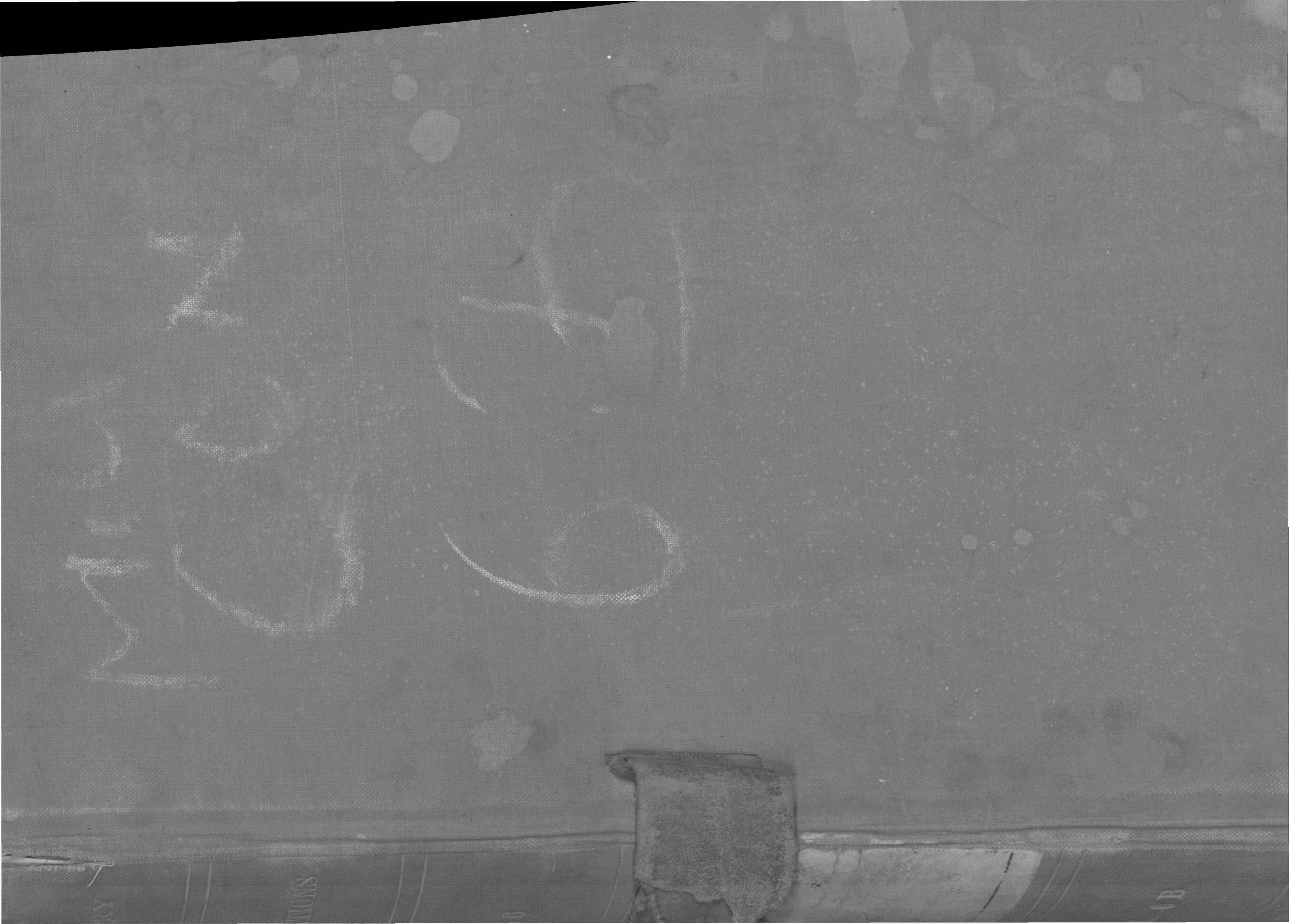


The entries made in pencil on the margin in the Volume were made with the help of the papers in the bundle at the time of the weeding and destruction of records.

21-10-1941

Fort St George 8th September 1756

I Send the following Letter to Captain Caillaud, pursuant to the Resolutions of the Foregoing Consultation.

To Captain John Caillaud

Fort

We have before us your Letters N° 34 & N° 35 dated 28th and 30th August, with the Copies of Mahofar Cawns and Ramchandas Letters to you, and of your answers which meet with our entire approbation.

We observe also the Representation of the Inhabitants of Madura, and we have received likewise many Letters from the Nabob Moss Cawn and Mondelle on the Subject of this Disturbance, but as these different Pieces the Circumstances of the Affair in question are set in such different Lights that we find it impossible to decide whether it is to be looked on as a premeditated act of Rebellion on the part of Mahofar Cawn or not. We are therefore ordered to Let that is to suppose that it is only a Demands of an ungovernable turbulent and threatening disposition necessary to combine this with the Resolution and Vigour of Conduct which will admit of, to Establish Peace and Tranquility in the Subah of Trichinopoly and Madura. We therefore think it most favorable to honor & Justice occasioned by the forgoing Circumstances of Enquiry made on the Spot that Mahofar Cawn might have the Opportunity of giving them better Explanation of his Conduct than could be done at this Distance of Time, and with a View to this Object we have determined to send Mr Orme to Trichinopoly with Instructions to endeavour to bring about a Reconciliation between Mahofar Cawn & Ramchandar and to establish Tranquility in the Subah of Trichinopoly and Madura. We have therefore thought proper to appoint Mr Orme to be Commissary for the Affairs of the Carnatic, and to Authorize him to act in Conjunction with you in the Execution of the Powers with which he is invested by the Commission from the Nabob, a Copy of which we herewith send you, and we desire you will Consult with him upon all Occasions, and Communicate to him all Intelligence you receive from Time to Time, and Assist him with your Advice in the Execution of the Duties of his Office. We have also

Fort St George 8th Sept[illegible]

[illegible] things quiet in the Sort commanded us to [illegible] about the
seems to have had a principal hand in the [illegible] have
shewn himself a Man of a Seditious Disposition and very [illegible]
for any Command.

It appears to us therefore that the Steps necessary to [illegible]
taken for the putting a end to the present Disturbance and
settling the Tinnevelly Country in the quiet Management of
Company and their Renter, not only the Sepoys must be
satisfied, but both Mahtos for Caron and Barkatoola removed f
the Fort of Madura.

To this end we Empower you to promise Payment by
Lacks of Rupees to the Sepoys immediately on their putting
Caron in Possession of Madura, and causing themselves to be
=mpodied along with Mahtos for Caron and Barkatoola and giving
an acknowledgement that it is in full of the Pay due to them

This [illegible] you must endeavour to procure the mar
proposed by
Tinnevelly
your getting
should fail
Money
We have
Madura
Charg
to the Sep
that we h
from the Sort of Madura and
Tinnevelly only if Barkatoola should prov
from Madura; or in case both these Rene
you Liberty to draw upon us for that Sum
erected Woodilee to Sure to you without
equivalent for securing
to approved
to keep at least one Battalion
from his Brother, and we leave it
at Madura in answer to their Representa
preserved you to settle the means of satisfying

Fort St George 8th September 1756

The Letters for Moodaliar and the Jemidars are enclosed for you to forward, and Copies of all three for your Perusal

It is necessary that this Affair should be finished in the most Expeditious manner, otherwise fresh Horrors will be coming due before these are settled and the Disturbance may gather Strength so as to oblige us to be at the Expence of carrying on a War in those Countries. According to the Light we at present have, the method above mentioned seems to us to promise the most ready Effect, but as you by your nearer Situation may be informed of fresh Circumstances and enabled to trace out a more easy and convenient Way, we leave it entirely to you to pursue such means as to you shall seem most speedy and efficacious for putting an End to the present Disturbance and enabling Moodaliar to carry on his Business quickly.

If after Mushojee Conn and his Sepoys have left Madura you shall find that the Sort of Soldiers may be retaken from the Myana without much difficulty or a danger of creating new Disturbances, you may recommend it to Hoff Caun whom we have directed on all cases to follow your advice. Our Letter to him is inclosed for you to forward and a Copy for your Perusal.

After having satisfyd the Sepoys for their Arrears you may let them go about their Business, and advise Mushojee Conn and Bankatoola to proceed for Arcot.

We could have Hoff Caun come away as soon as the Situation of the Country will admit of it, leaving five hundred Sepoys under the Command of a trusty Subaltern in Madura to act under the Direction of the new Governor whom the Nabob shall appoint and be paid by him. In the mean time should he be in want of Money for the Payment of his Sepoys you must supply him

75

Fort St George 8th September 1756.

Letter to
the Council
Fort St George
8th Sept. 1756.

or answer his Bills.

We shall enable the Gent Governor at St David to supply you with the Ammunition you want. At length we have received the Nabobs order on the Killedar of Sricharungaly for the payment of your two last Estimates, and forward it under this Cover. We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

George Pigot &c. Committee

read

Inclosed in the Letter to Captain Caillaud sent the following answer to the Representation of the Jemidars &c. recd in last Consultation.

Sent from the President to the Jemidars Horsemen &c. at Madu

Sept. the 8th 1756.

Captain Caillaud has transmitted to me the Representation under your seals concerning the Arrears due to your Horse Which for Answer. If you had waited quietly for my answer to that Representation you might have been assured of a favourable Answer and you might have depended on the Company's Justice. But to rise upon a Tumultuous and undutiful manner taking away the Horses of the Company's Peons and behaving thereout of the Fort in a Behaviour not like Soldiers and Men than good Soldiers and Friends, and all of you that are acquainted with the duty of a Soldier know very well that the Justice due to such a Behaviour is Punishment, not Pay. Therefore before consideration of your former Services, and the good opinion I have of the Company for Indulgence I have given Direc

Fort St George 8th September 1756

To Captain Caillaud concerning the satisfaction of your Servant.

You are therefore quietly and without delay to act in such manner as Captain Caillaud shall advise you, and to look upon his Word and Honour in the same Light as your own. By such a Behaviour you will procure Ease and be made happy.

Received by Pattamar from Bombay a Letter from the Gentlemen of the Select Committee there dated 3d August.

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esqr Governour President.

Robert Clive.....

Thursday the 16th Instant

Henry Vansittart.....

William Percival.....

Mr Lawrence & Mr Call indisposed.

Letter from the Select Committee at Bombay read

as follows

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr President & Governour &c. Council of the Select Committee at Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

Since we did consider the Pleasure to us by your Letter the 15th June we have been favoured with your advices of the 26th May and 16 June.

You have been acquainted with our reasons for concurring in the Proposition of Gheria and as the President & Council have received a Letter from the Admiral to advise them of his Arrival

15V

Fort St George 16th September 17[illegible]

wal at Penna, we have hopes that we shall now be able to settle
Affairs with them, but as we must of course be very much
if the Nana complies with the Engagement to prohibit
Dutch from carrying on any Commerce in his Dominions
yields up the Villages depended on Fort Victoria we think it
been no Inducement to them to engage in the Coast Trade
and as we have the Satisfaction to observe from your
Ling had discharged the French we cannot in the former
Part of the Plan being effected by the Alliance between
Broke and hope that you will be able to make peace on terms
with Salabat Jung we are concerned to acquaint you that
our present Situation we cannot comply with your Request
a Reinforcement of Men because we have no Certainty or
terms we are on with the Nana having for near eight Months
been very much Reduced by the Principal Officers under him
The War between England and France which by the last Accounts
we have received to expect and from which Account and Mr
Madras have come
Serious Consideration
detain all our Ma
Intelligence brought us Channel which we impatiently
wait for, having heard by a Ship which lately came from Bata
that the latter end of May and that all the Ships bound for your
Coast and China sailed from England before that Time we th
Government Man of War

We beg leave to assure you that our best Endeavours
shall be used to forward the Nana in having an honourable

Fort St George 16th September 1756

with the Nawab, and to induce him to Co-operate with us in
regard to the Committee's Scheme wherein we have reason
will admit; and in order to assist you as far as is in our power
we have directed the Protector to be held in readiness to proceed
to you Stout Fitted as a Merchant Ship for the reasons mentioned in
our last; with a part of the Field Artillery and so much Gunpowder we
can spare

We purpose to send John Spencer Esq.r to the Nawab's Court
at Vanna as soon as the Weather will permit, who will be furnished
with the small Cypher so that if you or the Agent you employ with
Salabat Jung, should have any thing to transact with the Nawa
you will please to communicate it to him per our Cypher
Cypher and we think it will likewise be very necessary that you
acquaint him with the Articles you have stipulated with Sala
bad Jung, that Mr Spencer may clear up any Distrust which may
arise in the Nawab from their Joint

By a Ship sent with this we dispatched the 1st Inst.e for Gom-
broon we fully represented to the Company the Advices received
from you as well as our own Situation

We are Gent.n
Your most Obedient Servants

(This was wrote in the Large Cypher.)

Bombay Castle
16th Sep.r 1756

Richard Bourchier, Charles Crommelin,
James Souter, John Spencer, Samuel Hough.

The Select Committee at Bombay are already advised of
the taking of Calcutta by the Nawab, and of your Intention of joining
Salabat Jung being agreed upon that Mess.rs Aggrett & Sargeant
them by the next Pattamar with the Intelligence received since

from

Fort St George 10th September 1756

Madura Full Orders were given last Consultation.

The President acquaints the Committee that the Nabob Vakeel has represented to him by the Nabob's Order that Murtazally Cawn of Velour is extreamly forcing for an answer concerning the Articles of Agreement proposed between the Nabob and him, and desires in case the Conclusion of the said Agreement is to be deferd any longer, that the Villages dependent on Velour, now under the Nabob's Seizure be forewarded to him; the Nabob therefore desires that we will either accept or refuse the said Articles without further Delay; and in case of Refusal that we will order Captain Mashayne, Commander of Arcot to take Charge of the Villages which remain under Seizure for that he (the Nabob) is unable to maintain them as their Revenue is not sufficient to pay the Troops they have for their Defence.

