, were as favorable to this Kingdom, as he could have wished. They were indeed quite voluntary offers on the part of the Nabob, calculated on a deliberate view of the means and resources which he possessed, after providing for the Company's demands, and retaining what sufficient funds for the necessary expences of his own Government and Household. The Directors Treasurer received no Conditions from the Nabob, and having in a manner left the Arrangement entirely to himself. They rested in the full Security that it would be punctually observed, but unfortunately for them, their hopes were soon disappointed, and the following is clearly the State of their Concern since the Arrangement took place.

The Nabob agreed to pay in the first Year the Conditions the full Interest on their several Bonds - having twelve Lacs, but he has in fact discharged only five Lacks and three remains now due. Lacs to be paid of the Interest of last year. He has made no Provision whatever for the Interest of this Year, or for discharging that part of the Principal which he has engaged to pay

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and has even refused to deliver the Jewels which he offered as Security for the remainder of last years Interest —

This Capital failure on the part of the Nabob have thrown his Creditors in general into the greatest Distress, and some of them have actually been reduced as to want even the means of Subsistence — The Nabob however having repeatedly declared that the Cause of his backwardness proceeded from the Necessity he was under of paying large Sums of Money to the Company for the exigencies of the Publick Service, We waited patiently and silently under our Distress, trusting that the day of Relief could not be far Distant, but when We found that the Nabob instead of paying any thing extraordinary to the Company had been deficient in the Discharge of his ordinary Engagements, We could no longer conceal our Sufferings, and We resolved not in the Resolution of applying publickly thro' the regular Channel of your Board for Redress

It is well known to your Honor &c. that the Debt We claim of the Nabob includes the greatest part of the Property of the British Subjects and Natives within the Colony, and that the Conduct of his Highness

in

in not keeping his Payments - from us has
produced almost a universal Bankruptcy, and
a total Stop to the Circulation of Money, two
of the most alarming Evils that can befall
any State - When these Things are attentively
considered, and when it is considered also that a
great part of the Money taken up by the
Nabob from Individuals and for which they
had Assignments on the Carnatic, has been
paid into the Company's Treasury on his Engagements to them at different Periods,
We flatter ourselves that the request We now
make for your Assistance and good Offices with
the Nabob, and for your favorable representation
of our Case to the Hond.ble the Court of Directors,
and to the Governor General and Council of Bengal
will be received as We could wish - We are far
from presuming to place our Demands on an
equality with those of the Company, - It is
our wish and desire that they should always have
that preference which is due to their superior
Claims, but when there is apparently an
ample Resource for doing justice both to the
Company and to the private Creditors, it seems
unreasonable that the latter should be totally
excluded; in the present Situation of affairs,
We are willing for the sake of the public
Service to forego as much of our Salaries as

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The Nabob as We hopefully own, but the regular Payment of the Interest on our several Bonds is absolutely requisite for our Support, and We make it our particular request therefore that your Honor &c will be pleased to use your good offices with the Nabob, that We may receive what is due on this Account, and be punctually paid in future, according to the Lists settled by his Highness. The Amount of the Debt consolidated as aforementioned in 1777 will not exceed thirty five Lacks of Pagodas instead of the enormous Sum which was at one time suppposed as your Honor &c will perceive by the accompanying Declaration of the Nabob and his Ministers in November last, and Bonds for thirty four Lacks and upwards have actually been issued. Such being the case, We cannot in any shape have Land upon him to pay the Interest.

We shall detain your Honor &c no longer than to mention one Circumstance more relative to the Nabobs Debt which seems to require explanation. In the Agreement signed by the Nabob, there appears a Stipulation in favor of Messrs. Taylor, Majendie, Savage and Call which is not accounted for. The reason of that distinction was, that those Gentlemen did (at the earnest Solicitation of his Highness, to enable him to make a General arrangement of his affairs) actually relinquish the exclusive assignment of

the

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the Great Country, a great part of the Revenues of the Nabob and other Countries, and five next parts of the Money that might be received from any one and more on that account thought best by the Nabob and by the Governors in general entitled to a particular Stipulation in their favor —

Fort St George
11th March 1779

We have the Honor to be with great Respect
Honble Sir & Gentlemen,
Your most Obedient & very humble Servants

Hall Plumer not to be liable for Gift Trust
John Snow in Trust
C. E. Jones for himself & in Trust
George Maule in Trust
Chas Brownley for himself
Trustee and Attorney to several Lessees
E. J. Holland
Gilbert Paisley
Thomas Lewin Atty
John Pratt
James Taylor Executor to
Thomas Pratt
Alex. Cuthbert for the
Honble Edward Monckton
Alex. Cuthbert for
Sam. Throughback
Col. Pongour

Dawson & Drake
James Call
Alex. Jaffreson
James Taylor
Antonio de Souza
James Call Atty to George Savage
Moses de Castro
Geo. Mowbray
Alex. Cuthbert Atty for the Heirs of Bonsey
J. Balfour in Trust for an Atty
A. Brodie Atty to Major Gillis
A. Brodie Atty to Captain Bowie
A. Brodie Atty to L. Beaumont
A. Brodie Atty to A. Balfour
A. Brodie Atty to Robt. Browne
Geo. Mowbray Atty to D. Sullivan
John Douglas Atty to R. Parks
H. Dobbyn in Trust for Atty
T. Crawford
James Johnson
Andrew Mynrodt
Tho. Pelling
John Pyott

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Extract

Of a Letter from his Highness the Nabob to Governor Whitehill dated 27th Dec.r 1779

Having given the most serious attention to the Letter from the Governor General and Council to your Board of the 7th April last, and to the Extract of them from the Court of Directors of the 1st June, I proposed such an arrangement to my Creditors as would ensure payment to them by degrees, it will doubtless afford you much Satisfaction to be informed - that all the principal Creditors readily agreed to, and signed the Articles of Agreement, I doubt not but the others will accede also - Agreeable to the Recommendations in the two abovementioned Letters from my Friends, I have withdrawn all the Taxations and Assignments I had granted on my revenue and Country and being well persuaded of the Salutariness of this measure I am resolved not to grant any such assignments

The Debt consolidated in 1767 remains on the same footing as before, I propose to divide a Lack of Pagodas on that Account on the 31st of this Month, and I shall use my best Endeavours to discharge the whole very soon - As the Interest on the old debt is only ten Per Cent Per Annum and that allowed to the new Creditors is twelve, it may be proper that I should explain why I have made this distinction: twelve Per Cent is now the Interest

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Patent allowed by your Law, whereas when the former debt was consolidated your custom on my Patent was only eight, agreeable to the Company's desire I gave ten to my old Creditors, I understand that Europeans at that time never paid more than eight, but as I was told that since the late Act of Parliament they generally pay ten P Cent and even twelve to such whom I thought I could retain Justice therefore bids —

Extract

Of a Letter from his Majesty's Ship Nabob to the Governor of Bengal dated 29th Dec 1777

I gave the most serious consideration to your letter to the Governor and Council here of the 7th March last, from whom I received a Copy of it, since then they have sent me an Extract from one from the Court of Directors of the 15th June, also recommending to me as you do to withdraw all Assignments or Mortgages of any Revenue or Country, I have now the pleasure to inform you, Sir, that I have complied with their Recommendations and have also made an Arrangement with my Creditors and they seem persuaded of my good Intentions — The withdrawing of the Grants and Assignments will contribute to the good Government of my Country and I

 Fort St George 22d March 1779

am determined on no Account whatever to grant any of them again, I now transmit you a Copy of the Articles on which this Settlement with my Creditors is founded and to which several of them have already approved and signed and which I hope will be agreeable to you —

Certified that having seen and approved the Contents of this Paper I sign and seal it with the Seal of my Government —

His Highness is pleased to appoint Mr. James Wooley and Mr. John De Fries his Agents in this Business and Transactions on his part —

At a Meeting at Chepauk Present His Excellency Lieut. Col. Wood Bahadur and Coja Assan Caun Bahadur Dewan to his Highness the Nabob, appointed by his Highness the Nabob to confer with his Creditors of whom were Present —

Messrs. Dawsonne Drake
Lucius Crawford
James Taylor
John De Fries
Antonio De Souza

The following Articles were proposed and Unanimously agreed to as Preliminaries for consolidating

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consolidating and arranging all his Highness's Debts except the Debt consolidated in the Year 1767 bearing Interest at the rate of Ten Per Cent per annum —

That this arrangement shall be communicated to the East India Company their Representatives the Governor General and Council at Fort William, and the President and Council of Fort St George, and be carried into execution under the Company's Ministers —

That the Account of these Debts shall be made up and adjusted at His Highness's Durbar to the 25th November last 1777 and a Bond shall be given to each Person respectively for his debt bearing Interest at Twelve Per Cent per annum —

That four Persons shall be appointed Trustees for the Care and Management of the debt in general, comprehending Accounts and all other Matters two of which to be appointed by the Nabob and two to be chosen by the Creditors but as these Trustees will have occasion to have frequent Intercourse with his Highness his Ministers and Servants respecting the affairs entrusted to their Management, it is expressed and understood that the two to be chosen by the Creditors will be such Persons as will not be in any way disagreeable to the Nabob

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That the four Trustees, should be allowed by the Creditors half Cent on all such money as may be divided by them, and a like allowance by the Nabob. That the Nabob shall specify or mention the Country or Countries from or thence the Money is to be received for the Payment of this Debt, and in case the Money received from those Countries, should fall short of the Payments hereafter proposed, that the said Payments shall be in such case completed and made good from the other part of the Carnatic—

That the said Money shall be delivered into the Hands of the Trustees immediately as it may be received from the Country, who shall grant Receipts for the same to be signed by three of them at least—

That the Dividends of the said Money shall be made to each Creditor in exact proportion to the Sum that may be owing to them, every three or four Months at furthest—That during the first twelve Months reckoning from the 25th November 1777 the Nabob shall pay from the Carnatic / exclusive of the Pension of Pauyon / a Sum equal to the full Interest on the whole debt for one year—

That ever after until the whole Principal and Interest be discharged he shall pay

way from the Carnatic equally / exclusive of the Provinces of Tanjore the Soubah Interest and Salt Lakes and a Moiety of Shah Pagoda on account of the Principal —

And above and besides the Provisions made for the Payment of this Debt from those parts of the Carnatic now in his Highness's Possession, His Highness engages and agrees, to give up for the further Payment of the said Debt, whatever Money may be received by him from the Province of Tanjore, under whatever Denomination, until the whole shall be discharged Only one Moiety of such Money to be given to Messrs. Taylor Majendie, Call & Sidebotham in Exchange of their Proportion / but which they are to give Credit for in the general Account / and the other Moiety to be divided amongst the Creditors in general according to their respective Shares, but when the debt due to Messrs. Taylor, Majendie, and Call shall be paid then the whole money that may be received from Tanjore shall go to the other Creditors until the debt to them be fully discharged also —

That His Highness shall not directly or indirectly hereafter give to any Person whatsoever European or Native of India higher rate of Interest, Premium or

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rewards for Money borrowed by him on his
Account their bretheren Great Britannia, and
that His Highness shall issue Orders to all his
Amildars, Renters &c. strictly to observe the same,
that all his Creditors on receiving new Bonds
shall deliver back to His Highness the former
Bonds, together with all such Sunnuds or other
Papers as may have been granted to them by
His Highness

Cheptauk 17 Dec.r 1777

Translation of a Paper under the Signature
and Chop of His Highness the Nabob of the
Carnatic addressed to Mr. James Wodby and
John Dyas is dated 5.th Zehudge 1191 Hegyra
or 5.th Jany 1778

Agreeable to my former Agree-
ment for discharging the Interest due to my
Creditors from the 25.th Nov.r 1777 to the 24.th
November 1778 I have determined to apply
to that the Revenues of the Pallinaden, Onjore
Nellor and Seringapatty Countries, and the Peischcush
of Vengetiguy as also on Cash and Jewels from
and Pagodas from the Arcot Country amounting
to about seven Lacks of Pagodas which You James
Wodby and John de Dyas in Conjunction with
the Renters on the part of the Creditors are to

pray

Fort St. George 27th March 1779

pay to and divide amongst the Creditors according to my Agreement as far as the Interest — The next year there shall be paid besides the Interest two Lacks and fifty Thousand Star Pags due on Account of the principal, from the Revenues of those very Countries, and if there should be any deficiency, the same shall be paid from other parts of the Carnatic — The same Sum shall be paid every year till the debt be discharged —

As soon as there is money enough in the hands of the Trustees to make a Dividend of one P Cent, the Interest on the same shall cease —

You are to explain this to the Creditors

To Messrs. James Woolley and Peter de Fries Trustees on the part of my Circar and to Messrs. James Taylor and George Moubray Trustees on the part of the Creditors —

The following Payments will be made by me to the Creditors on Account of the consolidated debts. Interest —

Said debt consolidated 25th March 1779

1778 Feby 25th — 60,000

May 25th — 180,000

August 25th — 180,000

November 25th 180,000

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If the Interest on the said debt should be more this Shipsons will add the Amount to the last Dist, if less is to deduct it from the last Dist —

If from any particular and unforseen cause there should be any Deficiency in any of the Dists this Shipsons promises that the said Deficiency shall be fully made upon the last Dist —

Given at Chipauk 26th January 1778

The Nabobs proposals to his new Consolidated Creditors the 25th November 1778

The Pledge of the Jewels to be kept in the White Town in a Proper Cash Room in the House occupied by General Munro, under Charge of the four Trustees, Dividends to be made at Chipauk House —

The Nabob offers to deliver immediately Jewels to the value of Two Lacks of Pagodas at a proper appraisement, and to deliver in a Month from this date a Step for two by thousand Pagodas payable in two Months after —

The Jewels to be redeemed in three Months from the 25th November, and in case of failure to allow one Month more, but should the Money not be paid in four Months at furthest, the Jewels are absolutely to be sold for the Purpose

of

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of raising the Money the Nabob Promises becoming answerable to His Highness that the Jewels shall not be sold before that Period—

On Payment of the two Lacks and forty thousand Pagodas the Jewels to be returned and given up to the Nabob—

The above amount of 240,000 Pagodas completes the Payment of this year's Interest on the consolidated Fund which is closed at 35 Lacks of Pagodas—

James Wooley
John Dupuis
Trustees for His Highness the Nabob

Copy

Bond from His Highness the Nabob to His Creditors in the new consolidated Fund 26th Nov.r 1777.

Know all Men by these Presents that, We Wallajah Ameer Ul Hind Umdut Ul Mulk Mumsh ud Doulah Anwar ud Deen Cawn Behauder Zuffer Jung Sepah Salaur Nabob of the Carnatic, our Heirs and our Successors in the Government of the Carnatic, are held and firmly bound

Circar Seal

 Fort S.t George 22 March 1779

unto _____

in the penal Sum of _____

Pagodas current of Madras, to the true and law-
full payment whereof, We do bind ourselves, our
Heirs and Successors firmly by these Presents, sealed
with our Seal in Madras the twenty sixth
day of November in the year of Christ 1774
and the 24.th day of the Mean Hoorsoal in the
Year of Hegyra 1193. —

Whereas the above bounden, Nabob Wa-
lajah Ameer ul Hind Umdat ul Mulk
Asoph ud Dowlah Anwar ud Deen Cawn Buhau-
der Tessein Jung Sepah Salaar, hath borrowed
and Received of the said — _____

_____ the full and just Sum of

_____ Pagodas

and of Sundry Persons, divers other Sums of
Money, or Bonds, all bearing equal Date
with this, Amounting in the whole to
Pagodas _____ to run at Interest,
at the rate of twelve p.r Cent p.r Annum, paya-
ble on certain Terms and Conditions, as p.r
Agreement, also bearing equal Date here-
with, and this such Bonds, as are or may be
appointed, as well on the part of the said
Nabob, as of his said Creditors —

Now the Condition of this
Obligation

Fort S. George 22d March 1779

Obligation is such, that if the above bounden Nabob his Heirs or his Successors in the Government of the Carnatic, shall well and truely pay, or cause to be paid unto the aforementioned

Heirs, Executors, Administrators or Assigns for their Use to their, such Dividends of the Sums specified and allotted for this purpose, by the Agreement aforesaid, as shall come to the Lands of the said Province aforesaid and which the said

Heirs, Executors, Administrators, or Assigns, may be Entitled unto, by Virtue of this Bond or otherwise discharge the said debt of Pagodas —

and the Interest thereon, then this Obligation to be void and of no Effect, otherwise to remain in full Force and Virtue — The true Intent and Meaning of these presents, having been fully and clearly explained to us, and being understood by us, before the assigning hereof —

Executed and delivered
by the above bounden Nabob
in the Presence of —
Rob^t Storey
James L. Dighton

The Nabob's Signature
in the Persian Language

Protest from
the Commanders
of the Marathas
and Tadjaus

Protest having been delivered

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in by the Commanders of the Mount Stuart Godfrey, and Thames bury previous to the Departure of those Ships for Europe, Copies of them were sent to the Court of Directors by those Ships respectively — Ordered also that they be entered on the Miscellany Book —

Read the following Letter from Fort Malbro'

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esq.r
President & Members of the Select Committee
at Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Being appointed by the Honble Court of Directors a Committee for the Investigation of all Political, Military and Naval affairs and such as require Secrecy at this Presidency, your Letter of the 30th September to the President and Council of Fort Malbro' comes under our Consideration —

Intimately interested in the Prosperity of the Company's affairs in every branch of their Establishment We heartily wish a successful issue to the expedition planned against the French Capital of Pondicherry, and congratulate with you on the advantage gained by the Squadron under

Vice

Order for the Commanders of the Mount Stuart Godfrey & Thames to enter the Miscellany Book —

490 Fort St George 22d March 1759

The Command of Sir Edward Vernon over the Enemy's Fleet -

Whilst the Arms of our Employers on the Coast of Coromandel and Province of Bengal are thus acquiring Honor for their Servants and for them the most important points of Victory. We could willingly flatter ourselves that the Government of Fort St George and Fort William do not, remind first of the Commercial and Political Connexion that subsists between Settlements of the same Company, and according general to partial views, intend suffering a Sister Presidency to sink, unsupported, under the effects of that War which they have commenced with such considerable eclat -

It is not for us, Great Lords, to enquire why our Noble Employers re-settled this Coast after losing it in the last War: so they have continued to keep Possession of it or whether they gain or lose by it - It is sufficient for us to know that they mean and wish to hold it, to make us exert every endeavour to maintain our ground - This cannot be done without a Place of Defence and a Reinforcement of Men to defend it - The former We have begun to construct and are resolved to carry on with vigor; for the latter we must Depend on your

491 Fort St George 22 March 1779

We, and hope and trust that you will not by an ill timed oeconomy suffer our Endeavours to prove abortive — We say an ill timed Oeconomy for tho' a considerable increase of Expence must attend those additions and augmentations, yet We are convinced that the Capture of the Coast, the loss of the Companys Cutch and Stock and the reestablishment of their Settlements, would be attended with infinitely greater

We therefore deem it a matter of the utmost moment to us and on which will probably depend the existence of this Presidency, that the number of Sepoys which, in compliance with our former requests you may have sent on the Marlborough, should be now made up to five hundred (500) Men: and from the urgency of the present requisition We trust that you will not suffer this augmentation to deprive us the precarious Enjoyment of Pleasure, but that you will order them on Detachment: with their proper Officers, to be relieved as soon as the general Safety will admit of it —

We are sensible that some Difficulty may probably attend the Embarkation of these Troops occasioned by their secession from the Service of this Coast; but as these Difficulties have hitherto been overcome, as We presume in the Instance of the Bolton Expedition,

We

Fort St. George 12th March 1779

We hope they will not now be urged as a bar to our application for Relief - Beside, We are inclined to think that the Sepoys on the Coromandel Establishment know too well, from a recent and striking Example, the Consequences of refusing to Embark for whatever part they are ordered -

The mode of procuring Passage for the purpose of transporting the above Troops is We beg leave to refer to your Honor & Council, but think it may not be amiss to mention the probable Convenience of putting them on board one or more of the Ships bound to China the ensuing Season, if their landing them no higher on the Coast than Tarpanoly should not be supposed to endanger too much the affecting their Passage to Canton -

We request that you will furnish us by the first Conveyance with two Artillery and two Infantry Sergeants, such as recommended by their Officers, to whom We will give Commissions on their Arrival here, the reduced Situation of our Corps and the inexperience of the young Gentlemen who come out in quality of Cadets, render the measure necessary -

And here We cannot avoid expressing our Surprise that Captain Witherville, who by the last advices was still at Fort Dauphin

Fort St George 22d March 1779

so long delays to join our force. We desire to have this Definitive answer whether or not he means to refrain to his establishment, as in our great want of Officers, We cannot longer admit of his absence from it, and conformably to his answer We shall proceed to fill up his vacancy or otherwise.