Copy of the Agreements demanded by Murtazally Cawn were transmitted with the Nabob's Letter, Entered in the Country Correspondence N° 19, Read in Committee 21st Instant, and Order'd to lye on the table for further Consideration.

The said Letter and Articles now again Read. The five Articles required by Murtazally Cawn to be signed by the Nabob and the Letter of Confirmation to be signed by us, are as follow;

The five Articles demanded by Murtazally Cawn to be given him by the Nabob.

1st ——— I shall by no means Protect or Dispose of your Jaguirs the Forts and Sagears which you and your Brothers, and the

Fort St George 16th September 1756

the Monsebdars and People belonging to you had in the time of the Deceas'd Nabob, nor from those which may be given at present. The People belonging belonging to me shall observe the same.

2d ..... The Usual Taxes of Money, the Chowdary &c are for given you, and shall not be demanded either for the time past or to come.

3d ..... The Fort of Chittoor belongs to you, and shall be delivered to you with the Jageer of Meshavoot and Ahasham after the French War and the Troubles of the Country are over.

4th ..... Should any one Molest you, I shall by the Blessing of God assist you in every Respect; Believe me to be your Ally.

5th ..... Agreeable to your Request I confer'd the Nayabut for the Deputy Government for Velore Fort &c. Districts belonging to you on Ally Dost Cawn Behauder; as he is your Son, he shall remain confirmed in the Possession of your District together with the Lords and Sageers; and with this same Promise & Agreement.

Letter of Confirmation demanded by Murtaza Ally Cawn, to be signed by the Governour and Council.

We the English Gentlemen of the Council of Madras do give this Agreement to Nabob Gulam Murtaza Cawn Behauder.

Whereas Serauge id dowla Omdut ul Mulk Nabob Anawerdy Cawn Behauder Delaver Jung has given an Agreement in writing, consisting of five Articles to the said Gulam Murtaza Cawn; We likewise promise and engage to act according to the said Articles; and further, to take care that the said Nabob

Anawerdy

15

Fort St George 16th September 1756

Anawerdy Cawn shall not in any manner deviate from the
said Agreement either towards the said Gulam Mustaza
Cawn, his Brother, or the People belonging to him, & should any
one Molest the said Gulam Mustaza Cawn, or disturb his
District We the Governor and Council shall esteem him as an
Enemy, and join the said Gulam Mustaza Cawn and assist
him in every Respect.

In consideration of the Indulgences mentioned in the
foregoing Article Mustafally Cawn agrees to deliver to the Nabob
A Bill on the Pagodas Rupees
An Order on Seucars for 100,000
of Maurpetta Cawn, Renter.
Circar of Cawn belonging to the
An Order on Cawn 20,000
Renter of Sangopolleyrauze,
Arrenow, Edange, Jamcooteyand
Cawn belonging to the Circar of
An Order on 40660 3/16
on Velore, the Killedars, dependent
from the for a Ballance of Tribute due
to Mustafally Cawn 25,000
In all Pagodas 64660 3/16 Rupees 75,000

Pagodas sixty four thousand, six hundred and sixty, and
Rupees one hundred and twenty five thousand conformable
to what was mentioned in Committee the 13th June last. Bu
according to the best Enquiries that can be made, only one hun
-dred thousand Rupees (the amount of the Bills on the

Nabob

Cammam
Ragopatty

conformably

But

Fort St George 16th September 1756

Soucars would be receivd, Cavereram being a District on the Borders of Cudapa, and very probably no Ballances due from the Renters or if there is that they will be generaly directed to refuse Mayonard of these Orders.

Consideration therefore being had on the Articles demanded, and the Offers made by Murtaza Aly Cawn, the Committee are of Opinion that some Alterations must be insisted on, as follow

In the 2d Article the Words "not to be demanded for the time to come" should be left out, as it is not proper for the Nabob to Lessen the Usual Revenues of the Province by remitting the Perwannahs Fees, neither the no one can pretend to answer for such an Agreement being observ'd by a Succeeding Nabob, nor indeed can the Reason be given in favour of Murtaza Aly why he should be exempted from future taxes, the Sum he is now to pay, supposing it the full Lack of Pagodas, not being more than is due from him for the time past. Besides as the Money Payments are now stated, only one Lack of Rupees are likely to be collected although he appears to give near one Lack of Pagodas, which is the Sum we have all along, and do still insist on.

Murtaza Aly Cawn must therefore be required to give good Security for the doubtful Sums.

In which case it is Agreed to accept the Articles with the Alterations before mentioned in the 2d provided he on his part also gave a Writing under his hand and Seal, acknowledging the Nabobs Rights, promising to assist him in

case

Fort St George 16th September 1766.

Ordered also that a Letter be wrote to the Sospitty
Renter acknowledging the Receipt in full of the Payment
of the Sunn Rent, and requiring him to be punctual in
remitting the Produce of the September or first Kist of the
present year of Phasely 1166.

Geo. Pigot
Robert Clive

Stringer Lawrence
Henry Lawrey
Robert Orme
Wm. Forrest
Roo. Palk

Fort St George 22d September 1756

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esqr Governour President
Robert Clive Stringer Lawrence
Henry Vansittart Robert Orme
William Percival Robert Palk

Wednesday the 22d

Letter from Roger Drake Esqr Peter Godfrey Esqr James Raymond Esqr Eaton Wayne Esqr & Christopher Burrow Esqr the Secret Committee of the East India Company, dated the 13th February 1756 and received p. Shepherd Walpole and Chesterfield; Read.

By the 3d Paragraph it is observed that this Committee are invested with the Power of "transacting Affairs, and taking such "Measures as shall best conduce to the Protection and Preservation "of the Company's Estate, Rights and Privileges, and to correspond "and act in concert with the Select Committees at Bengall and "at Bombay, for the General and Particular Protection of the "Company's Trade, Possessions and Rights wherever and whenever "they may be in danger; The Powers of the Committee never having "been before so fully explained it was imagined that they extend- "ed only to Negotiations with the Princes of the Country and "Foreign European Nations, and to the Operations of the Troops "in the Field: For this reason the Conduct of the Intended Ex- "pedition to Bengal has until this time been had under the "Deliberation of the whole Council, but it now appears beyond "doubt that it ought to have fallen under the Management of

Mess

Fort St George 22d September 1756

this Committee and that the future Direction of it should be referred hither

Ordered that the Paragraph be forwarded with the Secret Committee's Letter be laid before the President and Council together with the above Opinion

The Council having accordingly met came to the following Resolution,

"That the Transactions for Re establishing the Company in their Rights and Priviledges at Bengal do properly fall under the Direction of the Select Committee by Virtue of the foregoing "Paragraph. That it be therefore referr'd to the said Committee "to do therein as they shall think proper, and that they be fully "informed of the Steps that have already been taken

The President then acquaints the Committee that the Last Determination of the Council concerning this Expedition was that the whole Squadron should proceed with the Land Forces Men Rank and File, and the Detachement of his Majesty's Artillery under the Command of Captain Hodges with the Guns &c thereunto belonging, the whole commanded by Colonel Clive, Genl under the Direction of Commissaries appointed with full Power for the Conduct of the Troops to be employed with the Navy &c for the Operations of the Forces against them, which Commissaries appointed were Colonel Clive

And that a Letter conformably to the said Resolution was wrote to Colonel Adlercron, to the same purport as received

Agreed that the Consideration of the other parts

Deputies

Deputies

Fort St George 22d September 1756

of the Secret Committee's Letter be deferred to another opportunity.

George Pigot
Robert Clive
Stringer Lawrence
Henry Lorrey
Robert Orme
Wm. Percival
Robt Palk

At a Committee Present
George Pigot Esq. Governour & President
Robert Clive — Stringer Lawrence
Henry Lorrey — Robert Orme
William Percival — Robert Palk.

Thursday 13th Sept.

Received this Instant the following Letter from Colonel Adlercron

To George Pigot Esq. President & Gov.
& Council of Fort St George
Gentlemen

I shall with great pleasure embrace this

160

Fort St George 23d September 1756

number of his Majesty's Troops you shall be pleased to demand to be joined to yours on the Intended Expedition against Bulam I cannot answer to the King my Master, nor to any person Whatever, to remain cooped up in a Garrison in a State of inaction, while any part of the Forces under my Command are upon actual Service, it is my duty to go along with them: and should I be of a contrary Opinion my Lieutenant Colonel would have just cause of Complaint against me, were I not to make him the least offer.

The Detachment of his Majesty's Artillery is particularly allotted to attend my Regiment, and I cannot consent to their being employed any where but with a part thereof, unless therefore we are to have the honour of assisting in this Expedition, I do hereby in the name of the King my Master, demand that his Majesty's Artillery, with all the Stores thereunto belonging, be immediately disembarked.

I am sorry Gentlemen, I am obliged to observe, that I think it very extraordinary that after ordering to me two Letters requesting me to undertake this Service with the whole of the Troops, and for saving me the necessary orders so repeatedly, you should now be for putting me off upon new objections.

I am Gent.

Fort St George
23d Sept. 1756

Your most Obedt humble Servant
John Adlercron

Colonel Adlercron's Answer on the 24th Instant, that he could not engage to do any thing but

Fort St George 23d September 1756

our Request, that the Company should have any part of the Plunder that may be taken towards the Reimbursement of the Immense Loss they have sustained; a Power to us to be Reasons of the greatest Importance against this going on the Command, and we flatter ourselves his Majesty will not be of Opinion with Colo. Adlercron, that they Slight Pretences, or that it will be effected Dishonour on Colonel Adlercron to stay for the Defence of a Colony of so much Consequence as Madras, where besides by much the largest Force with remain, and above two thirds of his own Regiment.

The Committee are entirely of Opinion that it is necessary for the Good of the Company that the Command should be vested in an Officer of the Company, subject to our Orders, and do therefore abide by the Resolution of the Council that Colonel Clive proceed on that Duty; But as it will cause some Delay to Land his Majesty's Train of Artillery which is already embarked, it is Agreed to write again to Colonel Adlercron to represent to him the bad Consequences of such delay. Resolved nevertheless that if he disembarked of the Troops to insist on it, but to protest against him for all the Damage which may be caused to the Company by such Delay.

Ordered that Mr Boyse six Pounder field Pieces belonging to the Company be prepared to be embarked in the place of his Majesty's, if Colonel Adlercron persists in requiring them to be landed. Two of those belonging to the Company being at Fort St David, a Letter is now dispatched to Mr Pigott, directing them to be sent hither by the Return of his Majesty's Ships Bridgewater.

Letter

Fort St George 23d September 1756

Letter to Colonel Adlercron conformable to the above Minutes is now drafted and approved, and Ordered to be immediately sent to him

G Pitt
Robert Lee
Wm Lawrence
Henry Strenge
Robertsons
Wm Percival
Tooke Call

Pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions, sent the following Letter to Colonel Adlercron.

To Sir John Adlercron Knt
Commander in Chief of the
Land Forces in India

Sir

We have received the favour of your Letter dated 23d which we imagine to be intended as an answer to that which we did ourselves the honour to address to you on the Subject of the Receipt of that Letter.

Permit us Sir to tell you that we think it can be no

Fort St George 23d September 1756

Derogation to your Character, nor that it would give Offence to his Majesty to hear that you were requested to remain with us in the Command of the greatest Body of English Troops in India, for the defence of a Town of such real Importance to the English Nation, as Madrass. Threatened with an impending War with France, the Experience of the last teaches us with what Eyes our Enemies will regard us; they will have nothing certainly so much at heart as a Second Reduction of this Place, and by that Step every obstacle to the vast designs of the French Nation in India will be removed without a Possibility of your preventing future Oppressions to their Power — We Leave to the Judgment of those to whom the Letter we did ourselves the honour to write you yesterday may be referd, to determine whether we are liable to the Imputation of "putting upon slight pretences" from undertaking in your own person the Service of the present Expedition

Thus far we thought due to you and to ourselves. We have considered your demand in his Majesty's name immediately to Command his Majesty's Artillery if the Expedition is conducted by an Officer of the Company. Consider, Sir, we have represented to you that we made this Request upon a Conviction of the necessity of the Affairs of the East India Company, and at a time when these Affairs were never so much immersed in Scenes of difficulty and Misfortune. The Lateness of the Arrival of the Latter Ships from Europe, which Arrival we formerly told you were absolutely necessary to form our final Resolutions, has encroached so much upon the Season of Dispatch, that every hour becomes of the last Importance. But the Reverence due to his Majesty's name shall over weigh with us all other Considerations. If you persist to demand it, his Majesty's

Artillery

Fort St George 23 September 1756.

Artillery shall be immediately landed — But you must permit us on behalf of the East India Company, as their Representatives, to protest against and to make you responsible for all the bad Consequences and ill Success which may attend this Expedition to Bengall, and which may arise from a Want of Cappt Mills &p his Officers and Men and the Train of Artillery we have demanded of you, and you shall be pleased to procure.

We have already done ourselves the honour to acquaint you that it will be a particular Satisfaction to have a part of his Majesty's Troops and Officers joined to those of the Company on the present Expedition, which we again repeat, provided you shall think proper to put those Officers and Troops under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel Clive. But for the reasons mentioned in our Letter to you of yesterday's date, and for others which we need not trouble you with, but which we shall give to our Masters, it is absolutely necessary that this Expedition be put under the Command of that Gentleman; as it is also absolutely necessary that the Commander do act in Behalf of the Company both in a Civil and a Military Capacity.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient Humble Servants
George Pigot &c Committee

Fort St George
23d Sept. 1756

In the Evening received the following Letter from Col. Adlercron in answer to that wrote here in the Morning.

To George Pigot Esqr President &c &c
&c Gentlemen of the Secret Committee.

Gentlemen

I have before me your Favour of this day's date.

Fort St George 23d September 1756

to which I reply, that I can be no ways responsible for any of the bad Consequences or ill Success that may attend the Expedition, as I have offered you my Services with the whole or any part of his Majesty's Forces under my Command, the which if you don't chuse to accept, Yourselves only must be answerable for the Event.

The dangerous situation in which you represent things to be in there, rather confirms me in my resolution not to part with his Majesty's Troops; but I have already given a full answer in the Letter I wrote this morning to the General Council, to which I beg leave to refer you, as you have offered nothing which can induce me to alter my Sentiments. Lastly, Gentlemen, you are not so unreasonable as to expect that I will send away any part of the Majesty's Troops, or Regiment, who are so immediately under my direction, and leave to you the Nomination of the Person who shall command them.

I am
Gent.n
Your most Obedient humble Servant
John Adlercron

Fort St George
23d Sept.r 1756

At a Committee Present
George Pigot Esq.r Governour President
Robert Clive ——— Stringer Lawrence ———
Henry Bourne ——— Robert Orme ———
William Percival ——— Robert Palk ———

Friday
the 24th

The foregoing Letter from Colonel Adlercron dated

the

Fort St George 21st September 1756

the 23d Instant Read, and after due Consideration had the Committee Resolve to Land the Kings Train of Artillery with the utmost Expedition and to take no further notice of Colonel Adlercrons Refusal having already protested against him for all the bad Consequences it may occasion. The Train Appurtenances Stores and Ammunition which were Embarked along with the Kings Artillery, belonging partly to the King and partly to the Company cannot be Landed and separated without much delay. It is therefore Agreed to request of Colonel Adlercron to spare them for the Service of the Present Expedition upon our promise to replace the same Quantities immediately for the use of his Majesty's Train.

The following Letter is accordingly wrote and signed and sent to Colonel Adlercron.

To John Adlercron Esqr
Commander in Chief of the
Land Forces in India

Sir

We have received the favour of your Letter of yesterday's date.

We are now ordering his Majesty's Train of Artillery to be brought ashore from the Marlbro' but as the Ammunition of the Artillery consists of Shells fixed Fuzees Stores which are in the Package blended with those belonging to his Majesty and as the unloading and separating these will be a work of time and considerable delay, which it is of the last importance to

Fort St George 25th September 1756.

avoid, as every day now lost greatly protracts the Passage of the Ships to Bengall. We take the Liberty to request of you that you will permit all the Stores and Ammunition designed for the Service of his Majesty's Artillery and already Ship'd, may remain on board the Marlbro' for the Service of the present Expedition and we do assure you, Sir, that we will immediately replace to you an equal Quantity of Stores and Ammunition. We hope the favour of your Compliance with this Request, and beg that of your immediate answer to this Address.

We have the honour to be

Sir

Your most Obed.t & most Humble Serv.ts

George Pigot &c.a Committee.

Fort St George
24th to 25th Sept.r 1756.

Letter from Mr Charles Frederick Noble Read, as follows

To the Honble the Governour,
and Secret Committee of War.
at Fort St George.

Gentlemen

Ever since my Arrival here a few days ago, when I heard of the Melancholy news of the Loss of all the Company's Settlements in Bengall, I have been endeavouring to recollect and commit to writing whatever Information I obtained while I resided there, under my late worthy Friend and Patron Colonel Scott, of the People, Government, Military Strength &c.a of that Kingdom, that I think can be of Service to the Company's Affairs

effence and on the Expedition that I have by command Upon it
intended whether Forreconvering those Settlements — Also Faith-
full Sereants Which may be the least Instrumental Leading to
so important and interesting a design —

And I am the more endeavord to trouble you upon this
subject at present as the Few Gentlemen that are left alive in
these Settlements cannot in their present situation give upon
any full Accounts of what may be necessary and useful for
you to know on this Subject; and as what I have to communi-
cate are the observations and sentiments of my late worthy
Patron, whose judgement of affairs can never be regarded with
indifference by any one who were acquainted with his Abilities

When he came out in the Company's Service, the Court
of Directors being sensible of the great importance of the Soubah
of Bengal above all their other Settlements in India recom-
mended Fort William and its Dependencies to his particular
Care; and in their private Instructions empowered him to
treat with the Nabob, in conjunction with Mr Drake and
Watts the two Governours to whom he had a secret order from
the Company to furnish him what money he might have
occasion for in such services, in procuring the Nabobs leave
to fortify in case of opposition, and paving the way at the
Court of Moxudavad for a good understanding between the
Company and him —

The Colonel was at great pains to procure a perfect
knowledge of that Court, Government, Country and People
and I believe few men knew it better than he did at his death

Fort St George 24th September 1756

As the Colonel was soon known to several of the greatest men of that Country by means of Omychund (an eminent Merchant at Calcutta, and the best acquainted with the Company's affairs and interest, of any one in that Country that had several conferences with them particularly with Rajah Jillachund of the Burdwan Country, and Cozee Wazit of Hugely who had mentioned his Arrival to the Nabob.

The old Nabob Allyverdy Cawn then greatly advanced in years (between 70 & 80) signified a great desire to see and confer with him as he understood him to be one of the King's Officers and an experienced Soldier, a Character he always respected as being one of the greatest of his time in that Country himself, & accordingly invited the Colonel to his Court: And Cozee Sallé the Nabob's Ambassador at the Soubah Rajah's Court at Sillang after having concluded a Peace between the Nabob and Morattoes, being then at Calcutta on his return to Moxudavad, the Nabob ordered him to see the Colonel, and repeat his desire of seeing him, which he did in a Meeting and Conference in February 1754 at Omychund's Country Garden there.

This Gentleman Cozee Sallé was (on his arrival at Moxudavad for his Service) appointed Nabob or Governour of the Cuttack Province.

Colonel Scott was prepared and ready to go to Moxudavad (to where the Nabob expected him) & then he received the then Governor and Council's Letter of Madras intreating him to come with all speed to their assistance upon the Coromandel

Fort St George 24th September 1756.

Coromandel Coast — On this, he excused himself to the Nabob in the politest manner in a letter he wrote to Cozee Wasp and Cozee Salle, and came to this place, where he afterwards died. The Loss the Company have sustained thereby, is but too Evident.

It was thought that the Nabob had some affairs of Consequence to communicate to the Colonel with regard to the Succession of Nabobship after his death and to the Company's affairs; And it was also hinted to the Colonel that the Nabob wanted his advice about fortifying Moxudavad, and the Fort at Siccull-gully which you will find often mentioned in the Projects that I now leave the honour of presenting you with.

Colonel Scott understood that on the death of the old Nabob, there would be a dispute for the Crown between the Gentlemen, his Nephews and his Grandsons, who have already discovered ambitious views.

He acquainted the Company therewith in one of his Letters, and of his apprehensions of the danger all their Settle-ments would be in of being pillaged before either of the Competitors; and of the weak and defenceless condition in which he found all their Forts and Garrisons.

He endeavoured to introduce Regular Order and Dis-cipline among the Troops, that had been much before neg-ected; and to rectify many abuses and irregularities that were daily committed to the Prejudice of the Company's Interest and of the Nation's Honour — Some things he effected, but &c.

he had too much pride and self Interest to contend with, to be able to make any Material Alterations in the Government of these Settlements.

The Military works and Fortifications he intended and was Empowered to erect in Calcutta, could not be compleated in many years, therefore he thought of making some slighter Works for the more immediate defence of the place, against the Blow he saw impending; and which we have now unfortunately received; a Plan of which he presented to the Governour and Council, and what was approved and set about directly.

He ordered the Ditch that he found had already been carried on half round the Town, to be widened and deepened and to be carried quite round; Drawbridges and Redoubts to defend them, to be erected at Four places; And two larger Redoubts to be erected, one at each extremity of the Town by the River side; not only to command the River, but to defend the Drawbridges there, and the Sluices for filling and emptying the ditch, with many other Works for the preservation of the Town in case of a sudden attack before the more Regular Works could be accomplished. But his departure from Bengall a little thereafter hindered their progress, tho' he left Mr Wells Engineer to carry them on in his Absence according to particular directions left with him for that purpose, and his death put a stop to them.

Having now given a short account of the Colonels Transactions, and the Observations he made relating to the Country Government and the Company's Affairs there, I think I have said enough to do so fully as I regarded your Interest, I shall [illegible] communicate to you several things [illegible]

Fort St George 24th September 1756

the Relation of several military Operations and remarks on the Military Strength in those Countries, that were communicated to him by some of the most Experienced and Discerning men of that Country, both Natives and others; And which I have been careful in preserving, together with some hundred Pages of Letters, that I have not time at present to present you with.

I think they may be of service to us in our present Exigencies, tho' they were designed for happier times; And are as follow

1st ..... A Project for conquering the Kingdom of Bengall.

2d ..... A Critical relation of some of our Military Operations against the Nabob or Country Forces in Bengall, and Observations on the use of a Train of Artillery in that Country.

3d ..... Proposals for forming a Militia Force in Bengal.

4th ..... A List of the great Lords and Gentlemen of the Court of Muxadavad; Nabobs, Rajahs &c.

5th ..... The names of the several Villages, Towns, Bazars, Cooleys &c on both Sides the River Hugly from Calcutta to the City of Muxadavad.

6th ..... The Road from Calcutta to the Improved City of Delli by Land the distances from place to place, and days Journies.

I have a Plan of the Kingdom of Bengal which tho' [illegible] I have yet been able to procure; and which as it may also be of Service in the Expedition, so I shall endeavour to present you with a Copy of it; but as I am a little fatigued with having sit up both day and nights in preparing what I have sent you, I am afraid I shall not be able to have that or any thing else I could wish to communicate for the good of the Service, before the departure of the Snow; but as it is a matter of some Importance; therefore if you think it worthy your while

Fort St George 21st September 1756

to have them, you will be pleased to order me such assistance

Rajah and Inhabitants were very much disaffected to the Moor
Government, and secretly wished for a Change and Opportunity of
throwing off their Tyrannical Yoke: And was of opinion that if an
European force began Successfully, that they would be inclined to join them;
if properly applied to and encouraged, but might be cautious how
they acted at first, till they had a probability of success in bringing about
a Revolution to their Advantage.

Horton told Omychund of the mans in Bengall the most
capable of serving us if he had a mind to it, this considering the ill
usage he has often received from the Government of our Nation there who
have generally sacrificed the Company's Welfare and Nation's honour
and Glory to their private Ends and Interest, we can scarce hope for
his favour without the hopes of retrieving what he may have lost by this
unhappy Event, and being better used in future, may procure with him
Whether he had any hand in the present affair or not I cannot say, He
was intimate with the Nabob and all the Court.

There is a Man named Nemoo Gosseyng the Chief Priest of the
Gentoos, who has a great influence among the Gentoo Rajahs, and with
a particular Cast of people who go up and down the Country well
armed in great bodies, of the Faquier or Religious Beggar sort, who might
possibly be of Service to us, if he could be engaged to our Interest, which by
Nemoo Gosseyng's means I have particular Reasons to believe might
be done.

This Great gave Colonel Scott very good Information of many
things relating to the affairs of that Country, and told him he could

buy

Fort St George 26th September 1756.

the relation of several military Operations and remarks made
Military Strength in those Countries that were communicated to
him by some of the most Experienced and Discerning men of that
Country, both Natives and others; And which I have been careful in
preserving, together with some hundred Pages of others, that I have
not time at present to forward you with.

I think they may of service to us in our present Engage-
-ments, tho' they were designed for happier times; And are as follow

1st ..... A Project for conquering the Kingdom of Bengall.

2d ..... A Critical relation of some of our Military Operations
against the Nabob or Country Forces in Bengall, and Observations
on the use of a Train of Artillery in that Country.

3d ..... Proposals for forming a Militia Force in Bengal.

4th ..... A List of the great Lords and Gentlemen of the Court
of Muxadavad; Nabobs, Rajahs &c.

5th ..... The names of the several Villages, Towns, Bazars, Creeks &c on
both Sides the River Ulughly from Calcutta, to the City of Muxadavad.

6th ..... The Rout from Calcutta to the Imperial City of Delli by Land
the distances from place to place, and days Journies.

I have a Plan of the Kingdom of Bengal such like for
from being Correct yet is the best I have yet been able to procure; and
which as it may also be of Service in the Expedition, so I shall endeavour
to present you with a Copy of it; but as I am a little fatigued with having
sitt up both day and nights in preparing what I have sent you, I am
afraid I shall not be able to have that or any thing else I could wish to
communicate for the good of the Service, before the departure of the Ships
and some assistance; therefore if you think it worthy your notice

Fort St George 2d September 1756

to have them, you would be pleased to order me such assistance

Reynd Colonel Scott observed in Bengall, the Gentoo Rajahs and Inhabitants were very much disaffected to the Moor Government, and secretly wished for a Change and Opportunity of throwing off their Tyrannical Yoke — And was of opinion that if an European Power began Successfully, that they would be inclined to join them, & properly applied to and encouraged, he might be cautious how they acted at first, till they had a favorable Opportunity of bringing about a Revolution to their Advantage

Morhon old Army Aurrid of the main in Bengall the most capable of serving us if he has a mind to it; this considering the ill usage he has often received from the Gentoo Princes & Nation that he has & have generally sacrificed the Company's Welfare and Nation's honour and Glory to their private Ends & Interest, we can have no hope for his favour without the hopes of obtaining what he may have lost by this unhappy Event, and being better used in future, may prevail with him Whether he had any hand in the present affair or not I cannot say. He was intimate with the Nabob and all the Court

There is a Man named Nimoo Gosseyng the Ringleader of the Gentoo Gosseyns, who has a great influence among the Gentoo Rajahs, and indeed a particular Cast of people who go up and down the Kingdom well armed in great bodies, of the Sanguis or Religious Beggar Cast, who might possibly be of service to us, if he could be engaged to our Interest, which by Nimoo Gosseyngs means I have particular Reasons to believe might be done

This Chief gave Colonel Scott very good Information from things relating to the affairs of that Country, and told him he could

Army

Fort St George 21th September 1726

Being a Thousand of those moneths past the English in Fatta days whereupon needfull Reflections did from some time forbide beloved, and I dare say he has a respect for her Memory to this day.