The accompanying Indent for Artillery and Ammunition We particularly desire may be complied with; and that it be recommended to your Committee of Stores to consider more literally this than former Indents, and not let us suffer from a total want of the Articles, in default of sufficient micinations in their Description.

We are,

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obedient Servants

Fort Marlboro'
28th Dec. 1778

Will. Brown
Hun. Stewart
Jas. Kirkpatrick
Edward Coles

The President acquaints the Committee that the Nabob has requested 5 Companies of Sepoys to assist his Amaldar at Trichinopoly in collecting the Revenues — Ordered that Colonel Nixon the Commandant at Trichinopoly be directed to appoint 5 Companies for this Service accordingly

Tho. Rumbold
John Wheatley
Charles Sweeten

494 Fort St George March 1779

22d Wrote the following Letters

To Mr Chevreau

Sir

A Ship being just arrived from Bengal to proceed to Europe, We beg to inform you that you may be accommodated with a Passage on her, and that her departure is fixt for Thursday next

As it may possibly however be more agreeable to you to proceed to the Island of Mauritius than to France, We leave it in your Option to embark on the Ship aforementioned or to proceed to the Mauritius and in case of your choosing the latter We think it proper to inform you that We have a Ship in the Road that Woman to send immediately to that Island. We request you will accordingly and have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedt humble Servants

Thomas Rumbold

for Committee

Fort St George
22d March 1779.

To Major Richard Matthews

Sir,

I am directed by the Honble the

495 Fort St George 29 March 1779

Gentlemen and Select Committee to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter to them of this date and to acquaint you that they expected in consequence of my Letter to you of the 9th Instant to be informed whether or not you chose to proceed to England on the Terms mentioned in that Letter before you took any actual Measure for your departure As you have now signified your Desire to go home on those Terms you have their leave to embark on the Shrewsbury in consequence of this Application and leave they consider you as totally out of the Service and will give out a General Order to that Effect—

With respect to the Remark the Honble the President & Select Committee suppose this must have arisen from your having served without Pay from you not Demanding it, I am directed to inform you that as they never wished or desired you to serve on those conditions your Pay shall be issued whenever you may think proper to draw it—

I am,

Gentlemen

Fort St George
29th March 1779

Your most Obedient Servant
Charles Oakeley Sec.

At a Select Committee Present
The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esq President
John Ritchill Charles Smith
General Munro absent on Service

Monday
29th

Minutes of last Committee read—

Read

496 Fort St George 29th March 1779

Read the following Letter

from Mr Chiverton —

(Translation)

To the Honble Mr Rumbold

Governor and President of the Council at

Madras, and to the Gentlemen of Council

at Fort St George

Gentlemen,

Since you can perceive to differ
me the Choice of proceeding to Europe on one of the
English Companys Ships ready to sail, or to be
transported to the Mauritius upon a Vessell which
you have destined for that Voyage, I do not hesitate
to accept the latter, and I have the honor to re-
present, in my own name, and in the names of the Supe-
rior Council, and all those employed in the King's
Service, mentioned in my former List, particular ac-
-knowledgments on this occasion

Each, and every one of these Persons,
Gentlemen, flatter themselves, that you will continue
your favorable dispositions by permitting them to
proceed in the Vessell, which is to convey me to the
Mauritius.

I have the honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most humble, most Obedient Servants
(Signed) Chiverton

Pondy
23d March 1779

497 Fort St George 29th March 1770

A Letter having been read
to the Tabot as entered in Country Corrt N°
requesting the use of this Ship the Success Galley
to transport a part of the Garrison of Pondicherry to
Mauritius, and the Tabot having by his Letter
entered in C. Corr. N° complied with our Request
It is resolved that Mr Brunsden with as many
of the Civil Servants employed in the Administration at Pondicherry as possible be embarked
on that Vessel for Mauritius - and that a Letter
be written to Mr Brunsden acquainting him
with the disposition We have made and desiring
the necessary Certificate or Passports from him
to enable the Vessel to proceed and to return
from the Mauritius with all the Privileges
of a Cartel Ship -

Read the following Letter from
Messrs Maracein, Lapreuve, and Marbeuf -

The Honble Mr Rumbold
Governor, President and Gentlemen of the Select
Committee of
Madras

Gentlemen.

We have received the 12th of this
Month, the Letter which you did us the Honor
to write the 4th
We have delayed answering to that Letter, until
We

498 Fort St George 29th March 1770

We learned from Mr Monneau the Success of the Representations which We gave him in charge to make to you, on the nature of our public functions in this Coast - We see with as much Satisfaction on Mr Monneaus account, as acknowledgment on our own, that you have been pleased to comply with our Desire in relation to the Residence in India, of Messrs Martin and Blin de Grisencourt - Nothing, Gentlemen, can be more wise, than the Restriction which you have imposed on the sojourning of these two Gentlemen in Pondichery - accustomed to obedience towards our Superiors, the deference which you shew towards yours, in certes tells you how much you desire the just confidence which they have reposed in you - We thank you for your Condescension towards us, and to be assured that Messrs Martin and Blin by their Conduct will render themselves worthy of it, their Personal Character should be a sufficient Guarantee, of the use, and not the abuse, of the leave you have granted to them, if moreover our august Sovereign, at the time that he confered to us an unlimited authority in every thing who regards the Company's Liquidation, did thereby and expressly prohibit to interfere us in any other public business - our Orders

499 Fort St George 29th March 1779

Thereupon Gentlemen, can not be disobedient in respect to your authority, without making themselves culpable towards their Sovereign, with a disobedience which the nature of circumstances as well as the Capitulation for Pondicherry, would ag[ain]st more rather than justify it, We therefore beg of you to be easy on this Score —

We have the honor to lay before you herewith, a Statement of what will be due the 1st of April next, to all those persons interested in the Liquidation, We have included therein, the Revenue due to the Dutch on Brinjary Bonds, in order that We might be reimbursed the small advance made by us to that Assistance, for two fold Reason, that we were going away, and that We were doubtful of your Godowns containing us the Subsistence which We have claimed — As We are ignorant of the Prices at which it may be most agreeable, or convenient to pay the Star Pagodas 927 — 6 Fanams the Amount of this Statement — We shall be extremely obliged to you (should you prefer making the payment at Madras) if you will order this Sum to be paid to Mr. Alexander Cuthbert, our Correspondent in your Presidency — that this Merchant we purchase to treat with you in future, as often as we may have occasion to apply to your authority or

Justice

498 Fort St. George 29th March 1779

We learned from Mr Monroe the Success of the Representations which He gave him in charge to make to you, on the nature of our public functions in this Coast - We met with as much Satisfaction on Mr Monroes account, as acknowledgment on our own, - that you have been pleased to comply with our desire relative to the Residence in India, of Mr. T. Manton and Blair Delgrismant - Nothing, Gentlemen, can be more wise, than the Restriction which you have imposed on the sojourning of these two Gentlemen in Pondichery - accustomed to observe towards our Superiors, the deference which you shew towards yours, we entertain by proofs to shew how much you desire the past confidence which they have reposed in you - Mr Thompson by you to accept of our most sincere Thanks for your Condescension towards us, and to be assured that Mess.rs Martin and Blair by their Conduct will render themselves worthy of it - their Personal Character should be a sufficient Guarantee of the use, and not the abuse, of the Power you have granted to them, if no reason our august Sovereign, at the time that he conferred to us an unlimited authority in every thing who regards the Company's Legislature did prohibit to exert for

unlimited

199 Fort St. George 29th March 1779

Thereforen Gentlemen, can not be Disobedient in respect
to your authority, without making themselves
culpable towards their Sovereign, with a Disobe-
dience which the nature of Circumstances as well
as the Capitulation for Pondicherry, would ag gra-
vate more rather than justify it, We therefore
beg of you to be easy on this Score —

We have the honor to lay before
you herewith, a Statement of what will be due
the 1st of April next, to all those persons interested
in the Liquidation, We have invited to Chuse, the
Purveyor to the Coast this embarking on Briftany
Board, in order that We might be accountable
the small advance made by us to that Assistant,
for two fold Reason. That he was going away,
and that We were doubtful of your Godowns en
affording us the Subsistance which We have
claimed — As We are ignorant of the Plan or
which it may be most agreeable, or convenient
to pray the Star Pagodas 927 — 6 fanams
the Amount of this Statement — We shall
be extremely obliged to you (should you
prefer making the payment at Madras)
if you will order this Sum to be paid to Mr.
Alexander Cuthbert, our Correspondent in your
Providency — Where this Merchant we purchase
to treat with you in future, as often as we may
have occasion to apply to your authority or

Justice

500 Fort St. George 29th March 1770

Justice

We have read with all the attention, on we are capable of, the last Paragraph of your letter to Mr. Monacin of the 23 Instant - It treats solely of the manner of return, or to speak more properly, the departure from India of every Person in the Liquidation Service - We have recollected the 3d. & 4th. Articles of the Capitulation, which only mentions the Persons composing this Liquidation, We have in vain searched in the 3d. and 4th. Articles for that Right, which you Gentlemen, claim to have, to pay only as far as the Isle of Bourbon the Expence of our Passages - The third article specially, to be pronounces so positively, on Demand, to France, or the Isle of France, at their Option, and an answer, grounded on appears to us, so opposite to your Determination for Mauritius, that we are not able to comprehend it, being persuaded that an Administration so enlightened as yours, must fully know the force of its writings, it seems to us that at the time you wrote your letter You happened only to cast your eyes on the 7th article, which indeed would be obscure, as the future of our return, were it not provided by the third - Nevertheless as this 7th Article is as much an explanation, as a repetition of

a

Fort St George 29th March 1779

a part of the 3d. We can apt to think, that it is very probable, even probable, that your Government has come to some Particular arrangement with Mr. Bellecombe relative to the general Return of his most Christian Majesty's Civil Officers, of which Arrangement, neither Mr. Bellecombe, or you Gentlemen, ought to give us any Account, this persuasion keeping us within the limits of that Respect which We owe to you, and to our General, we beg of you to let us remain in that ignorance in which we ought to stand respecting all the Interpretation, which might be given to the Capitulation, and we confine ourselves simply to the Request That you will be pleased to treat us on the same footing, as other civil Officers - all that you will do, Gentlemen, must be well, and we gratefully Assure You It is not from Curiosity, or a vain Persuasion, that we have made the above reflexions, but merely to prove to the Minister in France on whom we depend, That we have endeavoured to render ourselves worthy of that confidence with which he has been pleased to honor us -

Whatever resolution you may come to, respecting the measure of our Return to Europe, we beg of you to reflect, That only six Persons remain to provide a Passage

vig.t

502 Fort St. George 29th March 1769

viz. Messrs. Lagneau, Monneron, Lestache, Nicolas de Givonne, Delisle, and le Gouay, the three first, being strictly in a condition of not receiving any Sum, for their Passage, You will do, Gentlemen, in respect to them exactly, what you please — Those Gentlemen only require, for you a Certificate of the manner in which they have been served, should you be not pleased to pay their Passage in full to Europe, — therefore in case you should present in not paying the general Passage, further than the Mauritius, — We beg the late favor of you to grant two things in favor of Messrs. Delisle Nicolas, and le Gouay, whose State of fortune are so narrow, that they deserve all our Recommendations — The 1st is, that you would be pleased to order them a passage on the Cartel Ship, which you have regulated for the Mauritius — The 2d. That you will be pleased to pay us their Passage Money in full to to Europe, We giving you our Bills on M. Dumory Treasurer general of the Indies Company at Paris, for the advance which you may be pleased to make on their Mess assistants Account, for that part of their Voyage which you think to be at the Charge of

the

503 Fort St George 29th March 1779

the Liquidation - If you are so obliging as to
attend to this Proposition, Mr will leave the
Care of our affairs affairs to Messrs. Martin
and Blin de Grisencourt, on a simple and gentle
Condition.

Messrs Laynesse having Ordered
by his business to embark himself on the
Portuguese Ship, as Mr Moracin has informed
you, he is in the intention to solicit his
Passage upon the Coastal Ship you have regula-
ted for the French Islands, or on the Sartine,
or on any other Ship, of whom Mr Laynesse
will be able to take use of

We have the Honor to be very
respectively,

Gentlemen,

Your very humble and
very Obedient Servants

Laynesse
Moracin
Martin

Keeps Commissaries for the
East India Companys Liquidation

Pondichery
26th March 1779

The Honble Mr Rumbold
Governor, President and Gentlemen of the Select Committee
at Madras

Gentlemen,

I have herewith the Honor to
transmit

504 Fort St. George 29th March 1779

I transmit You a Letter which I yesterday received from the Council appointed for the Liquidation of the East India Company's Affairs, whereof I am a Member. It contains our united Acknowledgements for the Acquiescence You have been pleased to shew to our Wishes, I will not trouble you with any Assurances of my particular Sensibility upon the Occasion.

The Intention of my present Address is to lay before you Gentlemen three Requests upon which my departure requires an early Decision. Two of those Requests are simple, the third is a conditional one.

The first is Your Passport for Mr. Lestache and for myself to proceed on the Portuguese Ship which you have permitted Us to take Advantage of for our Return to Europe.

The Second is to order the Payment to be made to Us of whatever Sum you shall think proper to allow for the Passage Money of ourselves and our two Servants.

The third is to order our Monthly Allowances to be paid to each of us. That is to say Pay.ts £ 3.33.60 to Mr. Lestache, and Pay. 35.30. to me, if it be true, as I have been assured, that you have instituted this Regulation of an overplus of Pay, in order to reimburse the Officers

505 Fort St George 29th March 1779

on the Civil List for the Expence of transporting themselves from Pondicherry to Madras

With respect to our Subsistence from the 19th October to the 1st April, as it is comprised in the general Statement, which you will find addressed to you from our Office of Liquidation, Mr Lushington and I will concert our Arrangements so as to receive either by ourselves or our Attorneys whatever may be due to us at the time you shall have appointed for making this Payment -

I am with Respect,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient and
most humble Servant
Monsion

Madras
29th March 1779

Ordered that the Allowances due to the Officers employed in the Liquidation of the French Company's Concerns be discharged and as it appears by the 3d Article of the Capitulation for Pondicherry that the Civil Servants have it in their Option to go to Bourbon or Mauritius, & as the former must of course have their Passage found them by us on a reasonable Compensation made them if they go at their own Charge or neutral Ships - Agreed therefore that Mssrs Monsion and Lushington who intend going to Europe on a Portuguese Ships be allowed the same

Passage

506 Fort St. George 29th March 1779

Passage Money for themselves and Servants that are allowed by the Thirty of Bengal, and that the other Requests contained in the Monacin's Letter be complied with —

The Committee having in their Minutes of the 11th March resolved upon the Demolition of the Fortifications of Pondichery it is resolved that Capt. Gils the Field Engineer be appointed to superintend that Work and that a Letter be written to the Commandant at Pondichery directing him to give every Assistance in the Execution of it —

The Committee of Stores having some time ago recommended a Quantity of old Iron belonging to the Company to be sold by Outcry, Mr Consetts to it and the Iron was advertised accordingly for Sale, but the President having received Information that it was not likely to fetch its value by this Method of disposing of it, the Sale was stopped — it is now resolved that the Committee of Stores be directed to enquire further into the State and value of the Iron which they recommend to be sold and report the particulars with their Opinion of the Manner in which it may be best disposed of for the Company's Advantage.

507 Fort St George March 1779

30th Wrote the following Letter to Mr Chevreau

Chevreau

To Mr Chevreau

To Mr Chevreau to embark on the Success Galley.

Sir,

As by your Letter of the 23d Instant you have been pleased to make Choice of a Passage to the Island of Mauritius and to request the same indulgence in behalf of all the other Gentlemen lately employed in the Civil Administration at Pondicherry We think it necessary to inform you that the Ship Success Galley is appointed to sail for the Mauritius in about Seven or twelve Days from this time and that We shall order proper Accommodation for you and Mr Chevreau and for such Gentlemen as you may wish to take with you - The Ship will be able to accommodate to the number of forty Persons with their Baggage -

Altho' We are of opinion that the Articles of Capitulation ought of themselves to be considered as a sufficient Security for the safe Conduct of the Ship Success Galley during the Course of the present Service, nevertheless to prevent all possibility of a Mistake in this Head, We deem it expedient to request from you such a Certificate or writing as may ensure to the

Vessel

508 Fort St George March 1779

Enjoyed all the Priviledges of a Cartel Ship
until Our Return to this Port —

We have the Honor to be,

Fort St George
30th March 1779

Sir,

Your most Obedient and
most humble Servants
Thomas Rumbold
&c Select Committee

In consequence of the Resolution
of the Committee to demolish the Fortifications
of Pondicherry the following Letters are now
written —

To Lieutenant Colonel Baillie
Commanding at
Pondicherry

To Col Baillie
Inspecting the
demolition of
Pondichery

Sir

We have come to the Resolution of
demolishing the Fortifications of Pondichery and have
appointed Captain Geils to superintend the execution
of this Work in which you will give every Assistance
and Support in your Power. The Cartel has pro-
-mised to furnish the necessary Supply of Cooles
for the Undertaking — We are,

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servants
Thomas Rumbold &c &c

Fort St George
31st March 1779

509 Fort St George April 1779

To Captain Thomas Goddard
Field Engineer

To Capt Goddard
Instructions
for the Demolition
of Pondichery.

Sir

Having come to the Resolution
of destroying the Fortifications of Pondichery,
We desire you will repair thither, and superintend
the Execution of this Work - The Nabob has under-
taken to provide the necessary Assistance of
Coolies, and We shall order a Company of Sepoys
to be put under your Directions for that Service

We can give you no particular
Instructions for your Conduct, than to desire in
general that you will confine yourself only to
the Demolition of the Fortifications which must
be accomplished in the most effectual and
expeditious Manner

We are,

Sir,

Fort St George
31st March 1779

Your most Obedient Servants
Thomas Rumbold
&c &c &c Committee

2d Dispatched the following Letter

to Bengal

To the Honble Warren Hastings Esqr
Governor Genral &c Council of
Fort St George

To Bengal
desiring them
to Pull of

Honble

510 Fort St George April 1779

Honble Sir & Sirs

The Nancy armed Ketch
was proceeds to Bengal with 19 French Soldiers
of whom the inclosed is a Return — We have directed
Captain Heffernan to supply them with Pro-
visions and promised that you would make
him a Compensation on this Account —

We have particular Satisfac-
tion in acquainting you that Mahé with
all its Dependancies surrendered to Colonel
Braithwaite the 19th Ultimo — Colonel Braithwaite
dispatched Mrs Addeir to us as soon as the Governor
of Mahé had acceded to his Terms which are in
general that the French shall be Prisoners of
War to be transported to Bombay from thence
to France or England as the President & Select
Committee may deem expedient, and the Fortifica-
tions, public Buildings &c are to be disposed
of as the Company shall think proper —
Colonel Braithwaite was in Consequence prepa-
ring vigorously to destroy the Fort by mines
and he tells us that the greatest part of your
Force will be with us again in about three
Weeks from the date of this Letter (19th March)
As soon as We receive the Articles of Capitulation
We shall send you a Copy of them —

The Success of this Expedition
has indeed exceeded our warmest Expectations

and

511 Fort St George 5th April 1779

and cannot fail at this Juncture of being attended
with important Advantages — We beg leave to
congratulate with you on the Occasion

We have the Honor to be,

Fort St George
2d April 1779

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obedient & humble Servants

Thomas Rumbold

P. Select Committee

At a Select Committee Present

The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esq President
John Whitehill General Munro
Charles Smith —

Monday
the 5th April

Minutes of last Committee
read and approved —

Read the following Letter
from Mr Billcombe —

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esq

(Translation)

From Mr Billcombe vindicating the former Portion regarding the Conduct of the Select Committee in the performance of the Capitulation

Governor, President and to the Gentlemen
of the Committee at

Madras

Gentlemen,

Your Answer of the 20th Instant to
the Letters, which I had the honor to write you, of
the 11th and 13th of this Month, requires an Answer;
wherein, after having freed the Justice of my Complaints

from

from every sort of Obscurity and Subtlety, may tend to enlighten those <u>can in Lawyers</u>, whose Decision you invoke—

They will in the first place have to pronounce, whether in summoning me to Politeness and Moderation, you have not irationally departed from those Principles, which you endeavour to inculcate, and, whether the strong, but necessary Representations (of which you complain) are less severe, than those offensive Personalities, which you have thought proper to use against me— May not the Wisdom of a Council, its Gravity, the Generosity of the Nation it represents, be considered as defective, when it answers more by Invective, than by Reason, a French General who in a most distressing Situation finds himself obliged to exclaim in the most spirited Manner, against Treaties and Infringements of the Treaty, by which the Subjects of a Sovereign common to his Love, become the daily Victims—

The Government of Madras was obliged to Transport to France the Garrison of Pondichery, <u>as expeditiously as possible</u> you confess this Enjoyment, and you perceive, that you have fulfilled what is required upon you. This is the Subject, which requires Examination—

After the Surrender of Pondichery it was in your Power, to transport them Troops, by employing, either the Company's Ships in which were

in the Squadron of Sir Edward Vernon, or those French Ships, the Sultan and Sumatra Frigates which you had taken. All these Ships were in a Condition to make the Voyage— why then did you not dispatch them in the early Month of October? Will you say, that Provisions were wanted, or perhaps, that the Season was not favorable for their departure? These cannot be considered as serious Objections. Will you say, that, on account of the Season it would have been imprudent, to detain even, for eight days, after the Capitulation, (for that would have been sufficient) any Ships upon this Coast, but had you not several in the Madras Roads in November, and do we not know, that the Violence of the Monsoon is not always so strong an Obstacle, but it may be attempted to overcome it. But supposing you were actuated by the Principles of Humanity, in not exposing our Troops to the dangers of the Season, ought you not at least to have preserved the Means, which you possessed by sending those Ships which were under your orders to winter at Trincomalee, from whence they might return in January? instead of giving them a Destination which removed them a great Distance from you, and which obliged you to have recourse to Measures, of which the Event has proved the Uncertainty and Insufficiency—

Shall

514 From St. George 5th April 1779

Thes Measures were not known to me until I received your letter of the 12th March and not having at that time perceived any Effect. I was authorized to make doubts of their Existence, which have since been confirmed by the Necessity in which you have been placed, to adopt the Expedient of making the French Fleet at Jamaica, a Cartel Ship —

From all these Details, (of which the Truth cannot be contested) does it not evidently result, That the Garison of Pondichery is not transported to France as expeditiously as it was possible?