Mr Hunter must have received good information and advice, during the affairs of Bengall, and there many Expeditions the Company and Private Gentlemen have sustained, we shall take the first opportunity Old Mr Cooke formerly in the Company Service at Bengall, Father to the Company's Secretary there now residing at this place I am told) was a Man of great Experience and Judgement in what relates to Bengall, for whom the Colonel in his life time had a great respect on that account, and who might be able to give some Lights to things that may not be so well known here, especially as Mr Manningham is not arrived, and may perhaps be longer detained.

I hope Gentlemen you'll excuse my freedom and thank favourably of what I here communicate to you for the Company's Service, which I submit to your Superior Judgment and Consideration; and which as regard for the Company's Welfare (in whose Service I am now employed) and the honour and glory of our Nation has prompted me to.

For this I shall endeavour to copy the great example of Honesty and Fidelity set me by my late Worthy Friend and Patron Colonel Stott, whose Memory will ever be respected by every honest King's Subject or Company's Servant; and whose friendship and confidence will ever do me honour.

Fort St George 28th September 1756

In hopes of your approbation and encouragement in the publick service, I shall continue to promote it as much as my abilities will allow me. Meantime I most heartily wish all possible Success to the Intended Expedition from hence to Bengall, and remain with respect Gentn Your most Obedient humble Servant

Fort St George 22d Sept 1756

Edwd T. Noble

Ordered that the Papers accompanying Mr Nobles above Letter be sent round for the perusal of the several Gentlemen of the Committee; and that the Secretary thank Mr Noble for his Information, taking notice at the same time that they would be much equally useful and much more agreeable, had he spared the Unbecoming Reflections on the Characters of the Bengall Gentlemen too frequently to be remarked in his foregoing Letter

his

Letter from the Nabob as Encd N° 276. in the Country Co- Cor-
respondence read, advising that he also has allowed Orders to d
Madura Mahomed Yar Cawn and Barhatoola Cawn to come away from Ma-
dura thence Trichi, and over Orders to Captain Caillaud for satisfying the
Seapoys, will be hopes put an End to the Disturbance Desiring
that we will collect with care the Ballance due from the Country
to Mahomed Yar Cawn which ought to be sufficient to discharge the Arre-
ars already. but if it should be necessary to advance any thing more, he thinks
it should be done half by the Company and only half to be deducted
out of his share of the Innovelly Revenues Desiring also that he we
will take the Management of the Sort Districts of Madura and and
pay

Fort St George 24th September 1756

pay him half of the Revenues that may remain after defraying the Expences and inclosing an Information of Encouragements committed by Mandaib of Illavarasore upon the Districts of Tondy and Wodiarpollam —

Agreed that the Madura Country be let out upon the best terms that can be got, and that Captain Caillaud Mr Hoffmann and Seteraja Mondelly be directed to make Enquiry and transmit us such Proposals as may be delivered to them with their Opinion of the Person who shall make the Offer — That the Nabob be desired to order Make for Canon's Master to deliver the accots of the Outstanding Ballances to Seteraja Moodelly and to assist him in collecting the Money — That a Copy of those accounts be also transmitted to Captain Caillaud and the Money that may be so collected, applied towards the Discharge of the Arrears — And that Seteraja Moodelly be again directed to supply Capt Caillaud with what further sum may be wanted to satisfy the Troops for their Arrears, which Sum shall be allowed him out of the present years Rents, But it is Resolved that the whole of such advance be deducted out of the Nabobs Share of those Rents, as it is more reasonable that he should find money for his Brothers debts than the Company, who have besides rents this time received nothing from him wholly to Reimburse the Charges of recovering that Country out of the hands of the Rebels.

Sum

Mess[illegible] Sails

With regard to the Irregularities of Mr Saunders it is Agreed to admonish him by a Letter of Friendship to desist from such

Fort St George 24th September 1756

proceedings and behave quietly. Nor it would be very inconvenient
may impossible for us at this time to send Troops to endeavour to make them a Friend.
Thought most advisable to endeavour to make them a Friend.

Letter dated 3 Sept. from the Governor and Council of
Tranquebar Read as follows

Translated from German

To the Honble Governour and
Council at Fort St George

Honble Sirs &c.

By your Honours Letter of the 29th of the past Month it seems to
almost a proved that the Opinion concerning us as if Perumal Naiker not
paying the money which he hath borrowed from us, and which we have
Cut to learn upon the Village Anandarungadum, hath been the reason
of what we have acted. But we assure you that thus not hath been our
Sentiment & Intention in it. But having Perumal Vanguesa along
while almost 18 Years since, made not only many Disputes with us,
but done us also great Mischief by stealing, plundering and robbing upon
the Company's Bounds, and by burning some part of those Villages, we
did, by what we acted against Anandarungadum not take any other
else but to hinder the Perumal Naiker from going further on in his
Encroachment, Dealing and Malice he had made use of before, and
to deliver the Inhabitants of the Company's Villages once from further
Molestations. But when the King of Tanjore assisted him with Troops
there after followed in a manner quite different from what we ever could
envisage me before, the Same being a total Devastation of the Company's
Territory, as thereby by our former Letter to your Honour &c. we have given
a clear Information. From Perumal Naiker as your Honour knows

Lou

Fort St George 25th September 1756

could be delivered to our hands for to make good the Mischiefs he hath done to the Inhabitants of the Honble Company, and for to stop him likewise the way of continuing his Incursions hitherto practised, we should be well satisfied with it. But since for all that the King of Tanjore hath been an Instrument for ruining the Territory of the Company by affording Succours to Morarirao against Nasiker in order to exhibite it, we cannot pay any Tribute more from this place, it being a quite impossible thing to pay a Pension from a ruined and devastated ground, which your Honours easily will understand your selves. Therefore we hope the King of Tanjore will remit us the Rent which we hitherto have payed, especially when your Honour according to your kind offer does propound in the best manner this our reasonable Petition to the King of Tanjore. For which good service we shall be highly obliged to you again.

As for the rest, we are to your Honour &c very much beholden for all your good Offices shewed hitherto in this affair, beseeching to continue in the good design for to carry the business to a good end for betwixt our two Nations in Europe. And having now these days this old mischief contrived troublesome Man Morarirao, been seducing again and also set a Slacheer in Our Bounds with the Message to our Subjects that his Storm would come back again and cut off the Heads of Strattemurgs to our Side-makers not to continue in making Salt. Although it was done upon our own Territory and Ground; So this Man's Insolence makes it sufficiently to be perceived by it. It would be that a Fleet should be before the midst of October, so that neither Ships nor Vessels

Fort St George 24th September 1756

to be dispatched at that time to Europe, we could give notice of it to our Honble Masters, because otherwise it would be of bad Consequence.

We remain Jointly with much Consideration and Sincerity

Your Honours &c.

Most Humble Friends and Servants.

Fort Ryansberg
3d Sept 1756

As the Danes have declined from our Mediation & return'd the Letter which the French sent to their Assistance, the Committee are of opinion that the King of Tanjour ought to oblige the Poligar of Vennaud Naugul to make Reparation for the damages he has caused to the Danes, or to deliver them up to them. Agreed to write to the King of Tanjour accordingly, and further to use our Interest with him according to the particular Request of the Gentlemen at Tranquebar, to get the annual tribute paid by that place remitted; provided that they on their part observe to keep within their ancient Limits without encroaching on the Tanjour Territories.

George Pigot

Robert Clive

Stringer Lawrence

Henry Berney

Robert Orme

Wm Percival

Ro Ball

Fort St George 24th September 1756.

Sent the following Letter to Captain Cartland pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions.

To Captain John Cartland No 110.

Sir

We have received your Letter No 236 dated the 3d September. One Copy of your Monthly accounts to be endorsed Bill is sufficient. The Nabob has left it to us to take the Management of the Fort and District of Madura, the Sepoys therefore you have ordered in your last to be kept in that Fort will remain under your Direction as well as the Collecting in the best manner what Revenues may be due from the Country for the last year, and as it is our Intention to let out the Madura District upon the most advantageous Terms that may offer, we desire you will make Enquery you that head and acquaint us with the Proposals you may receive, together with your opinion of the Persons who shall make them.

We have desired the Nabob to order Mahfoz Cawn's Vakeel to transmit you the accounts of the Ballances due to Mahfoz Cawn from Tinnevelly and to assist Mondilly in collecting them. These Informations will be of use to you in adjusting accounts with Mondilly.

You may entertain the Deserter returned from Sanjeur and put him upon your Rolls.

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

George Pigot &c Committee

Fort St George
24th Sept 1756

Fort St George 24th September 1756

The Secretary sent the following Letter to Mr Noble pur-
suant to the Order of the foregoing Committee

To Mr Charles Frederick Noble

Sir

The Gentlemen of the Committee have directed
me to acquaint you that they have received your Letter dated the 22d of
this month with the Papers accompanying it from No 1 to No 6.

They have directed me also to return you their thanks for
the trouble you have taken in collecting the Informations contained
in those papers, but to take notice to you at the same time that the
Light to they may afford would have been equally useful had you
forbeard to cast Reflections on the Characters of the Gentlemen in the
Government of Bengall; Reflections as disagreeable to them & the Com-
-mittee to read, as unbecoming you to write, it being evident that
your knowledge of their Proceedings can be founded only on Report,
as your Residence at Bengal was a very short.

The Committee will be obliged to you for the State of the
Province of Bengal, and have given Directions to Captain Brohier
to afford you such Assistance as you shall require for the compleating
& copying it. I am Sir Your most Obedient Servant

Fort St George
the
24 Sept. 1756

Henry Vansittart Secy

29th Sent the following Letter to the Governour and Council of Juanguda as
Pursuant to the Resolutions of last Committee.

Lo

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

To the Honble Thos George Hodges Esq
Gov.r and the Gentlemen of the Council
at Tranquebar

Gentlemen

We have received the pleasure of your Letter dated
the 3d of this Month.

We are sensible of the Injuries done you by the
Polygar Vennad. Nauck and of your right to demand from him
Satisfaction for all the Damages you have sustained, but as the
Dominions of the King of Tanjore could not be deemed answerable
for the acts of the said Polygar, therefore it could not be expected the
King would punish any of his Subjects attached
Now as you have ceased Hostilities we think the King
of Tanjore should see justice done you by the Polygar Vennadi Nauck
and we have wrote to the King accordingly.

We fear it will be very difficult to procure from him a
Release of the Annual Tribute paid by Tranquebar, but we will do
our Endeavours to obtain this if possible; if not, the most beneficial
Terms we can for you, being willing to give you all the Marks in
our power of our Regard to that great Friendship and Intimate
Alliance which subsists between our two Nations.

We are with perfect Esteem
Gent.n
Your
Most Obedient Humble Servants
George Pigot &c Councillors

Fort St George
28 Sept.r 1756

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esq. Governour & President

Robert Clive — Stringer Lawrence

Henry Vansittart — Robert Orme

William Percival — Robert Palk

Tuesday the 28th Sept.

The following Letter from Colonel Aldercron read,

To George Pigot Esq. President & Gov.
&c. &c. Gentlemen of the Secret Committee

Gentlemen,

Matters being in a very critical situation here, it is necessary I should be prepared against the worst, and that I should provide for my own defence; I cannot therefore consent to part with any of my Ammunition and Stores 'till I am convinced by the Report of the Proper Officers, that you can replace them in case of Exigency with other equivalent Quantity and Goodness; In the present case there is no boasting to private assurances, and before I can comply with your request you must permit our Commissary to take a Survey of your Stores, and the Report I shall receive from him will be a guidance to me how to act. The Supplies wanted from your Stores, and which you observe are on the Flackings blended with those belonging to his Majesty, are, I am well informed for the most part to Sling articles, and cannot easily be separated, As to Spatal Stores &c. & Stores, nor can there be much of such Quality in your Storehouse, they were last embarked and consequently the Supplies Sam Gent.n Your most Obed.t humble Servant

John Aldercron

The

Lord St George
the 25 Sept 1756

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

The President acquaints the Committee that immediately on the Receipt of Colonel Adlercron's above Letter, he ordered the Kings Stores to be disembarked, finding that the Commission insisted on by Colonel Adlercron previous to his Compliance with the Request we made him to let those Stores be carried for the Service of the Expedition, would cause even a greater delay than the Landing them and embarking the Company's Stores in their room. The Committee cannot help expressing their Surprize on this Occasion to see Colonel Adlercron throwing continual Obstacles in the way of the Expedition instead of forwarding it.

As the Stores being nearly embarked, and the other necessary Preparations in great forwardness it is Agreed to request of Admiral Watson and Admiral Pocock to be present with us to Morrow morning that it may be settled what number of Troops can be received on board the several Ships of their Squadrons, and also concerning the Prizes that may be taken, on which Subject the Committee are of opinion that as the Company are to bear the whole Expence of the Expedition, which is all a Fund with the hopes of procuring a Satisfaction and Reimbursement of the immense Loss they have sustained; it is highly reasonable that the Plunder that may be taken, or a Portion of it should be allotted for their Benefit.

And therefore it is Agreed to propose to Admiral Watson that the Fortress of Calcutta, if retaken by the Squadron, be immediately delivered up to such Person as may be found within the Company's Limits for the sole use and benefit of the Company.

And in case it should be found adviseable for the Squadron to attack any

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

Moors Race with the Assistance of the Squadron, or to make
Reprizals on Moors Vessels in the River, that the Produce of the Estates
may be so taken be deposited until his Majesty shall determine con-
cerning the Distribution

By which means the Company will have it in their
power to make such Application as they shall think proper

Letters received by the Bombay Frigate from Bengall
Dft to Two from Roger Drake Esq and several of the Gentlemen of the
Calcutta Council of Fort William, one from Major James Kelpatrick, and 2
from Mr. John Zephania Holwell, Read, as follow.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr
President and Govr & Cr Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sirs &c

We have received your several Letters of the 2d 4th & 10th
July by the Mermaid Capt. Norwood and Delaware, with the Consignments
of Seamen and Redirected your Honour &c have and receive those Letters

Major Kelpatrick and the detachment under his Command
joined us on the 31st Augt, Had this Reinforcement arrived before the Loss
of our Settlement, it might have been of great use and Service of the place,
but in our present Situation we cannot foreland undertake any thing
with so small a Force and without Cannon for which reason we shall
order your Honour &c will comply with the Request we have made
by Mr Manningham's Duplicate of which Address we now inclose you
for a footing as with a sufficient Force both Military and Marine in
order to Re establish the Honble Company's Settlements in these Provinces
the importance whereof to our Employers we leave your Honble &c to judge

Sirs

197

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

Major Kilpatrick having separated the Letters
you addressed to the Military and Stores now on the Coast, from those
your Honours will judge what Letters
necessary to be opened accordingly

Should your Honours
wish to have the Forces under the Command
of Major Kilpatrick
proceed to the Coast after the 20th or 25th
Horrible Surprize
Journal Orders
Roger Drake
Wm Rich.d Peakes
Sculla
28th August 1756
"
"

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr
President & Gov.r & Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sirs &c.

That such Advices and Letters as Transactions
which are requisite to be performed with Diligence and Secrecy might
be so practised, a Secret Committee consisting of
Gentlemen have thought proper to keep from the Knowledge of
the Publick the contents of your Honours &c dated the 4th
Wm Moore Esqr
and twenty Barrels of Powder

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

advice of Admiral Watson having been so good as to spare the Bridgewater Man of War, in order that as your Honour &c might have conveyance to Embark us a second detachment with the further supply of Military Stores. From the latest Advices we learn that the Nabob's Troops quarter'd near Calcutta, Jannat's Fort and Dong Dongee consist of about Seven thousand, and that further numbers are ordered to proceed Towards Calcutta. We esteem it necessary to acquaint your Honour &c that many private Letters advise that the [illegible] are preparing to proceed to your Relief, therefore to prevent as soon a Publication of your Resolutions touching what support you are able to afford us, we are to desire Express Orders may be given to every Commander of any Vessels proceeding Southward not to deliver any Letters whatsoever but to the Gentlemen intrusted with the Company's Affairs.

We are with Respect
Honble Sirs &c
Your most Obedt humble Servants

Roger Drake — William Watts
P. Le Hotwell — James Kellpatrick

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr
President and Gov. & Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sirs &c

Taking this the first opportunity I could possibly meet with, to have the honour of acquainting you that I arrived in the River of the 23d Inst with the Troops under my Command, mostly in good Health and Spirits. Of these more I endeavour'd to inform you together

Calcutta
7th August 1756

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

together with a State of the Military at Bengall and of the Ordnance Stores &c. I need not refer you to my Gentlemen, of the Melancholly news I met with upon my first Arrival here, which you will no doubt have heard before this can reach you, and with all its sad circumstances from Mr Manningham.

Hector Delaware, which is now safely come up, on the 30th Instant at the Request of the Governour and Council, and found them divided [illegible] for we may more easily imagine the Condition of those poor Gentlemen, driven out from their Habitations, driven out from all they have in the World, and what is worst, having lost all confidence almost in their fellow Creatures, that had been committed to their Charge; where many people are [illegible] and them who have also lost their All, are discontented and even troublesome, pretending to find fault and give their opinions without shewing that respect which they ought. I hope however when we all meet, for there are still three of the Council upon the Coast, that we shall be then able to re-establish Matters, and take such Resolutions as will be most for the benefit of the Honble Company and advantage of the whole.

When I mention the Council I ought to inform my good Lord, that I have the honour to act here as one of the Members, and that it was the desire of the Gentlemen themselves. For they told me that it was the Company's orders, that wherever a Major happened to be with them, he should always take the third place at the Board, which I accordingly did; tho' Mr Hett then knew at the same time that I never had had that honour with you, and the Reasons that had been given for it.

Fort St George 28th September 1756

We have been pretty well supplied with Provisions since I have come here, which has a good deal taken off from the Apprehensions of the Country People, who I believe are otherwise disposed to supply us, as we take care that they are well used.

The Place and Situation we are in, renders it extreamly unhealthy, and I am sorry to hear that it will be but more so as the Season advances. Yet I don't believe we will can move from this, tho' we have had Advices from you; for I am informed that both sides of the River downwards, and a good Way upwards, are so enhobbyshwa and Paddy fields that it would be impossible to keep the people on Shore: and to attack the Enemy at present, tho' we were even sure to make ourselves Masters of Calcutta, would be to no manner of Purpose in the World, if you are not in a condition to send us large Supplies of in short every thing.

I have found neither Men, Guns, nor Ammunition here indosed with shew you our Numbers. The Gons Field Pieces you sent me is all over Rain; and the Ammunition you sent with those is all we have got of the Kind. Captain Winter spared us some Powder Lead, with which I have made up about fifty Rounds a Man, which all we have to trust to, in case of an Attack, of which we have had so uncertain Reports; particularly from a great Armament of Broadsides we have heard they are preparing against us up the River.

Affairs are in such a Situation here, that I have entirely given over all thoughts for the present, of returning home, as I intended. I have always had that Attachment to the Honble Company whatever disappointments I may have met with, as ever to have let any Private Concerns stay with me when they were at all intere

Fort St George 28th September 1756

interested: nor would I ever leave their Service unless I was extreamly ill used indeed, at a time when my Staying might be so necessary as it very probably will be here. I was my self at a loss, to find the reason that they had not thought it proper to put me on the Setting that the Station you had given me, and my Services I imagine might have deserved. But as I have always had so much your good inclinations, Gentlemen, I hope you will be able to represent things to them in such a manner by the first Shipping, that they will think it right to consider me in a way that will be both agreeable to me and to my Honour.

I have the Honour to be with the greatest Respect & Sincerity

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient & most Humble Servant

James Killpatrick

Common board the Delaware
Sailed 5th Aug.t 1756.

To the Hon'ble George Pigot Esq.r
President & Governor & Council
of Fort St George

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

Little capable as I am in my present distressed situation of executing a task of this kind, it yet cannot be neglected, consistent with my duty to my Hon'ble Employers, and the trust last devolved on me at their Settlement of Fort Williams, now theirs no more. As President, I doubt not but you have before this been advised of by Flatt Mars from this Bay and the Ship by your late President from Bengal, this conjecture however will not excuse my omitting to transmit you under General Heads the several Gradations by which our Hon'ble Masters have sustained this Important Loss; this I am to request you

you will forward to them by the most Expeditious conveyance in
your power, whilst I refer them and you to a particular and distinct
Narrative of the Causes and Various Accidents which contributed to
our Fatal Catastrophe in those Provinces; which I will attempt as soon
as the Recovery of my Health shou'd much improved will enable me

Our Factory at Cossimbuzar being given up to the Nabob the 3d
of June last, by the most unhappy and unaccountable infatuation of
our Chief and Council there, the Foundation of our Ruin was laid, the Acqui-
sition was to great to the Nabob to be relinquished, and he was sensible he
must relinquish it as well as restore our Money and Goods seized at the
different Aurungs, or entirely exterpate us from the Province; The Cash
Ammunition and Military Stores he became possessed of at Cossimbuzar
determined him to the Latter, and as he expected some Succours might be
us from the Coast, he marched against us with the whole Force of his Do
consisting by the best Accounts we have since acquired, of 30,000 Horse a
35,000 Foot with four hundred Elephants of War; though our Intel-
ligence during his Approach, made his Force no more than Cor 7000 Ho
and 12 or 15,000 Foot, nor could we ever learn with any Certainty wether
the Nabob marched against us in Person or not; for he had cut off all
Communication between us and the Gentlemen of Cossimbuzar, so
with the Garrison he made Prisoners, and our Spies either had not co
enough to approach his Army for any just intelligence, or not enough
enough to give it us on the Earliest Notice of his last Intention, th
all the disposition in our power for his Reception, tho' I believe we
Fortress less defensible, encumbered with Houses close round us, no
to destroy or pull down; No Esplanade for our Guns { No Ditch, no glacis

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

Mr Pavalon half finished that did us more disservice than service, a number of Lanes and Avenues opening within less than half musket Shot of our Fort — To remedy these Evils, Advanced Posts were appointed, Detachments, Breast Works thrown up and Advanced Batteries raised at three principal posts, viz.t, at the Court House Eastward, at the Corner of Griffith's House to the Northward, and at Mr Pearce's Bridge to the Southward, and the Gaol was fortified as a further advance Post. We had flattered ourselves that we should have mustered between five or six hundred Effective Men Europeans and Blacks and Militia, Inhabitants, and those belonging to the Shipping, but to our utmost astonishment when our Military Roll was returned in Council it consisted only of 45 of the Train & 145 Infantry and in both, only 60 Europeans in the Militia were about 100 Armenians, who were entirely useless and more than that number among st the Black Militia; so that in Fact when the sea faring people who most of them appeared only at the first Muster were draughted off on board the Vessels of which we had in Port about 30 Sail of every Craft at least, Our Garrison did not consist of 250 fighting men, Officers included.

On the 7th June all Provisions were prohibited by the Nabob being brought into Calcutta by orders to the several Zemindars on both sides and the other side of the River between the 10th & 13th June several parties of the Nabobs Troops took Possession of Tanners Fort located off over Communication on the River from below; on the 14th three or four Ships were sent Down to dislodge them, without Effect; on the 16th Baugbazar Redoubt was attacked by the Nabobs Army, who

Fort St. George 28th September 1756.

were repulsed with considerable Loss to them by Lieut.t Blagg and Ensign Pecard and 25 Men with 30 Buckseerries; Here two European Soldiers were killed; and Mr. Ralph Shorcsby, a hopeful young Gentleman who with many others of the Junior Servants had entered Volunteers in the Infantry. About this time two Moors Ships were Brought under our Guns which by way of Reprisal we had taken below. On the 17th About 300 Buckseerries to the number of near 700. taken, the most of them Sints our pay on this occasion, fled to a Man from our Monkeys and I believe deserted to the Enemy. Early this day our principal post to the Northward by Mr. Griffiths was attack'd, and something later that at the Court House by flying Parties from the Streets and Houses whilst a Multitude of detached Parties from the Nabob's Army were plundering and destroying every part of the Town to the Northward; these two Advanced Posts were continually allarmed and harrassed this whole day and the Succeeding Night and Day, that is to say, the 18th when the Enemy brought a 12 Pounder as supported with about 5000 Musketry, to bear against the Said, which was gallantly defended by a French Officer Mons.r La Beaume with Ensign Carstairs and 32 Men detached from the Advanced Post at the Court house, and maintained until about noon, when Mons.r La Beaume and Ens.n Carstairs being Wounded, some of the Sepoys killed, and others of the detachment disabled, the Post was relinquished and one Field piece brought off with the Party. About 4 in the Afternoon the Enemy having taken Possession of the Houses all round the Advanced Post, at the Court House, it was ordered to be abandoned and the same Evening the like orders were sent to the other two Posts to the Southward and Northward, and Nayar's Party recalled from Baag Bazar. This Evening at a Council of War it was resolved

to

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

to Embark the Company's Treasure Books and the European Ladies, and further agreed that the Ships should remain under the Guns of the Fort — Messrs Mannuingham and Frankland, (the first Colonel, the other Lieut Colonel of the Militia) conducted the Ladies on board, and I understood were to return, when they had reconciled the Ladies to their Situation but they never returned again, nor was did Captain Lieut Mapletoft, Lieut Henry Wedderburn, Ensign William Sumner Charles Douglas and Robert Halsey Baldrick all Officers of the Militia, besides about 15 of the Volunteers, and many of the Militia who deserted the Fort this day and the Succeeding Morning. On the 18th more advanced in the Night, we held another Council of War, and the Captain of the Train being ordered to make a Return of the Ammunition, We were thunderstruck when he reported there was not full three days Ammunition in the Garrison, the debate then turned on the Question, whether a Retreat with the Garrison and all the Company's Effects could be attempted that night, but so much of it elapsed in debate only, that it became impracticable 'till the next, when myself and I believe every body else present judged the Retreat was determined to be carried into Execution; in the Morning of the 19th the Enemy were pretty quiet and only now and then threw a Random Shot at the Fort from the Batteries they had raised in three or four different Stations, whilst they were busy in forming Lodgements in the Houses round us. About 9 this Morning our President Mr Drake, Commandant Monsieur, Messrs Macket & Captain of Militia, Captain Grant Adjutant General, Mr O'Hara Lieutenant of the Train privately withdrew out of the back gate, deserted the Factory, and Embarked on board the Shipping, which immediately weighed and stood

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

down the River, without leaving us a single boat at the Gat, or Possibility of making a General Retreat, and this, before any Attack had been actually made on the Fort; On the Governour &c.a deserting being known, the Garrison fell into the utmost confusion and tumults when the Gentlemen remaining of the Council, Officers and others, intreated I would immediately take upon me the Government of the Fort, as the only means of quieting the present Tumults, which must otherwise end in the destruction of the whole. A Council was directly called, and Mr Pearkes waving his Right of Seniority, himself and Messrs Pye and Bailey appointed me Governour and Administrator of the Honble Company's Affairs during the troubles, in which Light I was recognized by the whole Garrison. I immediately visited every Post and soon quieted the minds of the people by assuring them they should have three Chests of Treasure divided amongst the Soldiers and Militia, if they would defend the Fort until we could make a General Retreat with all the Company's Effects, and that I would be the last Man that quited the Fort. At the Council held as above, we suspended the President and the Gentlemen of the Council and Officers with him from the Company's Service, it being the only just piece of Resentment in our power for the cruel piece of Treachery they had been guilty of to the whole Garrison, as well as Breach of Trust to their Employers. We likewise sent an order to Captain Hague Commander of the Company's Ship St George stationed at at Baag Bazar to Weigh and immediately drop down opposite the Lane between the new Godowns of the Factory, and the Company's house, these new Godowns being the Weakest part of the Fort and not flanked by any Gun from it; the Ships in this Station would have accomplished this Service, have contributed to dislodge

the

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

the Enemy from the Compnay's House, and have been under our Guns, as she was then the only Chance we had for a General Retreat, three or four Boats being yet with her. Mr Parker was so obliging as to Order himself with three or four Volunteers on the Service and went on board accordingly, but the Pilot neither that day nor the next would undertake to bring her down lower than opposite Mr Watts's House, where she was useless to us. To return to our Situation. The 19th after the President's desertion from Council I had hardly gone round the Ramparts, before the Enemy attacked the Fort incessantly the whole remainder of the day from their Batteries and small Arms, of the Fourne from the Battery We had raised at the Court House from another they had Erected in Mr Alsop's Compound between the Court House and the Jail, from the third Erected at the South West Corner of the Back, from a Fourth in the Reverend Mr Bellamy's Compound, and from a small Battery they had raised by the Dock Head they fired incessantly from their Batteries they would not have made a Breach in a Twelvemonth, tho' they fired from 18 Pounders, but their Small Arms from the Houses round us, particularly the Compny's, Captain Rannie's and Mr Cruttenden's annoyed us much, from whence we several times dislodged them with great slaughter and obliged them at last to set fire to them and abandon them. The 19th at night our people had some Recess, but were obliged to sleep on their Arms. The 20th in the Morning the Enemy formed three assaults at once, against the North West Bastion, the Northwest Cuttock or Barrier, and against the Windows of the Laboratory on the Eastern Curtain and attempted to Scale to the Northward from each of these assaults; they were beat

Fort St George 28th September 1756

off with Great Loss to them before Noon, and a general cessation in a manner ensued for some hours, when finding we had 25 killed and 70 or more of our best men wounded and our Town Killed, wounded and deserted to all but 14. and not two hours Ammunition left, we threw out a Flag of Truce towards the Evening intending to amuse the Enemy and make the best retreat we could in the night to the St George, not them knowing that she was on a sand opposite to Omy Chunds House, during the Parley our back gate was betrayed to the Enemy in concert I judge with some that had deserted the preceeding Night from the Walls and those who had the Guard of that Gate, who were obliged to unrench off the Locks and Bolts, the keys being in my possession; in this Situation we had nothing left to resolve on but a Surrender at Discretion.