I had then for Reason, as well as Right, on my Side when I protested as I now do once more, against the Non execution of that Article of the Capitulation —

1st

Because, you have not fulfilled that Engagement when You had the Means in Your Power —

2d

Because, when able to procure those Means, you gave them up, and adopted Measures by which nothing could warrant the Certainty —

3d

And Because, it results, from those Delays, that our Troops must depart in a bad Season, or, that their Departure must be still retarded for several Months, which exposes the Conservation of this precious Portion of the

Fleet

515 Fort St. George 5th April 1779

Things Subjects to many Risks —

This is my first Complaint, which is sufficiently discussed for the Impartial Object — The facts which I have mentioned will enable impartial Judges to weigh those, which you have stated in your Justification, they will at least observe, that, as you did not inform me of these facts before the date of my Letter of the 11th — I could roundly advance, that you had not taken any Measures, which manifest a certainty of their Execution, and, I desire it may be observed, also, that, if you except a few Grenadiers, whom you embarked on the Mount Stuart, and six Officers who were placed on board the Godfrey with the Rest of the Grenadiers, my Expressions may still be applicable to your Proceedings, as the Arrangement respecting the Seapoys, is only a slow, insufficient and uncertain Remedy against ill concerted Measures —

With regard to the indecent Expressions of, uncandid, if not calculated on purpose to mislead, of which you are not afraid to make use, when recommending Politeness to me, I can only consider them as gross Invective, entirely voluntary on your part, I always thought the Garison of Pondichery would have been embarked before me, the Letter of the Capitulation proves it, as it expresses, that it shall be transported as expeditiously as possible, and this possibility did exist, before the Month

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of January, the time fixed for my departure to that, / by simply saying that Day / in fixing this time for the whole of the Garrison Seem to have restrained, than extended the Sense, which is favorable to my Opinion. It may possibly happen, Gentlemen, that, the Intention to mislead will be discovered by the equitable Judges, / to whom you refer / in the delays, which have arisen in the transporting our Troops, as the defection of part of them is a natural Consequence, and Thus the Words which you deem unintelligible in my Letter of the 11th are explained.

You are pleased Gentlemen, to express Doubts upon the Liberty of the Garrison of Pondichery, in order to refute them, it will be sufficient to lay before you the constant Principles and invariable Customs.

In all Capitulations, there have never been more than three ways of stipulating the Fate of Garrisons, namely, at Discretion, Prisoners of War, and obtaining the Honors of War. The two first of these Conditions deprive the vanquished Troops of their Liberty, but the third leaves them in the entire Possession of it. As the Honors of War necessarily imply the Preservation of that Liberty, which is expressly by the Words, which include every Idea of the Situation of Prisoner of War, for never did a Garrison, who surrendered

surrendered Prisoners, Prisoners at large The Lives of men, nor was ever a Garrison which obtained the Honors of War, considered as Prisoners—

The natural Consequence of this Lenarth Condition has always been that the Officers should not be separate from their Men, That both the one and the other should preserve their Arms, That they should be conducted, or transported under the Protection of the Victors by the most certain and expeditious Route into the Dominions of their Sovereign, and That being arrived nothing should prevent their retaking up arms against the Enemies of their Country — By Land the Garrisons are conducted under an Escort, by Sea, they are transported on Cartel Ships, in both cases the Conqueror protects them from all Damages, Risks, or Insults.

There is not any Doubt, Gentlemen, But that your Forefathers of those Principles and Customs, Has been the Cause of your Tribulations, and of the Proceedings which have given rise to the Grievances, against which You declaim—

The answer of your Generals to the articles which I proposed to them does not pronounce That my Garrison shall be Prisoners of War, on the contrary grants them the Honors of War; their Liberty cannot be a Subject of

Dispute

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Dispatch —

I will however confess that local Circumstances may sometimes require a Restriction on the Privileges which Military Laws assure to Troops who have obtained the Honors of War — This Distinction did not escape your Generals for they perceived, that the Garison of Pondicherry should not preserve their Arms: derogating from Custom, the same Reasons might have influenced them to exact a Parole from the Officers according to many Examples and also to justify, that the Soldiers should be put in a Place of Safety, until their Embarkation, but unless these Exceptions were not made, you have been obliged to find Your Right of exercising them on the Law of Force although you had the Means of concurring with me, measures, to which Reason and Humanity would have influenced me to accede with proper Reservations, which would notwithstanding ensure the Security which was your object —

If your Generals had reserved to themselves the Right of exacting a Parole from our Officers, they would have taken it before their departure from Pondicherry, however, it could not at any time be more necessary than in the March of our Troops from hence to Madras, as they still

for-figured

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suspected the Means of shaking off the Yoke
When I consented that they
should subscribe their Names to a presented to
them by Mr. Rumbold at Madras, provided that
every Man of their being Prisoners of War should
be absolutely excluded I was determined as I said
before by the Necessity of concealing any
Suspicions of this irregular and violent Treatment
which I discovered but too great an Inclination
and which might have occasioned Disorders
fatal to humanity - I thought myself obliged
to use every Precaution which might restrain
our Troops whom I did not suppose would be sepe-
rated from their Officers who became peculiar
larly responsible for their Conduct -
My acceding on that occasion to
this Measure cannot be considered as a plea to
extend its Effects beyond the Bounds necessary
for Tranquility and for the Preservation of Indi-
viduals - You cannot either consider my Silence on
the Imprisonment of our Troops as a plea for
your Conduct because I exclaimed against this
Infringement in my Letter of the 5th of Nov. last
addressed to your Generals, the Authors and
Guarantees of the Capitulation of Pondicherry -
The Deputation with which
you have been pleased to indulge yourselves
on the point of honor was very unnecessary
because

because the Doctrine which you incubbate on this Subject is one of those universal Truths which no one can contest. If the Signature which you required from our Officers could be considered as a Dishonour they would neither have given it, nor I consented to the act. I trust Gentlemen, that no one has a Doubt on this Occasion. The real Question is, whether those Gentlemen ought to have been dispensed from this Form. I affirm, contrary to your opinions, that independent of the attention due to his Rank, you had neither Reason nor Right, on your Side when you required of him to submit, because the Capitulation does not impose it upon him, because, his Parole was unnecessary to your Security after You had impressed our Troops and found yourselves of their Officers, so that, Gentlemen, I shall always think myself authorized to declare that the rigorous Treatment which you permitted yourselves to use respecting this Colonel, cannot be considered as a wise and just Precaution of the Government of Madras, because, it cannot be justified by any Plea of public Utility —

Permit me, Gentlemen, also to consider that the two Examples, which you have quoted, are foreign to the Subject as they

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super to Parols given verbally, instead of being
given in writing - This Distinction has never
been a matter of dispute between us, and is therefore
unnecessary -

I have affirmed, that your Gene-
rals did not resume to themselves in the Capitula-
tion of Pondicherry, a Right to grant a Parole from
our Officers - Their Silence, as well as their
Conduct proves this Truth - With regard to the
Imprisonment of our Troops, their Expressions,
(to which you refer me) indicate that they had
not such an Idea, in fact how can the Idea of
a Prison be reconciled to answer to the second
article that the Troops should be immediately
placed at Madras, or in the Environs. the Intention
to mislead would soon reconcile this Contradic-
tion, but the Characters of those Generals are
Proof against such Suspicions -

I therefore, Gentlemen, renew
my Protests,

Against the Detention of the Troops, against
the rigorous Treatment which Messrs. Desbarres
had undergone -

And against the State of doubtful Liberty, in
which you pretend to confine our Officers -

The Soldiers, whom you have
any right in your Service were compelled to it by
a heinous Imprisonment - They have been

seduced

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seduced by the hope of Liberty, and by the considerable Sums, which have been offered to them.

The Right of receiving Deserters ought to have been suspended by You, as, besides the Spirit and Letter of the Capitulation, You have taken the Troops from the Persuasion of their Officers, you have confined them and postponed beyond the term prescribed their Embarkation for Europe, are not these Infringements aggravated, by the disposition, which you have manifested to convert the Effects to your own Profit. I refer you to the Discussion contained in my Letter of the 11th Instant upon this Article, and confine myself to the Observation, that the System which you have established, that is to say, your Form of believing yourselves authorized to do every thing which the Capitulation does not absolutely forbid, exposes the French to more cruel Excesses than the Defection, into which you have seduced Men who have quitted the Career of Honor to plunge themselves in the Opprobrium, attending Desertion. I do not know, Gentlemen, what Degree of Criminality impartial Judges will ascribe to you, in the act of these unfortunate Men, but I believe, that they cannot deny but that you have

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contributed much especially when they observed
That Deserters remained faithful to their duty
During near five Months Imprisonment, and
that the Spirit of Insubordinity did not seize
them until General Coote departed for Bengal
whither you have sent them -

I protest once more against the
employing of our Sailors in your Service, and I
claim the restitution of them -

I also protest against the opinion
which you manifest of not being obliged to
transport to France the Garison of Pondichery
upon Cartel Ships, the Silence of the Capitu-
lation does not allow you to dispense with the
Customs in similar cases - This Custom requires
that the French who are in your power
shall be transported to their Country, without
being exposed to any risk of Battle, and without
occasioning any delays in their route to France,
on their accounts their Transportation ought to
take place on Cartel Ships -

It is so common a Custom that
it is unnecessary to mention it in Capitulations,
I was unfortunately in the Situation of acquiring
experience on this head in North America -
The fortune of War threw me in the
Power of your Nation - and, although, Prisoners of
War, the Troops to which I was attached, were
always

always, transported direct to France, upon Cartel Ships—

I confess, Gentlemen that the Obligation of employing Cartel Ships does not suit the commercial and oeconomical views of an East India Company, but when such a Company exercises the Right of Sovereignty, it must submit as its first Duty, the Charges which are inseparable

Altho' This Letter is almost as long as yours, I have not counted all the Reflections and Objections which your Conduct have suggested

I shall place them upon the King's Ministers reading your Letter with more agreeably to your request— I hope you will observe the same Conduct on your side—

I have only to declare that I am fully sensible of the obliging manner with which, Gentlemen, without Solicitation on my part, you dispensed with my repairing to Madras, within the Term prescribed by the Capitulation, the Prolongation of my Stay at Pondichery was necessary to the Health of Mrs Billecombe, and to that of her Brother, whose life was for a long time in Danger— it was therefore an act which required my particular gratitude; and I did not seek to diminish

The

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the merit of it by the Reflection that your humanity as well as your Conscience might have influenced you do it: but the more generosity and delicacy which you manifested on this occasion, the more I ought to feel the reproach that you make me of having abused your confidence — Be assured Gentlemen, that the change of place will not make any difference in me, and that, whether at Madras or Pondicherry, I shall defend the Rights and Interests of my Nation with all the Power and Zeal of which I am possessed —

I shall repair to Madras immediately, since you are pleased to require it — I trust that my Stay will not be long.

You will confess, Gentlemen, that this Reply has been made with a Moderation, of which if passed by you did not give me an Example, when you made use of the Words Indecency Passion, Defficiency of Candour and Intention to mislead &c. These Interpretations are most disgusting: the particular Resentment, which they inspire can only be restrained by my public Character to which I at present Sacrifice it — I shall permit myself only to affirm, that not one of you, can prove more Loyalty, Delicacy, and Candour, than I have observed, in every action of my life — I have the Honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most Obedient and most humble Servant

(Signed) Bellecombe

Pondichery

The

The

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The following Draught of an Answer to the above Letter is now read and approved—

To Major General Bellicombe

&c &c &c

Letter to in Reply.

Sir.

We have had the Honour to receive your Letter without date, in reply to ours of the 20th Ultimo. It is with reluctance We resume the Subject of the Correspondence, as We have little hope of removing those Impressions which seem to have dictated it on your part, but when We observe as We do in almost every line of your Letters, Assertions so easy to be refuted and Arguments that will not stand the Test of a serious Examination, We cannot suffer them to pass totally without Reply.

We did imagine Sir after what We had said in our Letter of the 20th Ultimo, that you would have been satisfied with the Measures We had taken for transporting your Troops to France agreeably to the Capitulation, but unwilling as it should seem to give up a Point in which you find so strenuously insisted, you still endeavour to maintain the Opinion expressed on this Subject in your Letter of the 15th at the hazard of giving us every advantage We can

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desire over you in this Contest —

You say that after the Surrender
of Pondichery "it was in our power to transport
the Troops either in the Company's Ships
which were in Sir Edward Hughes's Squadron or
on the French Vessels Sartine and Aimable Na-
nette which We had taken — All those Vessels you
add were in a Condition to make the Voyage" —
How this appear Sir and what Proof do you bring
of your Assertions? Was the State of those Vessels
better known to you than to us! It could not be —
The want of Provisions and the critical Season
of the Year you say "cannot be considered as serious
Objections" — We think otherwise and that the Deten-
tion of the Vessels twelve Days you say you
would not have been sufficient to put them in a
Condition to make the Voyage — The Objections
We made to the departure of the Ships as I before
observed to us and might have appeared to you
ample enough but had it been necessary We could
have added more and proved them incontestibly
We could have added that the Company's Ships
besides being loaded were very insufficiently
manned — and We could have added that the
Sartine and Aimable Nanette had no Men
at all, their Crews having been made Prisoners
of War, and the Sartine in particular having
been much damaged in her Masts and Rigging

That

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that it was with the greatest difficulty she could be carried to Trincomalee — Such was the actual State of those Ships which you so positively assert were in a Condition to make a Voyage to Europe

The expedient you mention of sending the Ships to Trincomaly with Troops to return in January, would not under the Circumstances above mentioned, have contributed in any degree to hasten the departure of your Men — The Measures We actually pursued and with which you are acquainted, were calculated as far as depends on us to procure the most speedy Conveyance for them — They were adopted solely with that View, and we can assure you Sir, that the best dispositions in the world for fulfilling our Engagements, We should again in the like Situation adopt the like Measures — The warmth of your Zeal on this Occasion has undoubtedly suggested Possibilities to you which did not in reality exist without the means of acquiring knowledge or Information you determine what is possible in your own Mind, and will not allow that We who possess them Means in the fullest Extent are capable of judging at all on the Question — In the manner in which you discuss this Subject We confess Sir, We despair of convincing you

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by the common Methods of reason & Proof—

When We charged you Sir with
roundly advancing that We had not taken any
Measures which manifested a Certainty of
fulfilling our Engagements — We did not specifi-
cally allude to those Measures with which
you were unacquainted, - but to a Measure
with which you acknowledge Yourself to be
acquainted viz. the same Breach that you make
the Question, We mean the taking up the Sartine
as a Cartel Ship for the sole Purpose of transpor-
ting your Troops.

We have carefully weighed every
thing you have urged in Support of the Liberty
of your Garison, and must declare again Sir
that We do not perceive the least Ground
either in the Capitulation, in the Custom of
War, or in Reason, which forbids our imposing
that Restraint We have laid on the private
Conditions — You say "that in all Capitulations
"there have never been more than three ways
"of stipulating the Fate of Garisons — namely —
"at Discretion," "Prisoners of War," and "obtaining
"the Honors of War" — We believe there is a fourth
Distinction which you have not noticed —
We mean, "the marching out of the Fort with
the Honors of War, and then becoming Prisoners
of War, — you seem Sir to make no Distinction,

between

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between a Garrison's obtaining the Honors of War" and "marching out of the Fort with the Honors of War" and depositing their Arms upon the Glacis — The former Stipulation when made may leave the Officers and Soldiers in Possession of their Arms and assure them Liberty till they arrive within the Dominions of their Sovereigns — but the latter prescribes in direct Terms the Duration of the Honors of War, which are granted, and the exact time when they are to cease — Now mark Sir how applicable this last Distinction is to the Garrison of Pondicherry — "By the 5th Article of the Capitulation the Garrison is "allowed to march out of the Villanour Gate "with the Honors of War — They will on the Glacis "pile up their Arms by Order from their own "Officers, when they will leave them Lying there "with their Drums — Cannon and Mortars — "The Officers in general are allowed to keep their "Arms and the Regiment of Pondicherry at Gingee at "Bellecondy particular Regiment are allowed to "keep their Colours"

The Capitulation certainly does not pronounce your Garrison to be Prisoners of War, but it places them in a State similar to it During their Stay in Indostan it takes from them their Arms &c. it makes no Stipulation for their Liberty till they arrive

arrive in France - it does not say they are to be under the Care and Discipline of their own Officers - Under these Circumstances - and no Condition of Liberty expressed - are We to take it for granted That the Capitulation forbid all Restraint upon your Men, and in consequence left them to range about where they pleased, and to do what they pleased - in and near to our principal Garrison? For our own part We cannot see how the Restraint We have put on them, can be deemed irreconcileable to the Provision in the Capitulation which mentions That they are to be properly accommodated - Proper Accommodation means nothing more than convenient Lodgings with wholesome and sufficient Diet, and of them they can have no Reason to complain - But you say That the Necessity of some Restriction did not escape our Generals, who stipulated in Consequence That the Garrison should Deliver up their Arms, We think however That this Necessity would in a great Measure have escaped them if they had stipulated or intended to stipulate That six or seven hundred Men with their Officers should be at Liberty even with their Arms to range at large in and about an Enemy's Garrison - We do not as you assert, build our Right to put your Men under Restraint on the Law of Force but in the Latitude given us by the Capitulation,

and

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and by the Law of Humanity and Self Preservation
You allow that some Precautions were requisite,
but you seem to think that they ought to
have been taken in Concert with you - Give
us leave to assure you Sir, That it is our wish
and Desire to manifest every attention & our
Power towards you, but We conceive that often
requiring the Capitulation you become possessed of
the same Solicitation with every other Person who
is Subject to the Calamities of that Severity - Must is
to say you are Deprived of all Authority to Deter-
mine or regulate any thing with respect to the
Observance of the several Articles - you might
remonstrate or protest against our Proceedings,
but We could never allow you to have any Voice
in the Execution of the Engagements We had entered
into nor was your Consent at all necessary to any
of our Acts - and if We have judged it expedient
to correspond with you upon Subjects of this
Nature, it is not because We deem ourselves in
any Shape responsible to you for our Conduct
but because We are willing that our Superiors
and your Superiors should know the Grounds
and Reasons of all our Proceedings that may
have been thought by you liable to Objection -

"You say that if our Generals
had reserved to themselves the Right of awarding
a Parole from your Officers, they would have

taken

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"taken it before their Departure from Pondicherry
"because it would not at any time be more necessary
"than in the Mouth of your Troops from Bengal
"to Madras, as they will prest to the Means of
"shaking off the Yoke. We cannot perceive what
Reasons there could be for taking a Tender from
your Officers at Pondicherry - since they as well as
the Men were recruited to Madras by a Proxy
Guard of our Troops, which was sufficient to
have prevented any Attempt of the nature you
mention: nor can We by any Means admit
the Distinction you think should have been
observed in favour of Mr. De Auvergnes - If the
Paper which he was requested to sign appeared
only a matter of Form, and contained nothing
dishonorable, why did he object to sign it? were
it not more reasonable in this Instance that he should
have acquiesced in what you deem matter of Form,
than that We should give up what we deemed
a matter necessary to our Security? Why are We
to yield in a point of this kind and was Mr. De Auv-
ergnes to triumph in a Exemption from what
the most Officer to him in Rank, and all the
rest of the Officers had conformed to!