Thus have I transmitted to your Honour &c. as circumstantial an account of this Melancholy Event, as my State of Body and Mind will at present permit me, pray'd in my own private Fortune as well as much Injured in Constitution of both, having barely strength to hold the Pen, a yet necessary Period, whilst I advise you that of the Enemy we killed first and Last by their own confession 5000 of their Troops and 80 Jemmaulders and Officers of Consequence, exclusive of the Wounded. The resistance we made, and the Loss they suffer'd so irritated the Nabob that he ordered myself and all the Prisoners promiscuously to the number of about 165 or 170 to be crammed all together into a small Prison in the Fort called the Black Hole, from whence only about 16 of us came out alive in the morning, the rest being suffocated & Death. Amongst those, Myself, Mr Richard Court

Mr

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

the Enemy from the Companys House, and have been wonderous Guns, as then the only Chance we had for a General Re-treat, three or four Boats being yet with her. Mr Pearkes was so obliging as to Tender himself with three or four Volunteers on this Service and went on board accordingly, but the Pilot neither that day nor the next would undertake to bring her down Lower than opposite Mr Wallis's House, where she was useless to us. To return to our Situation. The 19th after the President's desertion from Council I had hardly gone round the Ramparts, before the Enemy attacked the Fort incessantly the whole remainder of the day from their Batte-ries and small Arms, of the former from the Battery We had raised at the Court House from another they had Erected in Mr Alcop's Compound between the Court House and the Jail, from the third Erected at the South West Corner of the Park, from a Fourth in the Reverend Mr Bellamy's Compound, and from a small Battery they had raised by the Dock Head they fired incessantly from their Batteries they would not have made a Breach in a Twelvemonth, tho' they fired from 18 Pounders; but their Small Arms from the Houses round us, particularly the Company's, Captain Rannie's and Mr Cruttenden's annoyed us much, from whence we several times dislodged them with great slaughter and obliged them at last to set fire to them and abandon them. The 19th at night our people had some Recess, but were obliged to sleep on their Arms. The 20th in the Morning the Enemy formed three assaults at once, against the North West Bastion, the Northwest Bullock or Barrier, and against the Windows of the Laboratory on the Eastern Curtain and attempted to scale to the Northward from each of these assaults; they were beat

Fort St George 28th September 1756

off with Great Loss to them before Noon, and a general cessation in a manner ensued for some hours, when finding we had 25 killd and 70 or more of our best men wounded and our Brave Killed, wounded and deserted to all but 14 and not two hours Ammunition left, we threw out a Flag of Truce towards the Evening intending to amuse the Enemy and make the best retreat we could in the night to the St George, not then knowing that she was on a sand opposite to Omy Chund's House, during the Parley our back gate was betrayed to the Enemy in concert I judge with some that had deserted the foregoing Night from the Walls and those who had the Guard of that Gate, who were obliged to wrench off the Locks and Bolts, the keys being in my possession; in this Situation we had nothing left to resolve on but to Surrender at Discretion.

Thus have I transmitted to your Honour &c. as circumstantial an account of this Melancholy Event, as my State of Body and Mind will at present permit me, pray'd in my own private Fortune as well as so much Injured in Constitution of both, having barely strength to hold the Pen, as yet necessary Period, whilst I advise you that of the Enemy we killed first and Last by their own confession 5000 of their Troops and 80 Commanders and Officers of Consequence, exclusive of the Wounded. The Resistance we made, and the Loss they suffered so irritated the Nabob that he ordered myself and all the Prisoners promiscuously to the number of about 165 or 170 to be crammed all together into a small Prison in the Fort called the Black Hole, from whence only about 16 of us came out alive in the morning, the rest being suffocated to Death. Amongst those, Myself, Mr Richard Court

Mr

80 M

Fort St George 28th September 1756

Mr John Cooke, Mr Lushington, Ensign Walcott, Mr Burdett &c young Gentlemen Volunteer Capt Mills, Captain Dickson and about 7 or 8 Soldiers Blacks and White; amongst the Dead, Messrs Eyre and Wm Bailey, the Revd Mr Bellamy, Messrs Jenks, Revely, Law, Coales, &c. Our three Military Captains and 9 Subalterns many of our Volunteers and Inhabitants, of whom Particulars Lists shall be forwarded to the Honble Company as Recollection enables one;

Myself, Messrs Court, Walcott and Burdett were sent to the Camp the 21st in the morning, there put in Irons and marched the 22d three miles to Town in the Same and our Irons; with no covering to our Heads and hardly any to our Bodies. At the Dock head we were detain'd the 22 23d & 24th and the Evening of that day put on board an open boat for this City destitute of a Rupee or any once Stores of Life; on the 30th Instant we arrived here, our subsistence in the way Rice & Water and were deposited under a Guard in an open stinking Cow House, a Spectacle to the whole City (and hardly escaped a second Smothering) until the 1st when we were removed to the Servants Dairy House under whose Custody we were; On the 15th we were again commanded to the Cow House flatter'd with hopes of knowing our Ultimate Fate; there we remained that Night, and Yesterday had our Fetters struck off and were once again bless with Liberty and Freedom to go where we please. The Humanity and Friendship we received here from the Gentlemen of the French and Dutch Factories will ever require our most grateful remembrance

Honble Sirs I am that I inform your Honours &c that at the first Approaches of the Troubles, we wrote to Chandernagore and

Fort St George 28th September 1756

Hughley to joinn us in a cause we deemed common, and profs'd their assistance with Men and Ammunition; the answer we receiv'd from Hughley was, that they were ordered by their Principals to remain Neuter in all disputes of this kind with the Government. From Chowdaraagore, the answer was more favourable but of equal Utility to us; for when we profs'd them for Men and Ammunition they gently refused us, and pleaded their own Weakness. Neither have we deficient in writing Letter after Letter to the Nabob, making him every concession in our power; of which he took not the least notice nor returned one answer.

Your Honour &c. have heard of the Sufferings of the Gentlemen with him, which alone entitles them to the Honble Company's favour: but I should do great Injustice to Mess.rs Court and Wadeer if I omitted mentioning them in the particular manner they merit; the former the only Officer of the Militia; the other, the only one of the Military alive, who did not desert their Colours. The former has distinguished himself as a faithfull Covenant Servant, and both as Gallant Officers. Dacca Factory is given up; but Luckipore succeed tenderly advice to withdraw, and have thear joined our late President at Ingellee.

I am with Respect

Hond.ble Sirs Sir

Your most Obedient Humble Servant

J. Zo Holwell

Muxadavad
17th July 1756

To the Honble George Vigot Esq
President & Governour &c Council
of Fort St George

Honble Sirs Sirs

With this you have Copy of my Letter dispatched per Pattamar

10

886

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

Nattamar from Muxadavad the 17th Ulto on the Reynaal, which I find a few Errors and Omissions occasioned by the unsettled State I was then in, and which I now beg leave to rectify.

On the three Advanced Batteries being withdrawn Friday the 18th possession was taken by our Troops of the Church, and Messrs. Eyres, Crattenden's, the Company's and Omychund's Houses, but were all abandoned the next day, I think after the Desertion of the President, Commandant &c. but will be only positive as to the Party in Mr Crattenden's House, commanded by Capt. Lieutenant Smith. Because when I was going round the Ramparts after being appointed to the Government of the Fort, I discovered with that Party from the Curtain next to Mr Crattenden's House.

In my Letter of the 17th July I omitted mentioning the Enemy having made a Lodgement on the Church on the Morning of the 20th, but they did not finish their Breast Work of Bales upon it, untill after 12 — From this Post which commanded every Line and Bastion of the Fort, the Enemy must have been dislodged by a counter Lodgement upon the top of the Factory House, had there been Ammunition to have maintained the Fort any Longer.

I likewise omitted mentioning that one of the Moors Ships which were under our Guns, was intended to be taken with the St George for the General Retreat we had intended and planned for the night of the 20th and which would have been carried into execution the 19th at Night, had the St George come down to us with her Boats.

In my mention of the Western Gate being betrayed to the Enemy during the Party, I did not advise that the Guard

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

there and a great part of the Garrison, Military and Militia, rush'd out the moment the Gate was opened and endeavoured to Escape; many were killed, some escaped, and others received Quarter. The Gate was forced by a Serjeant of the Train named Hedelburgh now in the Service of the Nabob. During the Parley, the Southerly Sallyport or Barrier was deserted by the Serjeant and Guard there, who fled as the Enemy forcing that Barrier, found nothing to oppose their Entrance into the Fort; as soon as the Western Gate was forced, All the foregoing particulars in this Paragraph came not to my knowledge untill my Return from Muxadavad.

I remarked to your Honour &c. 6000 of the Enemy being killed by their own Artillery, but from more certain Intelligence their Loss is first and last Seven thousand at least.

I over reckoned the number of Prisoners put into the Black Hole and the number of the Dead; The former being only 146. and the latter 123. many recovering after Air was let in by opening the door in the morning; and many more I doubt not might have recovered had any means or care been taken of them. I charg'd the Nabob with designedly having ordered the Unheard of piece of Cruelty of cramming us all into that small Prison; but I have now reason to think I did him injustice. His order as I learn was only general "That we should be Imprisoned that Night, our Number being too great "to be at Large." And being left to the Mercy and Direction of his Servants and Buckandasses, their resentment for the murder of their Brethren Slain took this method of Revenge; and indeed they cea'd not insulting over the whole night, This Witness'es Narration which bar all description.

9

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

I have said there was an Order of Council the 18th in the Evening for Embarking the Company's Treasure Book and the Ladies. On Recollection I think the Company's Books was not part of the Order. My mistake arose from a short conversation after Council between Mr Manningham and Myself on the Propriety of carrying also the Company's Books and essential papers off with him, when he went to conduct the Ladies. Whether the Treasure or Books were Embarked I cannot say, the late President and Gentlemen below who have assumed the Title and Authority of Agents for the Company's Affairs are the best Judges. After the President's departure, I made Enquiry after the Sub Treasurer and keeps of the Treasury, but neither one or the other was to be found. I intended on the first Recess to have opened the Treasury to have been satisfied in this Particular; but that recess never came.

I have said the Enemy was Repulsed at Baag Bazar I doubt by Ensign Piccard and 25 Men, but forgot to mention his being re-inforced by Lieut Blagg and 30 Men; I also omitted that the St George Capt Hague and another small Vessell commanded by Captain Campbell was Stationed up the River to Cover that Post. At the Attack of which, the Enemy Lost at least 800 Men from the Fire of the Detachment on shore, and from the Ships; which obliged them to abandon their design of entering at that Quarter which they never attacked again.

I have more than once made mention of the want of Ammunition as one principal cause of the Loss of the Settlement; but beg Leave to remark here, that had the Quantity of Ammunition

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

remaining, from ever so great, it would have been morally impossible to have defended the Fort another day, circumstanced as we were. For, not to mention the particulars of less moment, such as some of our Dutch Soldiers being drunk, and a few worthless low fellows amongst the Militia, Seditious and troublesome, Our Garrison by the Numbers Killed, Wounded and Deserted became so reduced, that the Duty and Action was Continual and without Relief, and the Strength of both Officers and Soldiers were in a manner quite ex-hausted. I should not have added any trouble to your Honour &c. on this Subject, had I not been informed that a Pompous Account of the Ammunition in Fort William when taken, has been trans-mitted to your Presidency, and to my Honble Masters; by some whom I am sorry to say must in this case have been glad to act on Leveling Principles; or they would have been a little more Circumspect in transmitting the Report, which I hear was taken from an old Invalid Sergeant of the Train Named Myers, and a Mate of the Train named Miller, which account as I am further informed was given by those people as the whole of the Ammunition contained in the Factory at the beginning of the Siege, and indeed must be so from the Nature of things, tho' I hear it is transmitted to your Honour &c.a as an Account of Ammunition &c.a remaining in the Fort when Surrendered. This I will suppose was by mistake, for I would not be thought to Insinuate it could possibly be done with design. The whole Quantity of the Company's Powder in the Magazine of the Fort was at the beginning 740 Maunds only; and some quantity belong-ing to the Ships which as usual on their Importing were deposited there, and a double quantity re-deliver'd to them when sent on Service

to

810

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

to Sanniers Fort and to cover Baag Bazar Redoubt - Four Ships I think to Sanniers, and two to Baag Bazar. The former commanded that Post as I remember a day and night, and sent for a supply of Powder which they receiv'd, and none was returned back from any of them. Add to this, the Powder expended in the number of Shells thrown, the continued cannonading from the Advanced Batteries to the Northward and Eastward, as well as from the Fort the 18th and from the Fort only on the 19th & 20th and it will appear impossible there could be many hours ammunition in the Fort when Surrendered.