With respect to the enlisting
of such of your Troops as voluntarily offer to
entertain in our Service, We can clearly warran-
ted by the Capitulation in receiving and profiting
by

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by all Applications of this Nature. If the Article on this Subject expressly by mention that it shall not be lawful to force or even to solicit any Soldier or Sailor to enter into our Service, the most rigid Construction that can be given to it, will not make it unlawful to admit free and voluntary Applications to that Effect. We do not as you suppose Sir pretend to the Right of doing every Thing that is not absolutely forbid by the Capitulation, but when there are express Conditions which restrain us to a certain Point and leave us at Liberty beyond that Point to act as We think proper, can it be called a Violation of those Conditions to make use of the Liberty so reserved to Us? and are We not fully justified in doing it? You say that the Men remained faithful to their Duty during near five Months Imprisonment, and that the Spirit of Desertion did not seize them till the time of General Coote's Departure for Bengal - We can assure you Sir that many Applications were made by your Men to enlist in our Service long before General Coote went to Bengal, and some of them were repeated three and four times before they were attended to, - As to the considerable Sums which you say have been offered to them to enlist, We wish you had been more particular and condescended upon a little Proof -

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a bare Question in this case cannot be admitted—

You are pleased to protest against

the Opinion which We have manifested against

transporting your Garrison to France upon Cartel

Ships— The Silence of the Capitulation you say

does not allow us to dispense with the Custom

in similar Cases— It may be the Custom in Europe

when Cartel Ships can easily be had to employ

them on Occasions of this kind, but We know that

unless the Capitulation had absolutely compelled

us to it— We should not be authorized in employing

the Ships of our Company, or Cartel Ships for the

sole Purpose of transporting your Troops to France.

If Cartel Ships be employed in Europe on these

Occasions, it is chiefly because they may be procured with more ease and convenience than We

can obtain them in this Country— You seem

but little disposed Sir to make any allowances

for the Disadvantages & Circumstances

you think We should step out of the way altho'

the Capitulation do not require it, to perform

an act for the Convenience of your People which

would be attended with enormous Expence and loss

to our Company while you are disputing and

protesting against those reasonable Measures which

We think ourselves clearly warranted to pursue

by the Capitulation and which are at all Events neces-

sary for our immediate Safety— We flatter ourselves

That

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that our respective Superiours in Europe will judge more reasonably on this Subject

Having now Sir discussed the several Points contained in your Letter before us, We shall here beg leave on our part to conclude the Correspondence, as We do not perceive any End it could answer to continue it. We have carefully studied to preserve that Moderation and Temper so necessary to be maintained in public Discussions and We must leave the same regard to your public Character which you now say restrained your Resentment at particular Passages in our last Letter had also restrained you in the use of that Language to which those Passages were in reality - The Expressions you quote as most disagreeable to you were dictated by our Sense of the Letter you addressed to us on a date the 11th Ultimo as applicable to particular parts of that Letter - There is nothing improper in the words - Whether the Application be just - This Question must be determined in another place, and We willingly submit our whole Conduct to be tried by those who are authorized to judge of it -

We have the honor to be,
Sir

Your most obedient
humble Servants
Thomas Rumbold
P. Chetwynd
John

Fort St George
5th April 1779

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The President delivers in the following Minute with several Papers relative to the Arrest of the Officers in Mr. Bellecombe's Suite -

Minute of the President to the Arrest of Mr. Bellecombe's Suite.

I beg leave to lay before the Committee an Account signed by the Town Mayor, Captain Sydenham, Lieutenant Douglas, and Ensign Burgess of what has passed between Mr. Bellecombe and myself relative to the Officers of his Suite -

It is with great concern I have observed a premeditated Design in Mr. Bellecombe to treat with Disrespect this Government notwithstanding the Desire I have ever shown to behave to him with all Attention and Indulgence that his peculiar Situation demands; but at the same time I think it incumbent on me in every Point to support the Authority and Honor of the English Government, and at this particular time, to convince the Powers of Indostan; that the Influence of the French was entirely annihilated in this part of the World, when their Possessions by Conquest fell into our hands -

Account

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Account of the Particulars which led to the Arrest of Lieutenant Colonel Coutanceau, Major Leonard, Capts. De Villette and La Bordonie, and Lieutenant De Galaup: French Officers—

When I went, on the 5th Instant, in the Morning to shew Major General Bellecombe, the House, and Accommodations which had been provided for him, I mentioned to him at the same time, by the desire of the Governor, that I had brought with me the Parole of honor which had been signed by all the French Officers arrived from Pondicherry.— That I had received Instructions to present it to the Officers who came with him, for the same Purpose, but that the Governor from an attention to Mr Bellecombe, as they were of his Family, had directed me to give him previous Notice, supposing that he, Mr. Bellecombe, could not have the smallest Objection to the Officers of his Suite signing a Parole, which had received the Signature of all the other officers, excepting Mr Duchemin— with his Consent and approbation. He replied, This was a Matter in which he was not concerned, and that he referred me to the Gentlemen themselves, who he said, would act as they thought proper on the Occasion— Mr Lieutenant D'Espinette

was

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was present, who had himself signed this Parole on his Arrival at Madras, I selected him, as a proper Person to explain it to them — which he very readily did, at my Request, and told me in answer, that there was not Rum and Jak in the house, or these Officers would then have signed the Parole, but if I would send it to them the next Morning, by one of my Orderlies, it should be returned to me executed executed in the manner I had proposed — Accordingly, the day following, I enclosed the Parole to the Officers, and, about 3 o'clock, it was sent back to me with a letter addressed to me privately, and the form of the new Parole, which they had drawn out for themselves, and which accompany this Narrative —

The same evening I waited upon the Governor with the Papers above mentioned, and, in Consequence of his Orders, I went on the 3d. in the Morning to explain to Mr Balfour the particulars of the Contents of his Letter respecting the Parole, and to acquaint him, that the Condition which they had specified could not be allowed — that for the sake of Consistency, Propriety, and the public Line which the Government had invariably pursued, it became necessary that they should sign the Original Parole, without the least Deviation, as the other Officers had done,

on

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on their Refusal would reduce him, the Governor, to the disagreeable Necessity of laying them under the same Restriction, as he had done to Brigadier General Du Buysongnes under similar Circumstances; and that, as it would give him the greatest Concern to be obliged to separate those Gentlemen from M. Belcombe, he hoped he would render it unnecessary, by rescinding the Inhumanity he had ever shewn them, in persevading them to sign the Parole which had been offered to them, and which M. De Cyrimette had assured M. Sydenham they were ready to sign on the 1st Instant when it was first prepared to them M. Belcombe answered, that it appeared to him, that the Paper which those Officers had agreed to sign, contained every essential Security for the Preservation of public Peace & fidelity — which he understood to be M. Hamboldt's Object — and, at the same time, secured to them those Rights & Advantages which the Capitulation of Pondicherry had procured for them — He observed that unless they were informed of being conveyed to France in a Cartel Ship, the Parole which they were required to sign, might bind them to Neutrality — That an English Ship, if they were embarked on one, might be taken by a French Ship,

and

and carried to the Mississeins, or be made a Prize of by the Americans, in either of which Cases, they would be a considerable Time with their hands tied by this Parole, and they would be engaged to observe it until their Arrival in France. That the sending the French Officers in a Cartel Ship would effect every good purpose, both as to the Jewellry which they were required to give for their Conduct, as well as that which was due to their own Safety and Rights. That he Mr Bellecombe, so far from intending to advise his Officers to regain any Parole, which did not secure both these Points, had himself pointed out this necessary Stipulation to them which he conceived to be founded upon Reason and Justice, and that, Therefore, if Mr Rumbold was of a contrary Opinion, he might use his Power, and do with them as he pleased; nay, that he might, instead of an Hennary Guard, send one of Security for himself.

Having thus fulfilled the part of my Commission which respected Mr Bellecombe, I then addressed myself to each of the Officers before mentioned, and beginning with Lieutenant Colonel Cantenean, explained to him the business I came upon. That the Condition they had annexed to their Consent of observing the

Parole

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Parole could not possibly be admitted, and that
he desired to know, simply, whether he would, or
would not sign the ensigned Parole which had
been presented to them - He answered, that
he could not depart from the Sentiments which
he had already given upon that Subject; and
I thereupon told him, that his Refusal also
obliged the Governor to act contrary to his Wishes,
and Inclinations, by ordering him under Arrest -
Major Leonard, & Mr. De Villette, and the other
Gentlemen, furnishing likewise on their first
Resolution, I told them, that they, also, were
under Arrest, and that Lieutenant Douglas,
the Fort Adjutant who was present, would
conduct them to the Apartments which were
ready for their reception at St Thomas, which
Apartments were cool, and commodious, they
were accordingly conducted thither, and a Guard
placed over them, with particular Injunctions
to treat them with Attention and Respect -

As it is probable that Lieut.t
Douglas may not recollect the particulars of my
Conversation on the 3d. Instant with Mr.
Belletombe, as explained by Ensign Bongeir,
who understands the French Language per-
fectly, and who was so obliging, as to interpret
for me on this Occasion, I could wish that the

Testimony

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Testimony of those Officers was ordered to mine
in a Matter which may be of importance
at a future time
Given under my Hand in Fort St George
this 4th Day of April 1779

W. Sydenham
Town Major

The above as nearly as I can recollect,
is the purport of a Conversation which passed
between Major General Bellicombe and Captain
Sydenham the Morning of the 3d Instant
when I was present -

H Douglas
Fort Adjt.

I do hereby declare that the above
is a faithful account of the particulars which
passed between Major General Bellicombe, the
Officers of his Suite and Captain Sydenham
on the 1st and 3d Instant

J Borgeen
Surgeon in the 1st Batt. Seapoys

Sir

We send you the Paper with
the Signatures of the People of Innor, which
Mr

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Mr. Rumbold exacts of us, with a Resolution, the justice, and Necessity of which he must feel —

We are answerable to our respective Chiefs for the Conservation of the Public Engagements which they have come under for us — By preserving an impartial the advantages which they have procured for us, We testify our Respect, and Subordination — The Condition which We have specified in our Engagement answers our Design in that Respect, and gives Mr. Rumbold the Security which he thinks necessary for the Public Tranquillity —

We have the honor to be

Sir

Your obedient humble Servants

(Signed) Constance all
De la Villette
Leonard
Le Bordenel
Le Chev. De Galaup

2. April 1779

(Translation)

We engage ourselves to observe what the Governor of Mahé demands, by the

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The Writings on Date the 26th Dec. 1778 which has been sent to us this Morning by Major Sydenham, on Condition that We shall be embarked in the Course of the next, in a Ship in which will run no risque of being Taken by the Powers at War with great Britain, and will therefore leave us the entire Enjoyment of the advantages which the Capitulation of Pondichery has given us—

Constancell
Leonard
De la Tillette
Le Bordenie
Le Chev. De Galaup

Madras
2d. April 1779

Gen. Munro delivers in a Letter from Mons. Bellecombe.

General Munro acquaints the Committee that he this Morning received a Note from Mr. Bellecombe with a Letter enclosed for the Committee, which he (Mr. Bellecombe) requested the General to deliver—The President remarks the Impropriety of Mr. Bellecombe's sending a Letter in this manner, to the Committee, but proposes nevertheless that it be received and entered—a Translation of it being now made, it it read as follows

The President objects to the Mode of sending it

Translation

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(Translation)

To the Hontble Thomas Rumbold Esqr

Governor President and the Members
of the Committee at

Fort St. George

From M. Bellecombe protesting against his arrest by this Board.

Gentlemen,

I have had the Honor lately to acquaint you in my two Letters of the 15th and 25th March, with the Motives which induced me not to acknowledge that the Officers of the Garrison of Pondicherry had signed last November the Conditions which you had obliged them to agree to - I had regarded this Engagement as a momentary Precaution which your Government thought itself obliged to adopt for its Tranquility, and the Effect of which could not exceed the Limits of their Residence under the British Flag. I was far from thinking that you would give it an Interpretation so contrary to the Spirit and Terms of the Capitulation which I made with your Generals the 18th Oct. and that annulling it in some Measure should render the Fate of these Officers much worse than that of Prisoners of War - after the Pockets contained in my Letters of the 15th and 25th March against the delay of the Embarkation of the Officers, and Soldiers of the Garrison, I could not think you would persist

 Fort St George 5th April 1790

in exacting from them an indefinite Engage-
ment, nor should those Protests have been so long
delayed, but because I could not but persuade
myself that the transporting of the Troops
would take place as expeditiously as possible —
conformable to the Terms of the Capitulation
and upon Cartel Ships as is usual in like cases —

The Embarkation you have made
of several Officers, and Soldiers upon Ships which
exposed them to Risks to which the French taken
in Asia ought not to be exposed until their
Return to France, might have authorized me
to forbid the Officers who came with me to
sign any Agreements, since they have been
infringed, but the Situation I am in after the
offensive Personalities which you have made
use of with Respect to me, I thought proper
to be more attentive to appear above Resentments,
and required those Officers to give Caution for Secu-
rity to the English Government for its Tranquili-
ty, and which at the same time might not prove
prejudicial to the Rights the Capitulation entitles
them to — It is by my Order, Gentlemen that
Colonel Cantaneau, Major Lenard, Mess.rs La Villette,
and La Bondonnie, my two Aid de Camps, and
the Chev.r De Lausac, my Brother in Law, Sub
Lieutenant of the Regiment of Pondicherry, resigned

The

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the Paper which they sent to Mr Lyndsam Town Mayor of Fort St George. This Paper which was satisfactory with regard to every thing you could require: as most probably you have not pretended to detain the Garrison of Pondichery in India, and undoubtedly you do not pretend that an Officer taken upon one of your Merchant men, and carried into any Port out of France cannot make use of his Liberty which he has only forfeited for the time, and period prescribed by the Capitulation. I do not know what to think of the violent Treatment they have received, of anything, and unprecedented those attached to my Person; I do not complain of it Gentlemen, as a kind Proceeding, — you have just convinced me that I had every thing to expect from you — It is the Right of Nations that I claim, which is notorily violated in the Persons of those Officers, but also by the Affront offered to the Character with which I am vested I therefore protest Against the Arrest of those five Officers, Against that Violence which the abuse of Power only can authorize —

Against the Insult paid to the Character which the King has honoured me with; and I require that my two Aid De camps be returned to me; they are

of

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of no Consequence but about my Person and in the Circumstance in question, if you thought yourselves obliged to secure them it was in my Presence that they ought to have been closely watched

I have the Honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your very humble & most obedient Servant
(Signed) Bellecombe

Gardens
near Madras
4th April 1779

The Committee are of opinion that the above Letter requires no answering

The Sea Line to be constructed according to the plan of Major Maule with a Line of cisterns.

The numerous State of the Fortifications on the Sea Line having been frequently represented and the Committee having always had it in their Intention to put that part of the Fort in a proper State of Defence as soon as the N.E and S.E Angles were secured it is now Resolved, that the Works planned for the Defence of the Sea Line be continued with all possible Dispatch agreeably to the plan proposed by Major Maule in his Letter of the 16th Dec. last, with a Line of Cisterns along the East Curtain - and as for this purpose it will be necessary to remove some Godowns and Sheds that have been erected

550 Fort St. George 5th April 1779

erected by the Inhabitants on the Seaside
the Committee of Works are empowered to
take proper Measures accordingly, and to
satisfy such Persons as may be obliged to relin-
quish any part of their Property on this
Occasion

Mess.rs Benoit De Boigne
John M. Intosh and John Pearse appointed
Cadets - Cadets appointed

Tho.s Rumbold
John Whitehill
Charles Smith

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The following Letter from Col.
Brathwaite was received on the 31st Instant.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have the Honor to acquaint
you that I arrived here on the 4th Instant – I found
From Col. Braithwaite advising of the Capture of Mahe.

Major Belly had occupied and Fortified two Hills
in our Bounds advancing towards Mahe, and had
that Necessary advanced four Companies of Grena-
diers Sepoys into the French Bounds, I went to the
advanced post that evening, and determined upon
one further advance, the 15th I determined on a Spott
for a Battery to reduce the Fort of touching a new
Work formed by the scarping of an Impenetrable
Hill and only accessible either as to the Lower or
Upper Fort but by rope Ladders which were very
long and which the Enemy drew up after them
to reduce this post was absolutely necessary as it
secured my rear as I should advance further and
kept clear any Communication by Sea with Belli-
chery, having Determined to begin my Battery
that night I wrote to Mons.r Piot the Governor
of Mahé Summoning him to surrender, to which
he answered that he would defend the place as
long as he could. The alacrity with which our
People worked was great, and the whole Country
was astonished at them, working in Day light

with Fire

 Fort St George April 1779

within five hundred Yards of the Enemies Guns
the Enemy fired a few Shott from Country
Fort St George and Chimbeen but without
Effect and I found their black allies began
to make Overtures to come over to me, our
Battery would have opened with four eighteen
Pounders as however, but this Morning about
Eight sent out Propositions to surrender, Town
I was astonished for we have not fired even a
musket Shott, and the Hills yet between us
were such that I thought it an Herculean
Labour even to get the Guns to it unopposed, —
I did not chuse to accept his terms but dictated
others, which he must sign by four o'clock,
or abide the Consequence as I was determined after
that time to receive no Propositions and the first
of mine was that Country should be immediately
surrendered and our Colours hoisted as a signal
to me that every thing else was acceded to
This was done and by Seven O'Clock with his
Deputy Generals to be Disposed of it about
two o'clock and before four the Gentlemen came
back, by which I shall to morrow morning
be put into Possession of Fort St George and
Chimbeen, very high and strong Situations
commanding Madras and the Approaches to it
and to morrow evening I shall receive the

Guns

Fort St George 2 April 17[illegible]

Forts Marlborough Bencoolen and Londonderry with all their Dependencies Mr Pitt had done every thing that Man could do, and had they had Men, Money, Ammunition, and Provisions, I should have deemed the place impregnable it consisting of a number of Forts upon almost inaccessible heights, strongly fortified in themselves, and protecting each other, fortunately for us I believe they wanted all these things: I have not now time Sir and Sirs to send you particulars — The French are Prisoners of War to be transported to Bombay, from thence to France or England as the Governor and Select Committee shall think proper — If they go to England they are not to carry any Merchandize or Effects which may be contraband or any way interfere with the East India Company's Trade — The Fortifications, Public buildings &c., are to be disposed of as the English East India Company shall think proper, I shall as soon as possible dispatch to you my Aid De Camps Mr Bate with the Colours, Capitulation &c. I am already preparing to return to you directly to Madras, two Companies of Artillery, the European Battalion save one Company, and two Sepoy Battalions except the Grenadiers, I shall find it absolutely necessary from the State of the Country, and the reports of Hyders Troops coming,

to

554 Fort St. George 6th April 1779

to keep one Company of Artillery, one of In-
fantry, one Battalion of Sepoys, with the
Grenadiers of the other two Battalions. This
will make one strong and not weaken you very
much, the Troops I send will be with you I
hope in three Weeks from this day, in the
interim I will go vigorously on in preparation to
destroy the Fort by Mines. I beg your Excuse
for this hasty Scrole, and am with great Respect

Moylize
19th March 1779

your faithful Servant
John Braithwaite

At a Select Committee Present
The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esq President
Tuesday
6th April
John Whitehill General Munro
Charles Smith

Minutes of yesterdays Committee
read and approved.

Read the following Letter from
Mr Chevreau.

(Translation)

To the Honble Mr Rumbold

From Mr Chevreau with Passport for the Rockets Galley.

Governor and President of the Council and to the
Gentlemen of the Committee at
Fort St George

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to reply to

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Your Letter of the 30th Ultimo —

Your Resolutions respecting the Detachment of the Succefs Galley to transport to the Island of France, my self, with the civil Establishment of Pondicherry will hasten my Dispositions, and Preparations for the Voyage, and I think I may assure you, that We shall all be embarked with our Effects and Baggage by the 10th of this Month — I request of you to accept my acknowledgments for having issued orders for particular accommodations for Mead. Chevreau and for the Passengers contained in my List of the 30th Instant.

With respect to the Papers which you ask from me to insure to the Succefs Galley all the Privileges of a Cartel Ship until her return to these Roads, I can only give the accompanying Licence because there is not any one excepting the Governor of the Islands who is entitled to give the necessary Passport, and this form shall indispensibly be complied with —

I have remains Gentlemen an important Observation to make to you — The 3d Article of the Capitulation assures a Return to France, or to the Mauritius (at their choice) to all the Officers of Administration of the Superior

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Superior Council, and the Courts of Justice,
and been employed in the Liquidation of the
Indian Company's Debts &c &c. and in general
for all those entrusted in the Service of the
King in this Country Station — and in the answer
it is said — Granted with regard to the next,
and Vessels shall be provided by the Government
of Madras — I request of you Gentlemen to
inform me what Measures you propose
taking for the Payment of the Charges to be
incurred by the Government of Madras for
transporting all and every French Passenger
on the Success Galley from the Mauritius to
France — This is a point necessary to be
settled previous to my departure, as I am
accountable for it to the Ministers of this
Most Christian Majesty

I have the honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most humble and
most Obedient Servant
Signed Chevreau

Madras
5th April 1779

(Translation)

Passport for the Success Galley.
Pondicherry and French
Settlements in India.