Add to this, the Capt. of the Train's Report in Council the 18th which must surely carry greater weight and conviction with it, than that of the people above mentioned, supposing their Report to have been as transmitted; to corroborate which report of Capt. L. Witherington I beg leave to mention another circumstance - that during the Enemys three Attacks made to the Northward in the morning of the 20th Mr Bailey and the Captain of the Train came to me and proposed my then throwing out a Flag of Truce, the latter telling me there was no Powder left, but what was wet; I asked him whether there was not enough for a few hours - He replied that was the utmost; I then told him the Enemy should be first convinced we could depute them, and that a Flag of Truce would be afterwards thrown out with as much better prospect of Success - The small quantity of Powder at the beginning was the reason we could not think of blowing up the Houses round us, and to have pulled them down would have been two months work, Pucca Houses near as strong as the Fort itself - Powder we made every day more or less until the place was actually invested, but it was wet and useless, and dependence on some

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

Shells filled with this Powder had like to have been the Loss of the
Nth Bastion the morning of the 26th not one of them taking. Thus
on the whole I may Aver to your Honour &c. that not one article
in the account of Ammunition transmitted you, said to be in the
Fort at the time We surrendered is true, save that of the Wet Powder, of
which I believe there was about 100 Maund.

Accompanying this are the Several Lists promised in mine
of the 15th Inst. they are as correct as I at present can make them, and are
deficient in nothing but in the number of those of the Militia and
Others who quitted the Fort the 18th & 19th whose names I cannot obtain
until I join our scattered Colony below; which I intend doing in a
day or two if I can attempt the thing with any degree of Safety having
advice that Major Kilpatrick is arrived on the Delaware with a Re-in-
=forcement of 250 Men.

I am with much Respect
Honble Sirs
Your most Obed.t Humble Servant
J. Z. Holwell.

Houghly
3.d August 1756

A List of those who quitted Fort William the 18th & 19th June 1756

Governour Drake	19th June.	
Colonel Maningham	18th	
Lieut.t Col.o Scrafton	18	
Mr Mackett 2d Capt Militia	19	
Capt Minchin Commandt	Do	
Capt Grant Acquit General	Do	
Revd Mr Mapletoft Capt Lieut M.	19th	
Charles O'Hara Ens.n & Lieu.t Train	19	
Henry Vedderburn Lieut Mil.a	19th	
Charles Douglas Ens.n Mil.a	19	
Thomas Holmes Lieut Militia	18th	
William Sumner		Do
Robt Halsey Baldock Ens.n Militia		19th

Volunteers

Mr William Ellis	19th	
Mr William Bitters		
Mr William Rider	19th	
Mr Oscar Senior		
Mr William Orr		
Mr James Kaimes	19th	

812

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

Volunteers Cro'over

Mr Robert Lancaster
Mr Stephen Paige
Mr William Locke
Mr Francis Charlton
Mr ___ Champion ... 19th
Capt. Lodwick Lord Wounded
Capt.r ___ Campbell .. 19th

Militia

Mr Edw.d Holden Cruttenden
Mr Anselm Beaumont
Captain David Rannie
Mr William Nixon
Mr John Pitham
Capt Nicholson & Officers
Captain Austin & Do
Mr William Lindsay
Captain Whatmough & Officers
Captain Youngand ... Do
Mr Margas
Mr Pyfinch
Captain Walmsley
William Burton
Monsieur Albert
Monsieur Carvalho
Mr John Wood
Captain Laing
Henry Simmes
Captain Keogh Bradley
Edward Ridge
William Elves

Militia Cro'over

Daniel Whaley
William Ling
John Stronsenbourgh
John Helmstead &c.a

Doctors

William Fullerton

A List of those smothered in the Black Hole the 20th June 1756 at Night exclusive of the English, Dutch & Portuguese Soldiers, whose names I am Unacquainted with

Messrs Edward Eyre ....
William Bailey } Esqrs
Revd Mr Jervas Bellamy
Messrs Jones
Revely
Lamb
Valicourt
Jebb
Coates
Jones
E. Paige
Grubb
Street
Hazard
Johnston
Ballard
N. Drake
Carse
Knapton
Gosling
Bourg

Fort St George 28th September 1756.

Messrs Dodd.
Dalrymple.
Capts Clayton. Commandt.
Buchanon
Witherington
Lieuts Bishop
Hays
Blagg
Simson
Bellamy Junior.
Ensigns Piccard
Scott
Hastings
Chas Wedderburn
Serjeant Major
Dumbleton. Ens. 77 Mot
Mr Atkinson
Abraham
Cartwright } Serjts Mot
Bleake }
Mr Cary
Mr Stephanson
Mr Guy.
Mr Porter
Capt. Hunt
Capt. Parker
Steph. Page
Capt. Osborne
Capt. Purnel
Mr Calher
Mr Bendall &c.a

A List of those who came alive out of the Black Hole the 21st in the morning.

Messrs Holwell
Court
Cooke
Walcott.
Lushington
Burdet.
Capt. Mills
Capt. Dickson
5
8 or 9 Soldiers & Gunners

A List of Officers Killed and Wounded after the Desertion of the Gov. &c.a

Capt Lieut Smith ... Killed
Capt Pickering. One of the Captains of the Pointsat the Great Guns. Killed
Lieut Simpson ... Wounded
Lieut Ballot ... Wounded and died of his Wounds the 21st in the morning.
Ensign Piccard ... Wounded
... Do ... Scott ... Do
Do ... Coales of 39 Mot. Wounded
Do ... Cartaies ... Wounded
at the Jail the 18th. As also Monsieur La Beaune who commanded at that Post.

Ordered that the Secret Committee be referred to these Minutes in our next Address for a Copy of Holwell's Letters, agreable to that Gentleman's Desire, and that Answers be wrote to Mr Drake & Gentlemen as desired to Major Kilpatrick, when the General Instructions for the Second Expedition are prepared.

Secret committee

8/4

Fort St George 29th September 1756.

Mr Manningham arrived this Morning from Bengall,

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esqr Governour: President
Robert Clive — Stringer Lawrence
Henry Powney — Robert Orme
William Perceval — Robert Palk.

Wednesday the 29th.

Charles Watson Esqr Rear Admiral of the Red and George Pocock Esqr Rear Admiral of the White Likewise present at the Request of the Committee.

Discourse being had concerning the Intended Expedition to Bengall, Mr Watson recommends that it be conducted in all respects like that to Gheria.

It is to be observed in regard to the Expedition to Gheria First that Mr Watson and Mr Pocock were joined with Colonel Clive and Mr Lough in a Commission for the conduct of the Expedition: And Secondly that every thing taken at Gheria even to the Guns and Ammunition was appropriated to the benefit of the Captors, as the Company was at the whole expence of fitting out the Armament and also of repairing the damage done to his Majestys Ships.

How far the Gentlemen at Bombay were right to consent to such terms the Committee do not take upon them to determine; but they proceed to offer to Mr Watson's Consideration several Reasons why the present Intended Expedition to Bengall ought not to be conducted in the same manner.

With regard to the Land Forces the Powers to be given

Fort St George 29th September 1756.

Mr Watson & the Committee represent to Mr Watson, that the Present Expedition to Bengall is intended for the Re establishment of the Company's Ancient Settlements in that Province; upon the former, or if possible, a better footing; that this must be done by Treaty with the Nabob, and that this Treaty which regards only the Company's Rights and Privileges can properly be conducted by none but the Company's Representatives at Bengal. The Military Part of the Expedition, by the Success of which it is hoped the Nabob will be brought to enter upon such a Treaty, should undoubtedly be conducted by a Council of War composed of Officers of the Sea or Land Forces or both, according to the nature of the Undertaking; but the Civil part, such as the making of Treaties for the Re establishment of the Company's Rights and Privileges, and the Regulating the Affairs of their former Settlements, the Committee judge can belong only to the Civil Servants of the Company.

Mr Watson then desired to know plainly what Powers he was to be vested with, and what Services we should desire of him to perform upon the Present Expedition; to which the Committee answer'd that the Powers he had from his Majesty were quite sufficient, and that they should only request of him to perform such Services as may be recommended to him by the Company's Representatives in Bengall.

With regard to the Second Point, the distribution of Captures, it is to be consider'd that the Present Expedition to Bengall is fitted out, like that to Gheria, at the vast and sole

expence

816

Fort St George 29th September 1756.

expence of the Company, but with different views; that to Ghevia was to root out a Robber who had long invested the Seas and so to give a future Security to their Trade, and by the Capture of his places to acquire new Possessions to themselves; This to Bengall is intended for the Recovery of the Ancient Settlements, Rights and Priviledges of the East India Company, which have suddenly been wrested from them, and to Reimburse by Reprizals, if all other means prove ineffectual, the Immense Loss they have so recently sustained in their own Property. The Committee therefore think themselves obliged to exert their utmost Efforts to secure the Company the immediate Possession of their own Settlements that may be retaken, and such Portion of the Reprizals that may be made upon the Moors as his Majesty shall be pleas'd to adjudge to them. Accordingly the Committee now deliver to Mr Watson in writing the Representations resolved on last Committee, as follow

1st — As it may be supposed that one or more of the Men of War will be sent before Calcutta, and the Moors driven out by her Cannon; It is requested of Mr Watson that he will land Colonel Clive with the Company's Troops or a part of them, to take Possession again of that Settlement, and whatever may be found within the Company's Limits as usually understood, from Perrin's Garden down to Surman's Garden, for the Sole Benefit of the Company, which Request it is hoped will be thought reasonable as the Company have suffered an Immense Loss, and are to bear the whole expence of the Expedition.

2d

Fort St George 29th September 1756

2d Should it be judged proper by the Company's Repre-
=sentatives after the taking of Calcutta to request the assistance
of the Squadron to attack Hughley or any other Moors Town,
or to make Reprisals in the Rivers upon Moors Vessels it is hoped
it will not be thought unreasonable that Commissaries be ap-
=pointed on both sides to dispose of the Prizes that may be so
taken, their Produce to be deposited untill it shall be determined
by his Majesty in what manner it should be distributed; &
Gratuity to be given for the present at the Discretion of the
Council of War to the Petty Officers and Private Men, and to be
deducted out of the Portion in which may be allotted to them.

Mr Watson assur'd the Committee that for his own
part he was ready to give up all Private Advantages for the
Good of the Company and the Publick, but as every Man in
the Squadron was also concern'd, the Proposals must be laid
before a Council of War, which he would summon immediately
and communicate their Determination without Loss of time.

Mr Watson then enquired of the Committee what
number of Men was intended to be sent on the Expedition
to Bengal; In answer to which the Committee inform'd him
their design was to send four hundred Military Rank and
File, and one hundred Seamen, besides the Detachment of the
Regiment now on board the Squadron consisting of about
two hundred Men; but in case that Detachment did not
proceed, then that it was their Intention to send six hun-
=dred Military Rank and File, and one hundred Seamen; and

Further

818

Fort St George 29th September 1756.

Further that it was designed to send as many Seapoys as Conveyances could be found for.)

Mr Watson acquaints the Committee that the Five hundred Europeans only could be destributed on board the Several Ships of the Squadron, over and above the Detachment of the Regiment.

Agreed to Embark the Europeans on his Majesty's Ships, and to send by the Company's Ships Marlborough and Walpole all the Seapoys they can take on board, and to make use of any future Conveyances that may offer for the Embarkation of more Seapoys.

The Committee then requested of Mr Watson to Land the Detachment of the Regiment in case Applications should be made to him by the Company's Representatives at Bengal, which he readily promises with the Proviso that he shall himself see an absolute necessity for their Service on shore, and is assured that they shall be re-embarked upon his Call.

Lastly the Committee debated with Mr Watson concerning the Regulation of the Councils of War that may be found necessary to be held in Bengal, and the Precedency of the Several Officers, in order to prevent future Altercations on that head which might interrupt the Service, accordingly the following Articles were formed in concert and with the unanimous consent of Admiral Watson, Admiral Cook, Colonel Clive and the whole Committee.

1st It is proposed that at all Councils of War held on

he
shore

Prece-

Fort St George 29th September 1756.

board his Majesty's Ships, the Commanding Officer of the Ships shall preside and call to his assistance such other Captains of the Squadron, as he shall see proper, together with the Colonel Clive and any other Field Officer.

2d ——— That at all Councils of War held on shore Colonel Clive shall preside and call to his Assistance such Field Officers as he shall see proper, together with the Captains of such part of the Squadron as are employed on the Joint Service. This is understood to be in the Absence of any Flag Officer.

The two Articles being deliver'd to Mr Watson in writing, he acquainted the Committee he should lay them before the Council of War; and then

Admiral Watson and Admiral Pocock withdrew.

Letter from Captain Maskelyne Commanding in Arcot Fort read, advising of Ensign Kerr's March for Madras with fifty of the best Men of his Garrison, and remarking that those who remain are chiefly Recruits.

The President at the same time acquainted the Committee that upon Application from Captain Maskelyne for leave to proceed with the Intended Detachment for Bengal, in consideration of his Rank, being one of the Eldest Captains, and of his being long deprived of an Opportunity of going on Service during the last troubles by being a Prisoner of War; He had permitted him to come to Madras for that purpose, and directed the Eldest Officer to take charge of the Garrison of

The

Fort St George 29th September 1756.