Stephen Cleveland Governor and Company
General

 Fort St. George 6th April 1779

General, Intendant of Justice, Police, and Finances for War and for the Marine over all the French Settlements in India, President of the Supreme Council of Pondichery, and of the Provincial Councils which Depend, and Commissary for His Majesty in the East Indies —

We promise that during the first twenty four hours after our arrival at Mauritius, We will demand from the Governor of that Settlement, Passeports and usual Pass port for Cartel Ships, in order to insure to the Troops Galley dispatched from these Roads by the Gentlemen of the Committee of Madras to transport us, and the Civil Establishment to the Mauritius the Privileges which She ought to enjoy until her return hither — Upon the Condition however that She shall sail with that Equipment which is appointed and permitted to every Cartel Ship —

At Madras the 5th April 1779

Signed Chevreau

Mr Chevreau having in his Letter of the 30th Ult? made choice of the Passage to the Mauritius for himself and the other Gentlemen of the Civil Administration, the Committee are of opinion that the 3d Article of Capitulation is entirely fulfilled by sending them to that Island —

The

Fort St George 6th April 1779

The President delivers in the following Minute

President's Minute & Letter to Mr Bellecombe on the Arrest of his Banker

The Letter from Major Grace and Bellecombe laid before the Committee yesterday by Major General Munro ought to have been addressed to me as Governor of the Garrison under whose considerate orders the several Gentlemen of Mr Bellecombe's Suite were put in arrest. This Circumstance I am sure did not occur to the Gentlemen of the Committee, or they would have readily taken the proper notice of it, in support of my Authority as Governor and Commander in Chief of the Garrison of Fort St George, whose that Authority is in all proper Instances submitted to their Control. To shew how little desirous I am to exercise an unnecessary Severity, but on the contrary to consider and make allowances for Mr Bellecombe's Situation, I have this morning sent Major Sydenham to him with a Letter from myself a Copy of which I now lay before the Committee to be entered on the Records —

Sir,

General Munro yesterday laid your Letter before the Committee relative to the Arrest

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Count of Lt Colonel Cantonnear, Major Lessard,
Aids de Camp de la Villette, and de Boudenie your Aid
de Camps and the Chev. de Lausac —

As the Arrest of these Officers
depends in the first Instance on me as Governor,
and Commander in Chief of the Garrison of Fort St
George, it rests with me to reply, Sir, to that part
of your Letter which relates to them, in doing which,
I shall pass over every expression, and reflection contained
in it, that can lead to the Continuance of a Correspondence
so disagreeable, and only inform You Sir, that you
are mistaken in supposing any Affront was intended
to you —

I have too nice a Sense in Circumstan-
ces of that kind myself, to offer one to any Person —
But the Arrest of the Gentlemen before mentioned
was occasioned by, and consistent with that line
of public Conduct which I have thought indispen-
sably necessary to observe, from which I cannot deviate,
and the justness of the Proceeding can only be deter-
mined on by our Superiours in Europe. At the same
time, Sir, I have no wish to Deprive you of the
Company of the Gentlemen of your Suite, and as you
desire that if your two Aid de Camps are kept in
Arrest, it may be near your Person, Major
Sydenham, the Town Major of Fort St George, and
My Aid de Camp, has Directions to offer to you,
that they, and also the other Gentlemen may

reside

 Fort St. George 6th April 1779

reside with you upon their giving their Parole of honor that they will confine themselves to the limits of the house, and Garden, and take no Measure, by writing or otherwise, that may in its Consequences, prove detrimental to the Interest of His Britannick Majesty, or the English East India Company, whilst they are in Arrest - If this should be objected to, they may remain near you under a Guard, which however I wish to avoid being laid under the Necessity of sending, and should neither of these Propositions meet with your acquiescence there is an alternative, The Gentlemen must remain where they are at present, unless they choose to sign the Parole, before tendered to them which I think necessary, and which you, in one of your Letters have deemed only a matter of Form.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient and
most humble Servant
Thomas Rumbold

Fort St George
6th April 1779

The Committee approve of what the President has done regarding Mr Bellamy's Suite

Read the following Letters
from

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from Colonel Braithwaite

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr

President and Select Committee at

Fort St George

From Col Braithwaite at Angengo prosperity Enos: Engligns on the friendly conduct of the Tracanoor Rajah.

Honble Sirs & Sirs,

I have the honour to inform you that the last division of my detachment under the Command of Lt Colonel Brown, arrived at this place the 28th Ult., and the first morning by daylight when I immediately began the Embarkation, during which the Troops, both Europeans and Sepoys behaved with the greatest chearfulness and good order, It was compleated this day about noon, and Captain Paxton Commanding his Majesty's Ship Sea Horse (our Commodore) proposes sailing this Evening, our Fleet consists of the Sea Horse, Coventry, Rivenge, Resolution and Royal Charlotte, with a Pinnis Sloop of the Navy, which is our Hospital Ship.

The Europeans, Artillery and Infantry are all distributed on board the fighting Ships, and the 2d Batt: of Sepoys on board the Ramsworth and Vernon Transports besides this, there are some Manchoos which were provided by Mr Torkyn, which carry Followers, Camp Equipage, and such baggage as could not be admitted on board the fighting Ships, or put on board the Transports, without crowding them too much

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I cannot say enough of the chearful assistance given by Captain Paxton on this occasion, or of the exertion of Mr. Powlis Vice Resident. it will occur to you that what has been done here could not in the time, had it not been for their zeal and Previsposition to forward the Service and I have the further Pleasure to inform you, that every thing has been done with the greatest Cordiality and good Humour on all sides, and with such good luck that We have not lost a single thing in the embarkation, and have had to embark only one Sergeant and five Europe Private Soldiers sick, who will probably be recovered by the time of their Arrival at Pallicherry.

We have during the whole march, lost but five Europeans by death, and about 60 by Sepoys by death and desertion, I mention these particulars to you, Honble Sir and Sirs, as it is not possible for me to forward to you the monthly returns for Feby, every body being too much engaged in the Matter of embarkation for this omission I hope I shall stand excused, and I shall take the earliest Opportunity of forwarding them to you from Pallicherry.

My Spies have returned by Round me Ahaten the road from Sevigapatam to the Pass beyond Pallicherry, they are thus prepared at all the halting Places, viz, Potty, Sirawar

 Fort St. George 6th April 1779

of Six thousand Men, but none have yet
moved, and previous to their moving, any Military
men Stores, a road must be made which will
cost much time and Pains.

The King of Tanjore is in the
is in the Field to assist the French, joined by some
Troops of the Calastry man, who commands him to
take the Field, I understand that the King of Tanji-
nadar, is the immediate Vassal of the Calastry man,
and he of Hyder, they are a mere rabble, and I find
that if we want them, we can be joined by full
as good and as numerous, so that I see nothing to
weaken my Procedings unadvisable, on the contrary
every inducement to push matters as expeditious by as
possible, more particularly as I hear my disagreeable
News from Bombay, by which it appears that the
Governor and Select Committee there are involved in
a Situation which seems to me to render the pleasing
a respectable military force within call of them
absolutely necessary, I must observe however that
my Information is from Captain Prengle and the Officers
arrived at Tellicherry, and neither the Gentlemen
myself have as yet received a single Line from
the Board—

The King of Travancore though
manifestly very jealous and suspicious of our
March through his Country, has supplied the
several Divisions most amply, and by employ-

Fort St George 6th April 1779

a great number of Country Men, made those Roads which were deemed impracticable even tolerable for the Artillery which must to carrying us through his Country by the shortest and best road, was all he could do to form and the Troops, he expresses himself highly satisfied with the strict Discipline observed by our Troops on the March, and assures me that he had not one Complaint except of a Sepoy who had beat a Cooley on their too much for throwing down his load, an Artillery man and a few Sepoys deserted on this Country, with design to entertain in his Service but he Directly sent them back, only pleading that they might not be punished, he professes the greatest Esteem and Veneration for the Company, and Mr Sparkes informs me that upon the first rumour of a French War, he sent a Battalion of Sepoys to this neighbourhood for the Protection of our Settlement here —

I have been duly honord with your Letter of the 17th Ult: previous to which the whole of the Force ever with me had been embarked at once, The Concord is not yet arrived, I shall desire Mr Sparkes to send her on to Tellicherry the moment she does and shall desire Captain Panton to leave a Convoy for her, as there is no means of transporting the Money for the use of the Troops at Tellicherry from hence but by Sea

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Mr Baker being short of Money to exchange the Bullocks, I advised him to take up a thousand Pagodas of the Fort Sts, which he has done —

Mr Beckett has joined the Detachment and so has Sir John Gordon, who I understood was to have been Deputy Judge Advocate but I have as yet received no Premium for Holding Courts Martial.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest Respect

Your most obedient Servant

Anjengo
2nd March 1779

To the Honble

Hon'ble, under the Protection of
[illegible] on board some
[illegible] Ships and
[illegible] lying on Shore
[illegible] Sir John Gordon [illegible] informs me that it is
your desire that I may not embark the Troops at
Anjengo till I receive your further Orders, unless I
should have had such advices from Bombay, as may
remove every idea of the two Allys supporting the
French attempts, and that I have the greatest
Probability of making a speedy, and easy Conquest
of the Place —

And that you Direct also in case

of

From Col Brathwaite on board the Sea Horse waiting for further Orders.

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"of my not proceeding that I should order the
"Captain of the Concord on her arrival at Negapatam
"to put on board the Royal Charlotte a Resolution
armed Ships all the Stores, applying to the Commanding
"Officer of the Squadron or to the Captains of the Ships
"as I shall find expedient for that purpose" and that
you "direct also in case of my not proceeding that I
"procure every thing for a speedy return to Tellicherry"

Now although the order contained in
this letter is confined to the not embarking the Troops
I conceive the Spirit of it to be that although embarked
they must not proceed without your further Orders,
but be in readiness to return to Tellicherry on a
short notice - In consequence of this Honored Captain
Caution our Commodore to exercise order the command
sailing, under the Pretence of there not being suf-
ficient water on board some of the Transports and
have strictly prohibited every Person under my Com-
mand from going on Shore, even although we should
through unavoidable Accidents remain in the road
a Day or two - My Design was in case your order
should arrive for me to return to Tellicherry to keep
the thing quite a Secret, and stand out to Sea as
if still proceeding to Mahe, and in the Night alter
the Course and run right before the wind for
Anjengo, whether I could arrive in three days,
and where I should land not less forty Miles of
Tellicherry, and where I might have a fair wind any

convenient reason for my Return —

This point would effectually have deceived Hyder or any of the Indian Princes, who if they meant any thing, would immediately upon our Departure, as supposed for Mahé, have taken such Steps as would have betrayed their real intentions, but upon mentioning this to Captain Braton our Commodore here in Confidence, he told me that his Orders were limited and positive "to proceed to Anjengo "and bring up the Troops & Artillery for Mahé" and that he could not answer to undertake any other Service, or leave Tellicherry and the Fighting Ships now with him to a greater Distance from the Commodore who was at Tellicherry with the rest of the Ships. he told me also that the Transports Vernon and Ravensworth being taken up, and already paid for carrying the Troops to Tellicherry would not carry them elsewhere without a fresh bargain, and that being Dispatched for Bombay they would not stop for any Consideration at this Season quit this Coast, or go round Cape Comorin. I do not however give up entirely the Measure, the difficulty thereon in my way in a private letter or Conversation may be cleared away upon a public Application, Captain Braton may venture to stretch his Powers, and Mr Bentley settle the matter with the Masters of the Transports, without paying as much as the March over land will cost, however for

fear

Fort St George 6th April 1779

fear of being disappointed of the Sea-conveyance (to which also I could wish to use the Despatch) I have written to Mr Tod desire to apply immediately to the King of Travancore to stop all the Bullocks and followers which were yesterday discharged from the Detachment, till he hears further, and to let me know how the King receives this Application — I fear he will not receive it pleasantly, I have been privately informed that he scarce even slept while we were in the Country, through a Suspicion that we meant to establish ourselves there, which is not surprising Considering how well his Country is situated for resisting our Depredations on the two Coasts, and that it is so small and so strongly fortified by nature that a very small body of Troops would defend it against all the powers of India it being impenetrable to Horse —

You will observe Honble Sir and Sirs that by this preparation for my Return, I drop the thought of proceeding to Madras at least until I receive further Authority, than that which I possess, to proceed as soon as I am to get thither, when I consider your Instructions, the Flying Reports, Captain Powell's Letter, and the repeat of my own Letter, and am perplexed of such a Letter, as that which I have received from Mr Barkley, I cannot proceed, for advanced as I am —

I have no Information from Bombay

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whatsoever but what which I have received from
Captain Pringle and of others our own Officers there,
which I have before communicated to your Honors.
Where so far from removing every Doubt of Hyders
superiority the French, import that he declares that he
will protect them, and good testimony is brought
of his having made the previous dispositions for that
Purpose, and that his Tributaries in the Malabar
Coast have already joined the French and are
entrenching Throughout on all the Heights surround-
ing Mahé — This does not authorize me to proceed
as having "the greatest Probability of making
a speedy and easy Conquest of the place, although
the Probability of my taking it is great I declare,
that by all that I can learn I think the place
must fall, nothing but succours from Europe can
yet save it; but I fear it cannot be undertaken
before the Monsoon the North Westers are expec
ted to blow harder and harder every day now, which
will make the Passage from hence very uncertain
had it suited your Honors to grant with us independ
dent of the protection of Mahé I believe we should
have rendered much service — I think the appearance
of our Force on that Coast would change the Stile of
it, and that Hyders Vessels, which are in fact the
whole of his petty Malabar Rajahs would immediately
revolt against his Orders and join us in case of a
Rupture between us and him, under our Protection

Hyder

Fort St George 6th April 1779

Hyder would never be able to reduce them again,
it is said some of them have passed their thoughts
and Language that may already, ally Reynds
Succession, the most potent of them is strongly our
Friend, so is the King of Travancore who reaches to
the Northward of Cochin — I firmly believe it is
the revolt of that Court which Hyder fears, he
knows our Connections and views there, and
supports the French merely to support himself, and
so weak are those united endeavours that both
must fall if resisted — the Success is not to be
doubted — but it may be dearly bought if it sub-
jects the Carnatic to constant depredations: but
that I think might be avoided by our freely
abandoning all other views there, as soon as
the French were reduced and prosecuting to unite
firmly with Hyder in a great Expedition against
the Mahrattas / This idea and the Situation of
things at Bombay have caused me to wish myself
and Day to get on board and away to Bombay, where
a large field presented itself to my view, but I
am debarring from the immediate line of my duty
which is only to obey — my Prospects on this
Coast are great as from late Accidents there remains
in duty on it no Officer of higher rank than
myself flattering, as this was, I could not, I would
not explain away the Spirit of your Orders to
coincide with my own ideas or views, the Spirit

Fort St George 6th April 1779

after Oakeley's letter to me is, although the Troops are embarked, that they must not go further from you, without your orders, I have therefore taken the steps mentioned to you in the former part of this letter, and am anxiously waiting for your further Commands on board—

The Concordia is not yet arrived, when she does I doubt if she will be able to get her Stores shipped here either on board the Resolution or Royal Charlotte, it seems as if sitting Ships they are now under the orders of Sir Edward Vernon who is at Tellicherry, and Captain Panton seems dubious of his Powers to encumber either of them, as it may render them unfit for fighting and therefore no misfortunate to Sir Edward Vernons Squadron, should I fail in getting them removed here and the Expedition be laid aside, I shall direct the Concordia to proceed to Tellicherry and write to the Commodore of your desire, when no doubt he will order your intention to be executed; or safely convoy the Stores to Bombay or Madras, which latter I shall press as I find they are abounding at Bombay, from whence they have dispatched the Rein frighted with your fall Indeed for the Reduction of Mahe. I hope the Concordia will soon arrive and bring with her Money and Arrack as if we quit the Ships we are will treat either, and have no Prospect of much assistance

here

572 Fort St George 6th April 1779

have through Mr Tonkys mind I am sure have Inimicks as have as possible to hurt us— You will have been appriz'd before now from one of the Serviat of the 3d and 4th Battalion of Sepoys at Pellicherry and of that of Major Kelly with the Engineers and Pioners— Major Kelly is at present the Commanding Officer of your Troops employed at Pellicherry. I have never had one line from Mr Church although I have written to him two or three Letters, Mr Tonkys had not heard from him for a Month when this day he received a Letter which in three lines said— "The two Sepoy Battalions from Madras arrived here some days ago, Major Kelly and several other Officers "are arrived, the Prince of Chunka seems hearty "in the French Cause"—

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect,

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,

Your faithful and obedient Servant

John Braithwaite

On board His Majestys Ship Seahorse at Negapatan 20th 3d March 1779

And the following Letter from the Committee of Works

To the Hon'ble Thomas Rumbold Esqr President and Governor &c Council of Fort St George

From the Committee of Works with Estimate of

573 Fort St George 6th April 1779

Honble Sir & Sirs,

The Company's Fleet on which the Penn Mayen lines having been reported to us to be much in want of repairs, we directed Mr Hervey to examine its Condition, and lay before us an estimate of such repairs as might appear to him to be necessary. We beg leave to enclose his Report and Estimate, and to request your Honor & Sirs Orders thereon

Being of opinion that Mr Balfour should be the Committee of Works inspecting and reporting to us once a week the State of the Brick and Stonework Tailors will greatly tend to prevent delays with Supplies of those Articles, we request you to Permission to allow him 12 Pagodas Pr Month Batta each time for this purpose —

We are with Respect,

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obedient and most humble Servants

P. Perring
Edwd Saunders
Geo. Maule
C. B. Dent

Fort St George
31st March 1779

To Peter Perring Esqr
& Committee of Works
Gentlemen.

Agreeably to your Directions

I

574 Fort St George 6th April 1779

I have examined the State of the Company's house occupied by the Town Major, and find it to be, in many Places, so much decayed, as to require a General Repair, without, which, it is probable, that the next Monsoon may render it useless. I have, to this Report annexed an Estimate of such Repairs as appear to me to be really necessary to render the house habitable and am with Respect,

Gentlemen,

Your most Obedient and very humble Servant

Philip Stoviey

Fort St George
30th March 1779

Estimate

Brick Work	361.33
Roof and Terrace	222.21
New Windows	200.39
Do ones repaired and removed	22.—
New door Frames, and Doors	166.—
Do ones repaired and removed	14.21
Two Stair Cases	67.—
Brick Cornice, and Chunam to ditto	37.—
New Pavement	54.—
Chunam Work	258.—
Wood Lintles and Bond Timber	61.—
Centres	24.21
Stone Steps	10.21
	1499.30

Pioneers

575 Fort St George 6th April 1779

Ordered that the necessary Repairs be made to the Town Mayor's House agreeably to the Estimate -

Ordered to be made.

Resolved also that the Clerk to the Committee of Works be allowed 12 Pagodas P Month Palankeen hire per the Purpose recommended by the Committee of Works -

Palankeen hire allowed to the Clerk of the Committee

Read the following Letter from Lieutenant Colonel Nixon -

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

From Lt Col Nixon

Honble Sir & Sirs

Together with a Return of the Troops and a few Invalids which compose this Garrison, I have the honor to transmit to you Returns of the Ordnance and Carriages, which you will perceive to be very Deficient and in a bad Condition - We are at present endeavouring to make some Powder, in which I expect we shall succeed very well - Gun Carriages may also be made here, for the carrying fully into Execution both those Projects, your Approbation only is requested by

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your most faithful and devoted Servant
Lucius Nixon
Colonel

Fort St George
1st March 1779

576 Fort St. George 6th April 1779

Colonel Nixon is permitted to

Permitted to make Gun Powder but not Carriages.

proceed in making Gunpowder, but all the Gun-
carriages wanting will be made at Madras

Read the following Letter from

Colonel Pearse

To Sir Eyre Coote

From Col Pearse applying to have a Commission as Lt. Commandant of Artillery.

Lieutenant General and Commander in Chief in

India

Sir,

When I had the honor of presenting a Plan to form the Corps of Artillery into eight Companies, I proposed it should be commanded by a Colonel. I was led to this by a Conviction that it was necessary for the good of the Service, That Officers of Artillery should have Rank equal to the Officers of other Corps, and being then determined on going home, I sincerely wished to have the Corps on as desirable a footing as possible, and to put it out of the Power of every prejudiced Man who obtains a Command, of oppressing the Officers of Artillery, or for a moment depriving them of their just Rights.

I still urged by the same Motives

I request your Influence with the Honble the Select Committee, to grant me a Commission as Colonel Commandant of Artillery and I trust, the Length and nature of my Services, justify to the Corps I have the honor to command, and the

Lieutenants

577 Fort St. George 6th April 1779

Disappointments I have lately met with, which I still labour under, will induce every Member of the Honble the Select Committee to grant me his Voice —

It is with regret I introduce to you a Memorial I have received from the Artillery Officers under the Command of Colonel Braithwaite, complaining of an Injury he has offered the Corps in the Person of Major Clifton their Commandant, and requesting me to obtain them public redress: far be it from me to appear invidious, but, such has been the Conduct of Colonel Braithwaite, he has pursued the Officers of Artillery with such unmerited and uniform hatred, ever since he has been in the Service: and it appears he is still resolved against the established customs of the Service, nay against common Sense, to reduce them to what they cannot submit to — For Harmony between the Corps is necessary to success, the good of the Service now Demands a public decision and Justice asks that the Artillery Officers be no more left at the Mercy of any one Man who, by prejudice, or too easily adopting the Opinions of other Men, may be laid to deprive them of their Rights —

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your very Obedient & most humble Servant
C. James

Artillery Cantonments
St Thos. Mount
11th March 1779

Colonel

573 Fort St. George 6th April 1779

Colonel Innis's Request cannot

Not granted. be complied with

General Munro reporting to the

Committee appointed to enquire into the complaintes respecting Sepoy half Mounting — Committee that he has received several Letters from the Captains of Sepoys complaining that there have been great Deficiences in the Supply of the Sepoy Half Mounting — it is ordered that Majr. Lavendin Crawford, John Stuart and Thomas Digby be appointed a Committee to enquire into the State of these Deficiencies and how they have arisen —

Read the following Letter from the Superintendant of the Nabob's Disbursements —

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr.

President and Governor &c. &c. &c. of the Select

Committee at

Fort St. George

From the Superintendant of the Nabob's disbursements &c.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

In the Agent's monthly Bills at this place for Carts and Bullocks hire on account of the Nabob, there is a Charge of Pags. 325 for the Attendance of forty Bullock Carts the whole Month, beside the Charges for the respective Services that are done — As the Agent could produce no Authority for such a Charge I objected to receive his Bills for Bullock hire at this place for

the

579 Fort St George 6th April 1779

the Month of August last, unless he Inform that Charge which the Agent refused to comply with, and has in his Bills for every Month since made the same Charge I request your Honor &c will therefore be pleased to order, whether I should admit that Charge from the time it was first objected to, being in August last, and if I shall continue to receive the same in future, as the business of the Superintendants Office has been entirely at a stand on that Account - Here I should have thought I had discharged my duty, if the Office that your Honor &c. have lately been pleased to vest me with, of auditing all the Accounts Civil and Military of this Presidency, and of reporting to your Honor &c any Expence that can with Propriety be reduced, did not oblige me to declare, that it does not appear to me that the Service of the Agent is ever so urgent as to make it necessary to keep fifty or any Number of Bullock Carts in constant Hire —

I am

Honble Sir &c.s

Your most Obedient

humble Servant

George Proctor

Supt.

Fort St George
18th March 1779

The Committee are of opinion that the Objection made by the Superintendant to the Agents

The Agents
Monthly Charge
for 50 Bullocks
struck off

Fort St. George 6th April 1779

agents monthly Charge for 50 Bullock Carts
is accordingly preparing — Ordered thereupon that
this Charge be wholly discontinued from the
1st Instant — and that from the first August
last to the 1st Instant the Agent be allowed to
charge only for the Expence of such Bullock
Carts as he shall prove to have been actually
hired and kept up for the Public Service —

Captain Johnston of Engineers
is appointed to the Charge of the Works at Sangor —

Capt. Johnston
appointed Engineer
at Sangor.

Ensign Jones having
shewn evident Marks of Insanity for which he
has been long kept in Confinement, ordered
that he be put on the Invalid List.

Ensign Jones
Imprudent.

Tho: Rumbold
John Whitehill
Hector Munro
Charles Sweetland

583 Fort St George April 1779

Wrote the following Letter

To Mr Chevreau

Sir,

We have had the Honor to receive your Letter of the 1st Instant.

To M. Chevreau the Civil Servants to be transported to the Mauritius only.

In reply to the Request you have made to be informed what Measures we propose taking for the Payment of the Charges to be incurred by the Government of Madras for transporting the French Passengers on the Success lately from the Mauritius to France, We beg Leave to observe that in our Letter of the 30th Ultimo, We gave you the Choice agreeably to the Articles of Capitulation of going to France or to the Mauritius that you chose the latter, and requested the like Indulgence in Behalf of all the other late Servants in the Civil Administration at Pondicherry, under these Circumstances We cannot think of making any Provision for a further Passage thence to the Mauritius, as We conceive the 3d. Article of the Capitulation to be entirely fulfilled in sending them to that Island—

We have the Honor to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedient

and humble Servants

Thomas Rumbold

for Select Committee

Wrote

Fort St George
7th April 1779

582 Fort St George April 1779

10th Wrote the following Letters.

To Major Alexander Maclellan

Commanding at

Tanjore

To Col. Maclellan to receive the orders of the Committee respecting an Escort to the Rajah.

Sir

We have received your Letters of the 30th and 31st ulto and 3d instt.

As the Rajah was so earnest to leave Tanjore before you could be furnished with our Orders relative to the Escort which he requested to attend him, you were right in accompanying him; but we desire you will acquaint the Rajah, that in future whenever he shall require an Escort to attend him into the Country, it will be proper that he make timely application to us that We may issue the necessary Orders in consequence.

With regard to the Complaint that has been made to you against Mr. Stockwell, We would have it enquired into by the Raja or his Duan, and Mr. Stockwell must abide the Decision, after which you will oblige him to quit Tanjore and not suffer him to return to it.

The Rajah to decide on Mr. Stockwell's claims

We are

Sir,

Your most obedient Servants

Thomas Rumbold

Wm. Hornby

Jno. Lindsay

Fort St George
10th April 1779

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To Edward Cotsford Esqr.

Chief & Council at

Masulipatam

To Masulipatam.

Gentlemen,

We have received your Letter of the

18th Ultimo

We would not have you purchase any greater Quantity of Provisions at present and We desire that such part of what you have in Store, as may be in a perishable State be sold off

We have enjoined your Indent to the Committee of Stores with Directions to comply with it as soon as possible

We are,

Gentlemen,

Your most Obedient Servants

Thomas Rumbold

Fort St George
10th April 1779

14th Wrote the following Letters

To Captain Fenwick

Commander of the

Success Gulley

To Capt Fenwick
of the Success
Gulley.

Sir,

You are hereby directed to repair on board your Ship and proceed to the Island of

Mauritius

584 Fort St George April 1779

Mauritius, where you are to land Mr. Chevreau with the rest of the French Passengers—

We enclose you a Paper delivered to us by Mr. Chevreau containing such assurances as he is able to give relative to the safe Conduct of your Ship, but We have written on this Subject to the Governor of Mauritius whom Mr. Chevreau informs us is the only Person properly authorized to grant the necessary Passports. We enclose you our Letter to him N.1 / under a flying Seal / which must be sent him on your Arrival— The Letter N.2 which is also enclosed must not be delivered but in case of any unnecessary Detention of the Ship or a Delay in giving you the proper Passports for your safe Return to the Coast— It is necessary that your Ship be equipped entirely as a Cartel Ship, that no just Cause may be given for your Detention—

We are,

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servants

Thomas Rumbold

Fort St George
16th April 1779

J. Whitehouse

To the Honble the Chevalier de la Brillaune
To the Gov.r
of the Isles
Captain of His most Christian Majesty's Ships and
Governor of the Isles of Bourbon and Brasdon at the
Isle of France

Sir

535 Fort St George April 1779

Sir;

We have the Honor to inform you that agreeably to the Articles of Capitulation for the Surrender of Pondichery, We have sent the Ship Success Galley Captain Fenwick as a Cartel Ship to convey M.r Chevreau and his Family with sundry other Persons to the Island of Mauritius — M.r Chevreau as far as depended upon him has given us the most unreserved Assurances for the safe Conduct of the Vessel to and from Mauritius, but as he informs us, that you Sir are the only Person who can give the regular Passports for insuring to the Success Galley all the Privileges of a Cartel Ship, We request from you such Passports accordingly, and that the Success Galley may have free Liberty to return hither as soon as she has landed her Passengers

We have the Honor to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedient humble Servants

Thomas Rumbold

of Select Com.n

Fort St George
14.th April 1779

To the Honble the Chevalier de la Brillanne
Captain of his most Christian Majesty's Ships and
To the Gov.r Governor of the Isles of France and Bourbon at the
of the Isles. Isle of France

Sir,

We have judged it expedient to furnish

Captain

586 Fort St. George April 1779

Captain Pennick of the Sucops Galley with Mrs
Letter to be delivered to you in case his Ship should
meet with any improper Detention at the Mauritius
but We have so implicit a Reliance on the
Articles of Capitulation that We can hardly suffer
ourselves to think he will have occasion to present
it to you.

Should any thing however happen
to cause any unnecessary Detention of his Ship at
the Island of Mauritius. We think it right to
apprise you Sir that such a Breach of the
Capitulation will justify us in compensating our-
selves from the private Property of Tondicherry,
which will accordingly suffer in Proportion
to the damage that may be sustained by such
Detention—

We have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your most Obedient humble Servants

Thomas Rumbold

Fort St George
14th April 1779

17th Wrote the following Letter to

Colonel Baillie

To Lieut: Colonel Baillie

To Col Baillie
respecting the
Captain Bertol
Ship.

Commanding at

Sir

Pondichery

Having heard of the Arrival of the
Sartine

587 Fort St. George 19th April 1779

Sir

Sartain at Pondichery, We think it proper to enclose you a Copy of our Letter to Mr Moracin containing the Terms on which We consented to employ that Ship as a Cartel for the purpose of conveying a part of the Garrison of Pondichery to France

You will observe There in that We have permitted private Property belonging to the Inhabitants of Pondichery to be put on Board the Sartain, after allowing the necessary Tonnage for the Officers and People who may be embarked on her, you will of course take care as far as you are able that our Intentions in this Respect be properly adhered to and We desire that you will use all possible Dispatch in sending the Ship to this Port, as We are exceedingly anxious for her Departure to Europe

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St George
17th April 1779

Thomas Rumbold
J Tilghman
B

At a Select Committee Present
The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esq President
John Whitehill General Munro
Charles Smith

Monday
the 19th

Minutes of last Committee read and approved.

The

Fort St George 19th April 1779

The President in consequence of the Negotiation that has been carried on with Basalut Jung and the Representations which have been made thro' his Vakeel of the Necessity of sending immediately a Force to protect him against the Attempts of Hyder Ally, who threatens an Invasion of his Country proposes that 3 Battalions of Sepoys - a Company of Artillery and 6 Field Pieces be sent with all possible Expedition for the Protection of his Country which is approved and ordered accordingly

President's proposal that Basalut Jung to be assisted with a Detachment

The President also lays before the Committee the following Draught of a Letter proposed by the Nabob to be sent to the Soubah -

To

To the Nabob Nizam ud Dowla

Draught of a Letter proposed by the Nabob to be sent to the Subah.

The fidelity and attachment which I bear to your Highness are such that I am at all times desirous of your welfare, and the Prosperity of your Highness's illustrious house which I hope you are well convinced of - The divisions which have of late prevailed in the Mahratta State, and your Highness's being engaged in other affairs have given an opportunity to the Mysore Chief (Hyder) to collect a large force together with which he has been able to dispossess Morrarow and

the

589 Fort St George 19th April 1779

The Zemindars of Chittabury Balkar, and many others of their Tributaries by which he has acquired great treasures, and greatly increased his Power — He has now attacked about Nelsur Cavur the Fauzdary of Cudapa, Tadpen bas Carroty and the Fort of Sudrest and at last imprisoned the Fougedar and all his Family — He intends next to go against Kummul Doon and Carnoor, and even to march against your Highness, and your Brother Basalat Jung — If Hyder should cross the Kistna, and march into those Countries and your Highness does not immidiately take proper Revenge of it, it will be extremely difficult to accomplish it next year considering that his Power is daily increasing — The present inability of your Highness's brother to assist this is well known to you —

When I consider my present situation and the great number of English Troops which are every where, and that a force of five thousand Europeans are daily expected from Europe besides that the Troops under the Command of Colonel Goddard may be ordered to assist if it should be found necessary and when I consider also that the English by taking the Ports of Pondicherry and Mahé have driven the French entirely from Country, I am under no sort of anxiety or uneasiness that my Country will be invaded, yet out of the excess of my fidelity and attachment I was greatly concerned when I heard

that

590 Fort St. George 19th April 1779.

That Hyders intentions were to go against Adoni and Raichoor because I knew that your Highness's Brother bore it not in his Heart to oppose him and I have often often spoke of this to Governor Rumbold — I now understand that Governor Rumbold, and the Council of Madras, who are well disposed towards your Highness, as are all the English who are famous for the Sincerity of their Friendships, have determined to send a Detachment with Stores to Raichoor and do me by way of Delaur Coast, to join your Highness's brother Basalet Jung, and be ready to protect his Country — It appears that your Highness will find it adviseable to order immediately part of your Forces under the Command of an able Officer to assist the Nizam at Raichoor and join the English and Basalet Jung in order to save his Country from the Attacks of the Enemy — This will be the surest means of protecting Basalet Jung, and in many Respects tend to the Welfare of your Highness's affairs on the contrary if it be neglected the consequences will be bad — I make no doubt but your Highness will look upon what I have now represented to you as proceeding from my well known attachment and fidelity to your Highness, and I hope you will dispatch orders to your Paloodars and in Delaur Coast as soon as to get Provisions, and every thing else which may be wanted for the English Troops

Fort St George 19th April 1779

Troops, and furnish them with Guides and Pilots as to shew them the roads through which they are to pass — I also hope that Your Excellency will be pleased to favour me with an answer to this as soon as possible —

Approved.

The Committee approve of the foregoing Letter, and the President shou'd recommend that a Letter be written to Mr Holland the Resident at the Seabob's Court, acquainting him with the Steps We have resolved to pursue in favor of Basalet Jung and desiring him to avail himself of them to promote our Views with the Seabob, and to engage him to take such a part in his Behalf as may effectually check the dangerous Designs of Hyder in that Quarter which is approved —

President's representation in favor of Captn Edington

The President acquaints the Committee that Captain Edingtown who was ordered the Service in last, having waited upon him, expressed his Concern at the Step he had taken which was hasty and inconsiderate and requested a particular Indulgence that the Committee would recommend him, to the President) recommends the Case of Captain Edingtown to their Consideration and proposes that he be again taken into the Service.

From the favorable Opinion which

the

The Committee entertaining of Captain Edmistone's abelity as an Officer, and the Sense that the Service will be benefited thereby, it is agreed that he be readmitted into the Service with his former Rank—

Readmitted into the Service.

The President informs the Committee that as he has frequent occasion to employ an Aid de Camp and as Mr Sydenham the Town Major has for some time served in that Capacity, he wishes that he may be appointed his Aid de Camp with the usual Pay, which is approved and ordered accordingly—

Mr Sydenham appointed Aid de Camp to the Governor

Read the following Letter from Masulipatam—

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr

President and Governor &c Select Committee of Fort St George

Honble Sirs,

From Masulipatam with Letter from Mr Scott Respecting the Pilot at Narsapore.

We have had the Honor to receive your Commands of the 16th Instant, - conformably thereto, Three Vessels in Store here, which were intended as Presents for the Soubah have been delivered to Mr Holland— Also One Company of Sepoys are ordered to be in readiness to attend that Gentleman to Hyderabad under the Command of Lieutenant Alexander Reid—

We

593 Fort St. George 19th April 1779

We beg Leave to submit to your Honor &c., whether it would not promote the public Service, were Mr. Holland to be directed to correspond with this Board occasionally during his Residence at the Soubah's Court, and we are more especially induced to this at present from the embarrass'd State of the Cotah of the Soucar Commendes at this place, which may render some previous Remarks on the Soubah to the Principal at Hyderabad on the Subject of that Power to the Company, salutary as well as necessary.

Having sent Mr Andrew Scott to Narsapore, to be present while the Dutch were fencing the limits of the Factory they intend to re establish there. He has addressed to us a Letter on the Subject of their claims, which we conceive merits your Consideration, and instructions instructions in consequence, and accordingly transmit a Copy thereof; in the mean time we have judged it necessary to write to the Chief and Council of Pelicate desiring they will desist from encroaching the Ground as claimed by them, until we are furnished with your further Orders.

We are with great Respect

Honble Sirs &c.

Your most Obedient humble Servants

Masulipatam
7th April 1779

Edward Cotsford
John Peter Boileau
Thr. Barnard
Alex Pringle
&c

59 Fort St George 19th April 1779

To Edward Cotsford Esqr.
Chief and Council of
Masulipatam

Gentlemen,

In consequence of your Orders I have made enquiries respecting the limits and extent of the Dutch Factory at Narsapore, but have not been able to obtain any satisfactory information. The Gentlemen of Palicole allege that besides the Spot which has formerly been enclosed they have a right to 290 feet backwards into the Village and 1986 feet all the way from the Easternmost part down to the River and that the Inhabitants Living upon this Ground are to be entirely under their Jurisdiction and exempt from all Taxes levied by the Renter - They shewed me a Translation of a Phirmaund granted to the Dutch Company by Aurung Zeb dated 25th Oct. 1689 and explained to me that it mentioned that they are to have a Spot of Ground for a Factory a place to build and repair Vessels and that their Workmen are to live in Narsapore; but it does not mention of what extent their Factory is to be, or any Priviledges that they are to have in the Village of Narsapore — This Phirmaund they inform me is only a Confirmation of a former Grant.

The only Witnesses they produce to prove their claims is a Bramin, and Peon, both Servants of the Dutch Company —

On

595 Fort St George 19th April 1779

On the other hand the Despendar
of Narsapore says that his ancestors had lived
there for some Centuries back, that he never under
stood that any thing now belonged to the Dutch
than the Spot of the ground which has formerly
been enclosed, tho' he was informed by the Uncle
of the before mentioned Brahmin that their ground
extended to a tree, which formerly grew near the
their old Factory, and down to the River; but
that he never heard, that any part of the Village
of Narsapore belonged to them, the Renters
having always Rented the same ones in the part
inhabited by the Dutch as in the other part of
the Village -

You were pleased to order me to be
present at the writing in of their Factory,
which cannot be done without throwing down
a number of houses if they are to have all that
they claim - it also takes in a part of the
Garden which belonged to the old English Company,
before the two Companies united, and the Ground
they claim along the River is the most proper
for building or repairing Vessels upon, near to
Narsapore, besides the River has gone off from
their Factory considerably within these few years,
so that the distance from it to the River must be
greater than formerly -

As it appears to me that the limits

B

 Fort St George 19th April 1779

of the Dutch Factory do not extend so far as the Claims of the Gentlemen of Tolicul, and that they cannot be ascertained without inspecting the original Phirmaund kept at Negapatam; I have informed those Gentlemen, that I cannot do any thing till I receive your further Orders — Those claims have been so long Dormant, that the present Inhabitants of the Village can give no satisfactory Information respecting them they inform me that during last war when the Dutch sent fifty or sixty Soldiers, the French sent them to Tolicul —

I am with great

Gentlemen,

Your most Obedient

(Signed) Andrew Scott

A true Copy

Alex. Pringle Esq.

Mudegrollam
2d April 1779

Agreed to desire Mr Holland to correspond with the Gentlemen at Mousulipatam on such points as may relate to the business of that Settlement.

Br. Holland to Correspond with the Gent. at Mousulipatam

Ordered that the Chief and Council be directed to prevent the Dutch from encroaching a Step beyond the present Limits until they receive our further Directions.

Read

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Read the following Letter from

Captain Edmonds

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold Esqr

From Capt Edmonds with accts of Repairs at Carangoly.

Governor and President &c. Select Committee

at Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs.

On my being ordered into this place as a Cantonment after the Siege of Pondicherry, I did myself the Honor to lay before you the State in which I found it, and the inconveniency we should labour under by being obliged to live in our tents During the Monsoon, and should a Garrison be continued, the Necessity there would be of making some kind of houses to live in — which I have done for myself and three Subalterns, the expence attending it, and apprising the Barack for the Seapoys I herewith enclose, and hope you will order it to be reimbursed —

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient humble Servant

Edward Edmonds Captain

Carangoly
12th April 1779

Captain Edmond's Bill amounting to Pags 330 appears reasonable and it is ordered to be paid —

allowed

Tho: Rumbold

John Whitehill

Walter Wrenn

Alexr Grant

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At a Select Committee Present
The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esq President
John Whitehill General Munro
Charles Smith

Thursday the 22d

Minutes of last Committee
read and approved.

The Committee having at their last Meeting, resolved to send three Battalions of Sepoys and a Company of Artillery for the Protection of Basalut Jung's Country - it is now advised that this Force together with 6 Field Pieces and a proportionable Quantity of Stores be got in readiness to proceed with all possible Expedition and that the Command be given to Lieut. Col. Harper -

Col. Harper applied to Command the Detachment Ordered for Basalut Jungs

The Company's Armed Ships Royal Charlotte and Resolution having arrived yesterday with the European Battalion employed on the Mahe Expedition, it is ordered that the said Battalion be sent to the Garrison of Vellore

The European Battalion arrived from Mahe & ordered to Vellore

And the following Letter from Sir Eyre Coote.

The Honble Thomas Rumbold Esq
President & Select Committee
Gentlemen

The Multiplicity of business I have been engaged in, has prevented me from

Fort St George 22d April 1779

embracing an earlier opportunity of informing you of my arrival here the 23d of last Month, and of my taking my Seat at the Board the next Day, when I stated the Necessity there was for supplying you; in some Degree adequate to the great Expences I was sensible you were at, and the Difficulties which you would certainly be reduced to for want of a Treasury, should by an ally put his Thoughts in Execution by entering the Carnatic

I have now the pleasure to acquaint you, that the Governor General and Council have agreed to send fifteen Lacks of Rupees for the Supporting of your Government two of which are to be embarked on board the Stafford Captain Hutchinson who will have orders to proceed directly to Madras, the remaining five will be sent by some other Ship in order to divide the Risk—

How much will depend upon the Letters that were expected from Hyder Ally when I left Fort St George, I am most anxious to know the Contents of them, flattering myself from the Conversation I had with his Vakeel, that they will prove satisfactory.

At present we are incapable to make a Treaty with the Maratta State, fixing upon that made by Colonel Upton as a Basis for a new one, and leaving the Managment

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Management of it entirely to Colonel Goddard, who from his Conduct hitherto, has very deservedly gained that Confidence we now mean to repose in him.

I flatter myself Gentlemen, that you will believe me serious, I assure you that it will ever be the height of my ambition to approve myself worthy of the regard and Friendship, I so lately experienced from your Board, and that I am with great Truth

Gentlemen,

Your very sincere and faithful humble Servant

Calcutta
the 2.d April 1779

Eyre Coote

* From Sir Eyre Coote at his Interception 10 Lacks of Rupees granted to us by the Gov.r Gen.l & C.a

Agreed to acknowledge the Receipt of the foregoing Letter — to congratulate General Coote on his safe Arrival at Calcutta and to return him thanks for the Attention he has shown this Presidency by his Representations to the Governor General and Council of Bengal.

Read two Letters from the Raja of Tanjore dated the 1.st and 9.th Instant, as entered in C. C. P. representing the Situation of his Country, and the Impossibility of making good his Loss agreeable unless he be assisted with more Sepoys — That he has before represented the want of Sepoys but without Effect — That his Enemies

From the Raja complaining of the Presidency using hard Words to his Vackeel

Fort St George 22 April 1779

have spread a Report that the Governor is not disposed to assist him and that it will shortly be seen what is to be done with his Government, and that the Governor has also spoken harsh Words to his Vackeel - requesting this he would for another Battalion of Sepoys to assist him in the Collections

The President observes to the Committee that the above Letters from the Raja with those Letters lately received must shortly be taken up, and soon decisive Measures adopted for the Security of the Balances due from him - that with respect to that Passage in the Rajahs Letter, wherein he speaks of the President's using harsh Language to his Vackeel, the President desires the Rajah's Vakeel may be called in and questioned on the Subject, and also in regard to the Balances due from his Master -

The Vackeel being accordingly called in and asked whether he had ever spoken to the Raja that the President had used harsh or improper Language to him, declares that he never acquainted the Raja with any such Thing and supposes it must have been done by some of his Enemies - That the Governor never made use of the least improper Language to him and that he never wrote so to any one - Being asked when his Master will clear off his Balance - he says

The Vackeel called in by the President desire on Examination denies the Charge

in

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in the Course of this Month — It is Unnecessary that the Committee will give Me Any a very Assistance of Surgeons that they can possibly Spare —

Send the following Letters from Colonel Braithwaite

Hon.ble Sir and Sirs

I had the honor to address to You an hasty Letter written on the 19.th Instant informing you of the Surrender of the Portuguese and its Dependencies, in consequence of which I now dispatch to you Lieut.t Bate my Aid de Camp whom I should think it a great favor, to have returned, if Convenient with the Colours, and Capitulation a Copy of which I have sent to the Hon.ble the Governor and Select Committee of Bombay — I never was more astonished than when I received the Proposals for the Surrender of the place, Mons.r Tivitt had but two days before declared in answer to my Summons, that he would defend the Fort of his King as long as he could, we had not as yet fired a single Shott, not even from a Mortar, and the French only about forty without any Effect. It is true we had almost completed a Battery of four eighteen pounders against the Portuguese Battery which was garrisoned by our French Officers, those Artillery

from Col Braithwaite with an account of the Surrender of Mahe & inclosing the Capitulation.

and fitted of what they called Flyers Surveys, it
consisted of an hill projecting to the Sea which was
cut into two Sort of Batteries one above another
neither of which were accessible but by rope
Ladders, even the lowest was a great height and
they were perfectly steep and scraped away and
the upper one was prepared with hand grenades,
Carcasses, &c. to be thrown on the lowest if carried
between our Camp and Country was a Swampy Coun-
try intersected with a Salt rivulet and the ground
Marshy except on the Hummocks, and between Country
and Main high hills which divided from another,
all this Country was committed to the Command by Hair
who had about nine hundred Men. I found means to
bring him over to our interest without consulting
the Company, his attachment to the French had
made him very poor, they having been obliged to levy
Contributions on all their Friends. I believe Mons. Piatt
must have discovered my intercourse with this man,
and what might follow was suspected I suppose, but
could not in this Situation be remedied or resented
the People of this Country pay implicit obedience
to their Chiefs. I threatened him on one hand and
addressed his Poverty on the other, and he gave us
no Molestation though our People marched close up
to this Mans Encampment as we advanced, Mons.
Piatt could not but see that he was Entrapped on
this Side, and had reason to suppose he soon must

on

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on all sides, as all the Nairs or little Lords of this Country are upon arms to shake off Hyders Government and joining each other daily begin to form Armies, those about Mahi might be expected soon to join with their Brethren, and to betray the French who are here considered as Hyders Friends—

The Nairs about Calicut are besieging it, and Hyders Governor is under great Apprehensions, as they grow more numerous Daily. a Day or two ago the Honble Company's Resident there Mr. Freeman was ordered to quit it at a very short Notice, and was obliged to come away in an grain Boat. I believe the same is threatened at Baare, and a black Servant of Mr. Chauvetus who was sent to Mangalore to buy rice has been whipped and confined, the rumour here is that Hyders Forces are coming this way, some are coming I know with two Guns, but I believe by their Numbers they are only meant for the Relief of Calicutt; this State of the Country, has induced me although it does not come within the Letter of your Instructions to keep some Europeans in Mahi agreeable to the Opinion of Mr. Church, whether the Honble Company should determine to stand neuter or to take a side is not so much the thing, as to take care that neither party in this time of Warfare may be able to possess themselves of any of these strong holds, indeed it is become as much a matter of

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Necessity as resolve, as I find great difficulty in procuring Shipping for them Swear to send round the Troops which I have fixed on to stay here till I receive your orders are, Captain Hodders Company of Artillery, one Company of European Infantry as they stand, Captain Muirhead's Battalion of Sepoys and the Grenadier Companies belonging to Captain Fraser and Captain Walkers, this with the small Force at Tellicherry will enable you and the Gentlemen at Bombay to pursue any plan which you may resolve on. I shall push on the business of mining Mahé and shall be ready to destroy it, or deliver it over to the Orders of Bombay as you shall determine. You know a wish that it should be destroyed as soon as taken, it is not possible to do it with fewer People than I send without making a very tedious operation, nor could it be done at any rate, before I can hear from you in answer to this although the People work constantly. I ought to add to those above mentioned to stay here, Mr. Brock the Engineer two Serjeants Officers and one hundred Lascars; and they have to be indulged with Lieutenant Cotton as Brigade Major in the Field or Town Major in the place as Circumstances may happen, and Ensign Lawson as Quarter Master and that you will allow Mr. Shuter to act as my Secretary as he draws no pay for it, I request it also as a particular favor

Honble

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Honble Sir and Sirs, that if you think it improper that I should remain here as under your orders only; that you would recall me to the Coast, I am sensible that acting under the Orders of the Bombay Presidency from my rank and the state of their Offices, I should be the Senior Officer on the Establishment, but having considered that matter well and knowing how much I have suffered in my health by going to the Northward I am apprehensive that I should be miserable to myself all the cabers Monsoons and unfit to my Employers, from an Asthmatic Complaint which constantly oppresses me in certain Latitudes and Situations but never affects me in others. I hope therefore that if you disapprove of it, or remove the Commanding Officer there from under your immediate and only Command, that either being done I may be removed back to the Coast and if possible employed to the Southward where I have always enjoyed good health —

The Troops I send back to you are, Major Clifton with the Stores and two Companies of Artillery, Major Skelly with the Engineers and Pioneers Officers except those before mentioned. Major Short with the Battalion of Europeans save one Company Captain Fraser with the fourth Battalion of Sepoys the Grenadier Companies excepted, these will proceed directly to Madras and Captain Walshe with the 3d Battalion of Sepoys, Grenadiers excepted will

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proceed to Anjengo, and advising you of his arrival there to Madura and wait your Orders—

The Plan I have endeavouring to carry into Execution in regard to the Shipping, is that as His Majesty's Ships must go to Bombay they can only be useful in carrying the French Prisoners to Bombay, which the Commodore having consented to, I have embarked them agreeable to the enclosed List, all save four, but those marked in the Margin to whom I have given Leave to stay a few days till the Royal Admiral sails, as also to Mons. Tivoli who will stay in Pallicherry as I the Commodore will sail this Night with those of which I have sent a Duplicate of the List to Bombay.

The European ten Companies, with the Stores, Detachment the Powder and Musket Ammunition, on board the Royal Charlotte and Resolution the fourth Battalion on the Ravenworth taken up for that Purpose and the 3 on board the Rodney and Bombay Grab: what I had the honor to address you last, my anxiety to get the Troops back, as it was a matter about which you expressed a Solicitude, made me venture to say that they would be with you in three Weeks, but the Sea Gentlemen will not be hurried since the Commodore's, and are so jealous lest my requests should be understood as orders that we make but a slow progress, and it will be voluntarily that they crowd their fighting Ships. Captain Reddam

in

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in the Ravensworth is the only Merchant Ship that will be obtained or taken up, he does not much like going round to your Coast, and demands high terms, though not in proportion, if he carries a Battalion, to that asked by the Masulipatam who will not carry a Man to Negapatam under fifteen Rupees I hope however to get all settled by the end of the Month—

Every thing has been done at Mahé that art could do, to add to the natural Strength of the Environs of Mahé, to think how much has been done, and how small the means is astonishing, had reinforcements arrived every thing was prepared for them, and Mahé would have required a very large Force to have reduced it,— The Land full of Europeans head in India was such, that they could not place any Confidence in their Allies They feared that Consequence and it deprived them of Spirits and the event has proved their Suspicions were not without foundation and they abuse Hyder as the most treacherous of Villains— now are they less sparing in their Censures on Mons. Piott— They say he ought to have expended his Powder though but little and that he will be hanged, I think as he did not Surrender at the first Summons, let his Suspicions of the Natives have been what they would, he might have tried at the defence of some one post with his Europeans. Mahé is as Lt Col. Braome

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repects to me extremely well found in Artillery and Stores of all kinds of the best Sorts and pedicular. by arrangd. they are now under Examination and as soon as I receive the Returns I shall transmit them to you and Bombay. "Colonel Duplessis tells me there are above an hundred Pieces of Cannon all in excellent Condition, but as he is a great Enemy of Mons: Pecotts he perhaps exaggerates things, and in truth many things were wanting, such as Confidence in their Allies, more of them, money and Powder, and I can clearly exculpate Mons: Pecott from one aspersion, which is, that he sold the place to me —

I congratulate you Honble Sir Jo: Lis, on the Reputation your Troops have acquired, I am confident that the Idea of not being able to resist Troops which had taken Pondicherry worked more upon the Minds of the whole than they are in excellent Condition, but as he is a great Enemy of Mons: Pecotts he perhaps exaggerates things, and in truth many things were wanting, such as Confidence in their Allies, more of them, money and Powder, and I can clearly exculpate Mons: Pecott from one aspersion, which is, that he sold the place to me —

I congratulate you Honble Sir Jo: Lis, on the Reputation your Troops have acquired, I am confident that the Idea of not being able to resist Troops which had taken Pondicherry worked more upon the Minds of the whole than they are willing to allow; and that Mons: Pecott did not find them so brave before the Capitulation as they would be thought since, their resistance from the beginning was like that of black Men who expect to be taken, and are therefore unwilling to provoke the Enemy, and finally they surrendered without putting us to the Expence of a Cartridge — all this could not be fault of one Man — imputable to the desire of the King of Travancore who expressed a great desire to have early

intimation

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situation of my Troops, I wrote a few lines by this Opportunity, as also to the Nabob who I believe expects such Marks of Attention, and this I hope you will approve— I cannot in Justice to Major Skelly conclude this Letter without expressing my approbation of his Merits; I found he had been very active before my Arrival and his Endeavours since have been unremitted, and I am Honble Sir & Sirs Let me intreat you to take into Consideration again, as this Expedition has been so short the Case of the Officers and Soldiers upon it— the Expence they have been at and the Losses they have sustained on the March by the desertion of villainous Servants, and by the hasty and careless manner in which all their Baggage was obliged to be embarked so that there are but few trunks which have not been broke open and robbed, and I can safely aver as a truth that they have all been Losers and some considerably— they have not asked me to make this Application, nor have I told them I will— but it would give me great pleasure to hear that you think those who return at least, entitled to double Batta—

I am just this Moment honored with your Letter of the 5th Instant enclosing the Warrants necessary to hold Courts Martials which I hope I shall never have occasion to use, and the Remarks of the Commander in Chief, I will not trouble you or so

From St George 22d April 1779

disagreeable a Subject, Just then to say that the order
complained of was given with Major Clifftons previous
knowledge, as a compromise of a matter hitherto
doubted, after consideration he objected to it, and it
never took place at all, for to avoid an Issue on the
business I changed the mode and appointed Major
Short his Senior to Command the Division, Major
Clifton caught therefore not to have complained
without shewing me his Letter. I think I wrote
to General Monro who was then to the Southward

I have the honor to be with
the greatest Respect
Honble Sirs
Your faithful and obedt Servant
John Braithwaite

Moylan
23d March 1779

P.S. I have obtained Mr Baker, and given my Appointe
ment to Mr Gregg, staying till your further Orders, the
former We cannot well do without, and the latter
stays at his own Request. and I have appointed
your Permission to Lt Colonel Brown to return to
Nayou. B

/Translation/

Capitulation for Make

Answer

Capitulation for Make Fort Proposals made by Mr Bernard Piot,
Sieur, Lord, Dauphin, Knight of the Royal and Military Order
Chimbara &c. and all those of Flanders, Lieutenant Colonel of
Infantry
Possessions

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Possessions held by the French Nation as Dependencies upon Mahé.

The English Troops must be put in Possession of Mahé immediately. The Garrison of Fort St George, and Bombay Troops encamped against Mahé must be delivered up tomorrow morning at 6 o'clock precisely and its Dependencies to such Officers and Troops, whom the Colonel may think proper to send for that purpose. The Gates being previously delivered up to the British Troops, the Garrisons shall march out with the Honors of War—

after the French Flag is struck, and the French Garrison having grounded their Arms shall have marched Prisoners to Tellicherry, the Officers will be permitted to wear their Swords and will receive every Indulgence upon giving their Parolés—

The Forts Mahé, Conde, and Dauphin must be delivered

Commandant for his most Christain Majesty at Mahé, and its Dependencies

on the Malabar Coast, to Mr John Braithwaite, Commandant of Fort St George, and Bombay Troops encamped against Mahé and its Dependencies

Article 1st

The European Garrison shall march out with the Honors of War with their Arms and Baggage to the English Camp — The Officers shall retain their Arms, and they shall all be transported to

after the French Flag France at the Expiration of is struck, and the French Garrison His Britannick Majesty having grounded their Arms

The Indian Garrison, after having deposed their Arms shall be at Liberty to go whenever they please without being molested by any Person for having served the French Nation.

The Inhabitants, whether Europeans, or Natives, or any

Their

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use to muster at 5 o'clock in the Morning shall not be the Evening in the manner enjoined by any Resolution and form prescribed for Fort for having taken up Arms St George and Chinsurra for the defence of the Settle-

The French Garrison ment.

shall be liberally subsisted Every Deserter, whether as Prisoners, according to their European or native who may Ranks and Stations by the be found in the place shall English India Company — not be proceeded against, They shall be transported to in consequence of such desertion.

Bombay, from thence to The Sick in the Hospital England, or to France as shall be taken care of, nourish'd future dispatches for Europe and attended until their per- may render it necessary, of fect Recovery, at the Expence which the Governor General of His Britannick Majesty's of Bombay shall be the Judge as also the Surgeons

In all cases they shall be well subsisted and sent by convenient Vessels at the English Company's Expence with the best accommodations.

The Sick remaining at Mahé shall be attended by the Surgeons in the same manner as the English Troops, and those who may have the good fortune of recovering shall be kindly treated

and

and sent to Bombay that they may rejoin their Corps – The Indian Troops in the Service of France must march out of the Garrison with the French Troops, and ground their Arms within them – Granted, with respect to the remainder of this Article –

Article the 2d

It will depend upon the Governor and Council of Bombay whether the Parsies shall preserve their Effects in question will be transfer-ed to France or England – Immoveables, or unmoveables – Case of the latter, their Bag-gage must be examined, and of the Place for the King, and they will not be permitted to take any Contraband His Royal and military order of Chastity, which may be found at St Louis, Lieutenant-Colonel of Judicial to the Luy Clerk Company the Infantry, and Second in command for the King in this Place, shall be provided with Passages to France with every Reasonable accommodation for themselves, their Families, Goods and Effects.

Article the 2d

All the Officers and Soldiers of whatever denomination Civil or Military, Sailors, Workmen, and Inhabitants of the Place, shall preserve the full Property of their Goods, Effects, Merchandizes, Money, Jewels, Plate, Negroes, Slaves, Cattle, Boats, Vessels, Ships, Artillery, Ammunition, Provisions, and Warlike Stores of every Kind, which they have in the Place, or in the Dependencies of the Government, without being liable to any Search, Confiscation, or Seizure, on any Pretence whatsoever. They shall also preserve the Liberty of keeping them in their Houses, or of selling them to whom they please, and of transporting them at their Convenience, whether by Land or by Sea, without any Hindrance, Trouble, or Vexation, and without being obliged to pay any Duties, Customs, or Imposts, except those which have been established before the Capitulation of the Place.

Granted, with respect to the remainder of this Article

Mr Pitt, Commandant

Mr de Macmelle, Captain in the Regiment of Pondichery

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and Commandant of the Troops of this Garrison shall have Liberty, if he think proper to proceed to Tondichery where his Family are at present under the Dutch Government

All the Effects belonging to the Officers and Soldiers shall not be rummaged or subjected to examination —

Article the 3d

There shall be fixed for all Officers whatsoever, and for the Garrison a proper allowance and Subsistence, as also a Passage provided for them to Europe — The whole at the Expence of His Britannick Majesty — The same allowances and the same Provision for Passages are to be made for every Person belonging to the Civil Establishment, to the Court of Judica, and to every other Person whatever employed in the Service of the King at Mahé —

Article

Article the 3d.
Expended, at the Expence of the English Company

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Article the 4.th

Three Inventaries
shall be drawn out – One for Warlike Stores, and Provisions,
Colonel Brathwaite, one for the and all Effects belonging to the
English Commissary appointed Thing shall be given up and
by him to take charge, and delivered in good faith, –
one for Mr Picot – The one, Duplicate Inventaries must
which shall be delivered to be drawn out, one for each
Colonel Brathwaite must be Party
countersigned by Mr Picot –
That which the English Com-
missary is to have, must be
signed by the French Commissary
and that which Mr Picot is to
have, as well, after the delivery
of the Articles contained in
it, be countersigned by Colonel
Brathwaite

Article the 4.th

The Artillery, Arms,

Article the 5.th

The Fortifications, the
Civil and Military Offices,
and every other Royal and
public Building shall be at
the disposal of the English
Company.

Article the 5.th

The Fortifications, the
Civil and Military Offices, and
every other Royal and Public
Building shall be preserved
in their Present State

Article 6.th

granted, with exception
to Arms, Ammunition or

Article 6.th

The Inhabitants, Europe-
ans Indians, of what Nation Rank

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Warlike Stores of whatsoever or Religious, shall persuade
Sort — Shall remain & be delivered the entire Possession of all
up to the English Commandant their Goods, Furniture, Effects,
all the private Property, also Embarkations, Merchandizes,
all Papers of Government and and in short every thing,
Correspondence with the Indies which belongs to them without
Powers of every Sort.
being exposed to any Loss.

The Catholic Records be-
longing to the Inhabitants, as
well as the Court of Justice,
and also to the Registers, and
Notary's Offices shall be
respected and possessed —

Article the 7th

Granted, provided they do
not attempt to make Converts
of the Subjects of His Britannick Romish Religion shall be
Majesty, nor of the Natives in maintained without any
the Service of the Indian Company Molestation — The Churches
and provided they behave them- and Missionaries shall enjoy
selves with decency, and obedience all the Privileges annexed
to the Regulations of the to their Character — They
British Government. shall not be injured in the
Possession of their Goods, Lands,
or Buildings —

Article the 8th

The Contents of this Immediately after taking
Article must be observed by Possession of the Place,
every Sentinels

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every English Commandt. without being proposed

Cautions must be furnished whenever they are necessary and the usual Precautions observed to maintain Tranquility

Article the 9th
Granted

Article the 9th
Not having any Information of a declaration of War between the two Nations, I make sure the usual exceptions and Protests —

At Make the 19th March 1779

Article the 10th

(Signed) Picot.

Below it notwithstanding all which is contained in the above Articles, the English Commandant of Make & Shall lodge his Officers and Troops in the Place and manner which he may judge proper, altho it should on that account be necessary to lodge some officers in the houses of Individuals. and he shall be entirely at liberty to imprison or punish any one, who may not conduct himself according to the

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rules of good order, and on the day
after the Surrender of Fort
Mahé &c. no Military Person
in the Service of France shall
be allowed to enter without the
Permission of the English Com
mandant, which will willing-
ly be granted to Persons of
Condition —

At Moylan 19th March 1779

[Sign'd]
John Braithwaite
Colonel in the Service of the
Honble East India Company

To the Honble Thomas Rumbold
President and Select Committee
Fort St George

From Col Brath
waite inclosing
a Letter from
Mr Picot giving
an Account of
Mahé &c with
Dependencies &c

Honble Sir & Sirs.

I had the Honor to address you on the
23d Ultimo a Letter which I forwarded by Lieut Bate
my Aid de Camp, with the Capitulation and Colours
of Mahé. I have now the pleasure to inform you that
the business of the Shipping is determined, and that
Europeans to go round to Madras will be embarked
the fifth, on the Bengal armed Ships, the Sepoys,
Lascars, and followers, with the field Equipage,
Stores, Baggage &c. on the Ships Ravensworth and

Pearce

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Kennon, which will sail under Convoy of the Bengal armed Ships. &

Finding it difficult to deal with the Masters of Ships, whose terms, to me seemed very high, perhaps from my want of knowledge in those Matters, I addressed a letter to the Resident and Factors of Pallicherry, as the Ships lay in Pallicherry road, desiring them to take up the two Ships, above mentioned, upon the best terms they could, for the Purpose of sending round to you, your Troops &c and Stores from the Concord, such as could not be put on board the Fighting Ships, which they did, but have not informed me of the terms.

I have the pleasure to inform you that I have just now receive information, That all the Stores are out of the Concord, and are either already embarked on the other Ships, or are in boats for that purpose, reasonable to the Services from Madras and Pondicherry, and will arrive at the several Ships at the same time with the Troops and the Situation of the Country not requiring the detention of the Troops mentioned in my last, I do not see how I could have sent more, as there are no more Ships to be had, and those now employed will be much crowded -

I found here a Mr Rankin a Surveyors Assistant for the Madras Establishment, who had come out in the Ship Asia, upon his

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Application I appointed him to join the Army and he will go round with the Troops, as well also Mess.rs Warton and Blackadder, Doctor Beckett having prefered remaining with the Cantonment

I found also five Cadets Munro, Mr. Allister and Cranston the two Latter from Madras, and Mr. Munro from Bombay, but for the Madras Establishment, it not being possible for those Gentlemen to subsist as Cadets, I appointed them to do duty as Officers, Messrs. Munro and Mr. Allister with the Regiment and Mr. Cranston with the Artillery, the two Latter of them will go round with the Troops, but Mr. Munro, having pleaded some particular business yet unfinished at Bombay, has desired leave to remain on this Coast, to which I have consented, and to which I hope you will have no Objection.

I can not Honble Sir and Sirs give you at present a better account of Mahe and its dependencies, than by sending you a Copy of Mons.r Piet's letter to me on the Subject, Mons.r Marain, the Person refered to in that letter being too much indisposed to do any business, of the Parties mentioned the Country or Canongo by Rank, and the Toyaboute Nair have been to acknowledge their Submission to the Company and have promised fidelity and I hear the King of Cartinat is on his way, there are four Nairs,

Their

their Domains of no great Extent, and their Estate
consists in Pepper and Cocoa Nut chiefly, I have recom-
mended to them a temperate and Mild behaviour, to avoid
quarels with each other, and so to conduct themselves as
to gain the Company's Protection and good will, assuring
them it must be their own faults if they do not meet
with it. In regard to the Rice and Rupees paid to them
by the French, I have told them that these are
Matters which I must receive orders about, and that
they by their good behaviour should endeavour to
deserve favourable ones, and in regard to those Matters,
I shall do nothing without your Orders.

Some of the French Kings civil
Servants here have requested in case they should not
be able to adjust their affairs before the Monsoon,
that they may not be forced to go at an inclement
Season, and to this I have consented — All the Military
who yet remain will proceed to Bombay in a few
days, except Captain de Maineville, mentioned in
the Capitulation, and Mess.rs Jegou and Tounel —
Officers of Artillery, who having particular commissions
at Pondichery serving under the English Government
Mr. Tieot solicited that they might go them before
their departure for Europe, which I could not well
refuse, I have therefore to request, that will send
Orders to the Commanding Officer at Pondichery to
permit them to be there, and to the Paymaster to subsist
them, agreeable to the Capitulation, till you thank

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prepare to embark the two who are not accepted —

Every house have both public and
private is covered with Cajans, and a new Roof put
on every year at this Season, indeed I find it impossible
as every room in the Government House lets in the Water,
as it will not be possible to remove from hence before
the Monsoon, or to stay without this is done, I shall be
obliged to do it immediately, the annual Expence on this
Account, amounts to about twelve hundred Rupees for
the public buildings, because the French bought the
Cajans from their Neighbours at eight Rupees a thou-
sand, as I think this too much money to be laid out on
buildings to be soon destroyed, if it can be avoided, I have
told the Nairs that they will do well to send in the
hundred thousand Cajans, as at present to the Company,
but I have not yet received their Answer —

The Mysore is still strong that Hyder
is sending down a large body of Forces this way, if
he does send any, I believe it will only be to reduce the
Nairs, who govern the Multitude of little Principalities
Nairs, who govern the Multitude of little Principalities
have and seem to be united in a design to revolt, these
I have spoken to having hinted something of the kind,
I answered that I had not been long enough in the
Country to say any thing concerning the Politicks of it.

Calicut is still invested, and I have
heard a constant firing not far off, which I found to
proceed from a Party of about 500 of Hyders People,
surrounded by the Nairs, these People of Hyders

over

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were endeavouring to reach Calicut, this State of the Country, obliged me to keep the Troops cantoned here, so as to occupy, the several Posts, in readiness for any Service, I know the Batta and incidency Charges consequent to such a Situation are more than you would wish to pay, but I do not see how it can be as yet avoided, indeed with regard to the Batta, without it the Troops could not well subsist, every thing being very dear and scarce, however I have told the Officers that the Quarters occupied by the Troops must be explained and accounted of it at their own Expence, and I believe as to what expences pass under my Inspection Honble Sir and Sirs, you will not have cause to complain of any — the expensive charges which will arise from this Expedition, will come from Pallicatchery and Sadras, and of these I have never been informed in any way, of course have given no vouchers, and suppose that I shall not be deemed in any way responsible —

With the Consent of the Army, I have appointed Mr. Joseph Barker the Paymaster to be Agent for the Captors, not that I think there is a right in us to any thing, as we were as yet declared and in that opinion I have refused the Claim of Major Skelton as Commandant of Artillery, to all Bells, broken Metals, unserviceable Ordnance &c. he thinks I have used him ill and is angry because I would not let not let him take the Bells out of the Church, tho' the Church and

it

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its dependencies are at any rate exempted by the Capitulation, I mention this because the Threatens me with Letters, I mention this because he threatens me with pursuing Measures to recover his Rights, I have also refused several Offers for the Purchase of Sundries, every thing, even things perishable I hold must remain untouched, Lists are making out of every thing belonging to the King which shall be sent to you, and I hope by the Troops that go on Monday.

I have just received information from Mr Church, that the Snow Betsy, dispatched from Bombay with Dispatches for England, is ordered to stop here for Convoy, I hope, in case any good News should offer, I hope you will therefore write a few lines to the Honble Court of Directors with a Copy of the Capitulation, which I hope you will approve as it may reach them much sooner than any other advice can, as this Snow is not to stop at Tellicherry for Convoy—

I am informed by Mr Scott and others upon Honor, that Hyder stood engaged to send thirty four thousand Troops to Madura of which eight thousand were to be Horse to scour the Country all the round, and cut off all Supplies of Provisions attempted to be sent to us— He also promised to send them a large Supply of rice from Mangalore— The Troops were daily assembling, nothing heard by Messenger after Messenger, and the rice was shipping, but neither ever came and they above Famished the greatest Villain upon Earth—

I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect.

Honble

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Honble Sir & Sirs

your very Obedt humble Servant

John Braithwaite

Make'
3d April 1779

Since my last, mentioning the Appointment I had made here, the great deal there is to be done at this Juncture has induced me to appoint Lt Abbot as an additional Assistant to the Work, and Lt M.Pherson as First Assistant till your pleasure is known -

(Translation)

To M.r J. Braithwaite

Sir

I had yesterday the honor to receive your Letter, which M.r Christie was so obliging as to explain to me - and it is with pleasure that I return an answer to your Questions about Make'

However I can only do it by memory, as I am not in Possession of any Papers on that Subject, but M.r Mahe in the Kings Commissary at Make', and who was in a particular manner charged with the Civil Administration, and the Directions of the Senate will furnish you with those Details which it is not in my power to give You -

The Possessions of His most Christian Majesty at Make' do not include Fort, and even

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the small Territory which We enjoyed has been disputed by the Princes of Carnatta — But notwithstanding all the Difficulties on this Subject, it is certain that our limits extended from the Powder Magazine to the Camp, and from thence to the Groves on the Banks of the River — It is, Sir, within these narrow Bounds that the Domain of Fraance was comprehended, which has been laid waste by felling the Trees, which took place at the Commencement of Hostilities in India — With respect to the Northern Part, We had a claim of Pookeyput to the Northern Part, We had a claim of Pookeyput to the Northward upon the Provinces of the Princes of Carnatta Nair, and Pugaparam Nair, but We did not levy any Duties there except a certain Sum on account of what that Country was indebted to French Individuals —

The Customs of Mahé belonged entirely to the Prince of Carnatta he received a Tax upon the Cargoes of Ships for the Produce of this Country, and had his Officers at the Landing Place of the River to examine what was sold in the Bazar or imported into the Colony — The Poll Tax likewise belongs to him — he only received a certain regulated Sum which was paid half Yearly — Mons. Marin, who was charged with the Superintendance of the Accounts is thereby Person who can inform you of the Value of this Tax — and besides the 2 or 3 Peoples which was paid upon the Inhabitants in the Colony, whose Number is considerably diminished by the Havock occasioned by the small

Pox

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Sir – The Marries do not pay any thing, nor did the Merrimen who kept Shops –

The King of France never imposed any Taxes in Mobile neither on the European nor Indian Inhabitants, nor upon their Lands – he only purposed thirty Talonieras and two Brigadeers which were set aside for his Profit, but since the Forts have been cut down, the Value of their Lands has decreased – M.r Masrin can inform you where they are situated –

The Customs in the River belong to the King of France, every embarkation paid according to its quality which was inconsiderable – that is also another Article of which M.r Masrin can inform you – as likewise of a trifling duty that used to be levied upon the Sale of the Liquors of the Country.

The King of France paid the Prince of Lieutenants every month Thirty (30) Livres of Marygalore Coin – to the Chief of Caisningatte Nair one hundred (100) Livres of the same Coin, and to the Chief of Pajapentan Nair likewise forty (40) of Dep.t Monthly, and likewise a certain Sum to the second Person above mentioned twice a year for his Feasts. M.r Masrin will inform you of the Amount.

There is no Person in their Power or Individual who owes any Tribute or Tax to the King of France –

These, Sir, are the only Particulars which at present occur to me, if there are any,

which

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which have escaped my Memory, Monsieur Marin will give you every Information you can desire.

I have the honor to be with Respect,

Sir,

Your very humble and
most Obedient Servant
Signed Picot

Pelletiery
2d April 1779

A true Copy
John Brathwaite

The Committee much approve of
Col Brathwaite conduct approved by the Committee. Colonel Brathwaite's Conduct on this Expedition and that of the Officers and Troops under his Command.

The President informs the Committee
that Colonel Brathwaite has in a Letter explained to
5000 Pistoles given to the Cassiday Man by Col Brathwaite, him that the Offer he made the Cassiday Man to engage his Assistance amounted to 5000 Pistoles—
Ordered that this Charge be admitted under the head
of Secret Services.

ordered to be admitted under the head of Secret Service Money.

Colonel Brathwaite attended properly
Col Brathwaites Conduct approved in detaining part of the Troops. in detaining the Number of Troops which appeared
to him requisite for taking care of the Conquest—
Agreed, that he be directed to destroy the Forts &
Cahons as soon as possible and prepare for sending
the warlike Stores to us with all Expedition
applying to Sir Edward Vernon for Assistance if
wanted.

Ordered to destroy the Fortifications.

Resolved

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Resolved that the Appointments made by Colonel Braithwaite be confirmed and that he be acquainted that He shall consider what he has represented in Behalf of the Officers and Soldiers under his Command.

His Appointments confirmed.

Agreed also to acquaint Colonel Braithwaite that he is not to interfere in the Disputes between Hyder and the Petty Rajahs on that Coast but to confine his attention entirely to his own Security.

Col. Braithwaite directed not to interfere in the Disputes

Read the following Letter from Sir Edward Vernon.

To
Thomas Rumbold Esqr
& Select Committee
Fort St George

Gentlemen

From Sir Edward Vernon with Congratulations on the Taking of Mahé by Col Braithwaite

I had the Honor to receive your Letters of the 17th and 25th Last Month, and have now the Honor, to congratulate you on the Surrender of the Fort of Mahé to Colonel Braithwaite on the 19th Instant.

I purpose immediately to proceed with His Majesty's Ships under my Command, to Bombay, to clean and refit, and then to return with them to the Coast of Cormandel

I have directed Captain Price of

the

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the Royal Charlotte, and Captain Hicks of the Resolution, Company's Armed Ships, to receive on board such part of the Troops as Colonel Braithwaite shall think proper and proceed with them to your Coast, and as those two Ships are foul and out of Repair, I beg leave to recommend it to you immediately to send them round to Bombay to clean and refit, for any other Service that may be required of them.

I have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most Obedient

humble Servant

E. Fenton

Ripon
Tellicherry Road
22d March 1779

Pl Please to forward the
accompanying Letter by first Conveyance.

From the Manner in which Sir Edward Vernon speaks of the Surrender, We fear A Letter ordered to be written to the Commodore on the Subject of his seeming disgust.

that he conceives some Neglect or Slight has been shewn him by Colonel Braithwaite, but he has not entered into Particulars, We can only say that We should be concerned if any Cause of Offence have been given. Agreed to write to Commodore on this Subject, and also to request that he will give what Assistance he can in bringing the Stones from Mahé to this Place —

Agreed to write a Letter to the Gentlemen at Bombay in reply to theirs.

Answer to the Letter from Bombay

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of the 13th January and 12th February acquain-
-ting them also of the apparent Intentions of
Hyder Ally to disturb the Peace of the Carnatic.

I have &c.

Jno Whitehill

Hector Munro

Charles Smith

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23d Dispatched the following Letter to
Bengal.

To the Honble Warren Hastings Esqr
To Bengal with the Governor General & Council at
Fort William
on account of
Hyders hostile Honble Sirs & Sirs.
intentions

In our Dispatch of the 19th March
We had the Honor to inclose you a Copy of a Letter
We had received from Hyder Ally relative to our
Expedition against Mahé, and in a former Dispatch
We communicated to you the purport of a Message
we communicated to us from his Durbar on
which had been delivered to us from his Durbar on
the same Subject.

We have now the Honor of transmitting
to you a Copy of another Letter received from
him, written in the same Style and conveying
the same hostile Intentions that are expressed in
his former Letter and Message - We also enclose
a Copy of the answer We have written to Hyder
on this Occasion which We hope will appear to
You suitable and proper -

From what has passed We can
entertain but little doubt of Hyder's Determination
to break with the Company, and We are of opinion
that not a Moment should be lost in executing
the necessary Measures for acting in that event
with such a degree of vigour as may be likely
to

to bring the War to a speedy Conclusion which the
Enemy may be effected without rendering the Defence
of the Company too expensive to oppose any prob-
able Attempt that may be made on them by the
French -

For this purpose it appears to us
expedient that the three Presidencies should unite
their Force in proportion to the ability of each,
and that a powerful Attack should be made from
the Malabar Coast upon Hyders two Capital Fortresses
of Seringapatam and Bangalore, The Reduction of
which would probably put an end to the war - The
Force under the Command of Colonel Goddard with a
Proportion of the Bombay Troops and the Heavy Artil-
lery and Stores necessary for this undertaking might
penetrate to Hyders Capital on the Malabar Side,
while a light Army of our Troops might proceed from
this Coast thro the Passes, and join them if necessary
or remain Hyder on such manner as to leave them
at Liberty to prosecute their Operations against
the principal Forts -

These are briefly our own Ideas of
the mode in which the war might be carried on with
advantage - it will depend in a great measure on
your Government to give proper Effect to this or
any other Plan which it may be thought necessary
to adopt on this Occasion, not only as the united
Efforts of the three Presidencies will be necessary

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in Execution of it, but as the Resources of the a[illegible]
must com principally if not entirely from the
Bengal Treasury.

We have just received from Colonel
Braithwaite the Articles of Capitulation for the Su
of Ikkeri and enclose a Copy for your Information
Colonel Braithwaite keeps with him a Compan
of Europeans a complete Battalion of Sepoys
four Grenadier Companies of Sepoys and a C
of Artillery, to take care of the Conquest un
Fortifications be destroyed — The Remainder
Troops he has returned to this Coast —

Since writing the foregoing the
have Intelligence from the Nabob, that Hyder
has made a Conquest of the Cuddapah Country and take
the Phousdar Prisoner — that he is proceeding towar
the Phousdar of Canoul and that he means also t
make a Conquest of the Territories of Basalut Je
of which last Measure the Vackeel of Basalut Jung
has in the Name of his Master expressed an Ha
strongest Apprehensions that he has also written
threatening Letters to the Zemindars of Vencatagary and Calla
who are Tributary to the Nabob — In consequence of
our Late Negotiations with Basalut Jung, We have
resolved to send immediately for the [illegible]tion of his Lour
3 Battalions of Sepoys a Co[illegible] Artillery, an
6 Field Pieces — Hyder's Po[illegible]
have added greatly to his

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more easy Access to the Barracks than he had before

Considering all these Circumstances

We are of opinion that immediate Measures should be

taken to compel Hyder to retreat back within his

former Limits or if necessary or if necessary to reduce

him totally for We have every Reason to conclude

from the Language he holds, and from the Nature

of his Proceedings that he will very shortly draw

us into Hostilities in which case it will be highly

expedient that We should be prepared to act

decisively and We request you will favor us

with your Sentiments and Determination upon

this Letter as soon as possible—

We have the Honor to be,

Honble Sirs &c Sirs

Your most Obedient and

most humble Servants

Thomas Rumbold

&c &c &c Committee

Fort St George

23d April 1779

Dispatched the following Letters

24th

To Mr John Holland

Mr Holland

aching him to

ge the Conduct

ur enclosed

the Suspen

Regulate

Sir,

We enclose you a Letter from the

st and another from the Nabob to the Conduct

e will be pleased to deliver. We also send

station of the former for your Information—