The President further acquaints the Committee that the Cowles for the Mortgaged Countries of Seven Maganums and Mannarmanguderum expiring the 31st July last, He has made the necessary Enquiries in order to get the most advantagious offers for the new Cowles, and that at length Mahomed Ayar Cawn had offered nineteen thousand /19000 Pagodas for one years Rent of the Seven Maganums, and thirteen thousand /13,000 Pag. for one years Rent of Mannarmanguderum, which, altho one thousand Pagodas less for each Cowle than before, are nevertheless the Presidt represents the best offers that can be got, and he desires the Opinion of this Committee whether they should be accepted.

Agreed that the said offers be accepted.

Resolved that Mr Mannering ham be desir'd to attend the Committee tomorrow morning, that the Proceedings and Resolutions relative to the Bengal Expedition may be communicated to him, and that we may learn from him the more Particular Informations to which we are referr'd by the Gentlemen at Fulta.

Geo. Pigot

Robert Clive

Stringer Lawrence

Henry Vansittart

Robert Orme

Wm. Percival

Robt Salkeld

Fort St George 30th September 1756.

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esqr Governour & President
Robert Clive Stringer Lawrence
Henry Bowrey Robert Orme
William Percival Robert Palk

Thursday the 30. Sept.r

The President acquaints the Committee that Mr Manningham will attend them at two in the Afternoon.

Letters from Captain Caillaud & Todd as follow.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
President & Govr &c Gentlemen
of the Committee at Madrass.

N.o 37.

Honble Sirs &c.rs

I have the honour to inform you that by the Advices Lately receiv'd from Tanjour, every thing is preparing after the King's Feast is over, for Monage to March; in order to recover the Countries in dispute from Sondamun. I fear any Representations this time will be thrown away, nor do I think they will pay any regard even to a positive order from the Nabob to desist from their Pretensions. So circumstanced, n'either it might not be best to feign Ignorance of their designs, and let the Parties decide it as they can between themselves; this I humbly offer to your considerations, and wait for your orders and directions. The Feast will be over by the beginning of the next Month.

Affairs towards Madura remain in the same situation as when I had the honour of writing last. Both Parties remaining

822

Fort St George 30th September 1756.

remaining quiet, and waiting for yours, and the Nabob's Decision. Mahomed Issac had wrote to Hydernaig to come to this assistance; the answer he received was that he could do nothing of the kind without orders from his Master, the King of Mysore; and that he had wrote accordingly to him to know his pleasure.

The Nabob has sent his orders to the Killedar for the Signing with me the Monthly Accounts, which I shall carefully observe.

I remain with great respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient & most Humble Servant,
John Caillaud

Fridchenopoly
18th 1756 Sept.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr
President & Govr & Gentlemen
of the Committee at Madras.
Honble Sir & Sirs

N° 38

My last Letter was dated on the 18th Instant N° 37.
and late the 19th at night I was honoured with yours of the 8th
Instant N° 39 with the several accompanying Copies. Agreable
to the Instructions contained therein, and the Liberty you have
been pleased to honour me with, of pursuing such Methods as to
the best of my judgement might appear of service towards settling
this affair, I have taken the following steps, which I hope may be
approved of.

To Morrow Morning the Dubash Narrain sets out for
Madura, the Fidelity of his services for some years, his capacity &

Fort St George 30th September 1756

the Knowledge he has in particulars of this affair, made me think him the properest person I could employ: Besides that, his Character as a Servant to the Honble Company must have some weight in the Country. I have been able on this occasion to spare him from the necessary business of his Station; Because I have had for some time past in my service, A person who can manage in his absence, and whose Honesty and Knowledge I can trust. His name is Brown; Not unknown by Character to Colonel Lawrence, and M.r Maunsell especially; under whom he served long, and faithfully.

The particular Instructions I have given to Narrain I need not trouble you with; But in General that he is strictly conjoined to; "Not to exceed the Sum which you have thought proper "to Grant towards the settling this affair. That first he is to insist upon the Company's Sepoys marching into Madura; and then Mahofer Cawn and his Peniadars to come here and receive the Summ agreed on. The only allowance of favour he can make in these first offers, is, that half the money shall be paid there, when the Company's Sepoys march into the Fort, the remaining half to be paid here to Mahofer Cawn and his Troops, when the proper Receipts and Acknowledgments are given.

I have desired him also to see the Nellour, and to communicate to him his instruct.ns, and to take his advice in the Management of the Affair. To Moodelliar I have sent orders to come and meet him at the Camp of Mahofer Cawn, that together proper measures may be concerted for raising the necessary summs, when there may be occasion to make any Payments.

As Barkatoolah by his money and interest, is the only person

824

Fort St George 30th September 1756

personable to do any mischief, and whom we may have most cause to apprehend. I have recommended a strict watch over his Motions; And as I suppose the orders for his Removal which you have desired from the Nabob will be agreed to, I have given such particular directions on that head, that he shall find himself under the necessity of obeying the Orders he may receive, and not leave him Master of his Actions so far, as to create any new troubles in that Country.

I have furnished Narrain, with all the necessary Letters to Mahomed Cann, Barkatoola, the Tondiass, as also Moodillee and Mooskann. Copies of which as not immediately of consequence, I have not sent; and hope you will be pleased to excuse; the rather also, as I was impatient first to acquaint you how I had proceeded, and that nothing might so clash Narrain's departure, which I was anxious about. However how necessary, and agreable it will be, to have this affair soon determined, and I dare promise he will use his utmost diligence, and that I shall have the pleasure of soon writing how successful.

Permit me, Gentlemen, before I conclude this Letter, to return my humblest and sincerest thanks for the high Trust and Confidence you have been pleased to repose in me. I dare in return for such honour, plead my Zeal, and the unwearied application with which ever I shall pursue my duty towards my Honourable Employers. Permit me also to assure you that my greatest ambition, and satisfaction in life, is bounded the approbation of my Superiours.

Fort St George 30th September 1756.

I remain most Respectfully and Gratefully

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obed.t and faithfull Servant

Peter Caillaud

Stricture of Monopoly 21st Sept.r 1756

The present Multiplicity of more important Business rendering it necessary for us to avoid as much as possible engaging in any fresh dispute, it is Resolved to order Captain Caillaud not to interfere in what may pass between the King of Tanjour and Tondaman, and in case Application should be made to him either Party, then to transmit such Application to us and wait our Answer.

The Committee approve of the Steps taken by Captain Caillaud towards the Accommodation of the Disturbances at Madura in consequence of your Orders of the 8th.

Letter this Instant receivd from Admiral Watson opened and Read, as follows

To the President and Members of the Secret Committee of Fort St George.

Gentlemen.

In consequence of your Representation to me yesterday, I have assembled a Council of War, who are of Opinion no answer can be made with Propriety 'till you declare who you deem to be the Company's Representatives at Bengal. I therefore desire you will please to send an answer immediately.

&c

826

Fort St George 30th September 1756.

As the Council are waiting

I am Gentlemen

Your most Obedient humble Servt

Charles Watson

Fort St George
30th Sept. 1756.

As Mr Watson in Committee yesterday recommended the Expedition should be conducted on the same footing as that to Gheria, it is imagined that the Tendency of the Enquiry in his above Letter must be to learn whether it is designed that he himself shall be one of the Representatives in the same manner as he was joined in the Commission at Gheria. The Committee therefore think it sufficient to return him for answer that only Company's Servants can be esteemed their Representatives. A Letter was immediately wrote, signed, and sent to Mr Watson as follows.

To Charles Watson Esqr
Rear Admiral of the Red, and Comr
in chief of his Majesty's Squadron in India.

Sir.

The Servants of the Company must doubtless, and can alone represent their Masters in Bengal on all occasions relating to their Affairs; and it is to the Representations of these Servants that we shall at your Departure do ourselves the honour to desire the same attention from you that you have hitherto been pleased to shew to those made by ourselves.

Fort St George
30 Sept. 1756

We are, Sir, Your most Obed humble Servants.

George Pigot &c Committee.

Fort St. George 30th September 1756.

Letter from Mr Wynch Read, advising that he has sent the two Brass Six Pounder field pieces that were at Fort St. David, and a Vessel from Devecotah, by his Majesty's Ships the Bridgewater, according the Directions received from the President.

After 12 O Clock received another Letter from Mr Watson as follows

To the President and Members of the Secret Committee of Fort St George

Gentlemen

I am sorry to trouble you again for what I thought was so plainly asked before. That the Servants of the Company must represent their Masters Affairs in Bengal, I make no doubt; but since you oblige me to be so very explicit, I must desire you will let me know the names of those Servants whose Representations you will, at my departure, desire me to attend to. I am Gent.n Your most Obedient humble Servant

Fort St George the 30 Sept.r 1756.

Charles Watson.

Agreed to defer returning any further answer to Mr Watson until we have conferd with Mr Manningham, as it is not impossible but his Representations may cause some Change in our former Resolution concerning the Representatives in Bengal.

J. H.

Fort St George 30th September 1756.

as the Council are waiting.

I am Gentlemen

Your most Obedient humble Servt

Charles Watson

Fort St George
30th Sept 1756.

As Mr Watson in Committee yesterday occasioned the Expedition should be conducted on the same footing as that to Gheria, it is imagined that the Tendency of the Enquiry in his above Letter must be to learn whether it is designd that he himself shall be one of the Representatives in the same manner as he was joined in the Commission at Gheria. The Committee therefore think it sufficient to return him for answer that only Company's Servants can be esteemed their Representatives. A Letter was immediately wrote, signed, and sent to Mr Watson as follows

To Charles Watson Esqr
Rear Admiral of the Red, and Comr
in chief of his Majesty's Squadron in India.

Sir

The Servants of the Company must doubtless, and can alone represent their Masters in Bengal on all occasions relating to their Affairs; and it is to the Representations of these Servants that we shall at your Departure do ourselves the honour to desire the same attention from you that you have hitherto been pleased to shew to those made by ourselves.

We are, Sir, Your most Obed humble Servants.

George Pigot &c Committee

Fort St George
30th Sept 1756

Fort St George 30th September 1756.

Letter from Mr Wynch Read, advising that he has sent the two Boats, six Pounder field pieces that were at Fort St. David, and a Vessel from Devecotah, by his Majesty's Ship the Bridgewater, according the Directions received from the President.

After 12 O Clock received another Letter from Mr Watson as follows

To the President and Members of the Secret Committee of Fort St George

Gentlemen

I am sorry to trouble you again for what I thought was so plainly asked before. That the Servants of the Company must represent their Masters Affairs in Bengal, I make no doubt; but since you oblige me to be so very explicit, I must desire you will let me know the names of those Servants whose Representations you will, at my departure, desire me to attend to. I am Gent.n Your most Obedient humble Servant

Fort St George
30 Sept.r 1756.

Charles Watson.

Agreed to defer returning any further answer to Mr Watson until he have conferd with Mr Manningham, as it is not impossible but his Representations may cause some Change in our former Resolution concerning the Representatives in Bengal.

Ste

828

Fort St George 30th September 1756.

The Committee being met at Ten in the Afternoon and Mr Manningham being likewise present;

The whole Proceedings of the Council and Committee relative to the late Misfortune at Bengal were Read Mr Manningham, in the Course of this Reading made many Observations in Vindication of the Conduct of the President and Council of Fort William from the Misconduct they are charged with in the several Letters from Messrs Watts and Collett: Holwell &c. particularly on the Subject of Mr Drake's giving Protection to the Nabobs Servants, of his ill treating the Nabobs Messengers, and his not endeavouring to accommodate Affairs before they were carried to too great a Length.

But as it may be impossible for Mr Manningham to recollect at once all the Circumstances he may have to offer in Justification of the Gentlemen in the late administration at Calcutta, and as the Committee will not be desirous to be Judges of their Conduct it is Agreed that a Copy of all the Advices receiv'd from Bengall, and of our Proceedings thereupon be deliver'd to Mr Manningham that he may have an Opportunity of committing his Observations to writing in a more explicit manner for the Information of the Honble the Court of Directors, to whome alone the Determination belongs.

More especially on the Perusal of the Consultations of 21st September last whereby Messrs Clive, Smith and Walsh are appointed a Deputation for the General Conduct of the

late

Fort St George 30th September 1756.

Expedition, to be instructed to receive a Plan of Operations from the Gentlemen of the Council of Bengal for a Guide to their Correspondence with the Nabob, and yet empowered to act contrary to that Plan if they think necessary, Mr Manningham begs leave to offer his thoughts to the Committee.

First that this Power to be lodged in the Deputies totally destroys all the Authority of the President and Council of Fort William.

Secondly that this Board are not empowered to give a Commission which shall destroy the Authority vested by the Company in the President and Council of Fort William, which Authority he thinks does and ought to subsist notwithstanding the Loss of the Place, and that he believes there is an act of Parliament which would set this Point clear.

Thirdly that as it is not in the power of this Board to destroy the Authority of the President and Council of Fort William so neither does he think it can be beneficial to the Company's Affairs; For that

Fourthly it is to be imagined the Gentlemen who have so long resided in Bengal must be best acquainted with the Company's Interests in that Province with the Temper of the People, and the Views of the Different Rajahs &c. and for that reason best qualified for the Management of whatever may be undertaken there.

Fifthly the Destroying the Authority of the President and Council of Bengal would lessen them so much in the opinion

of

of the Company's Servants, and of all the Natives, that they would be rendered absolutely incapable ever again transacting the Company's Affairs in their different Stations; for which Reason

Sixthly, It is probable that many of the Company's Servants would in such case chuse to quit and go to Europe in order to lay their case before the Court of Directors, by which means the Company's Affairs might be distressed for want of Servants

The Committee pointed out to Mr Manningham that the Great Inducement of the Council to nominate Deputies for the Conduct of the Expedition, was as appears by the Minutes of the said Consultation of 21st September, the Absolute Necessity of preserving to themselves the Power of recalling a Part of the Troops intended to be sent to Bengal, in case of a War with France; leaving only a Sufficient Force for the Defence of Calcutta, whereas the Gentlemen of Bengal, was the Power over the Troops to be lodged in them, might determine that the Carrying on the War in Bengal, in case a full Satisfaction had not before been obtained from the Nabob, was unnecessary to the Company's Welfare as the Defence of this Coast, and on that Consideration they might resolve not to return us any of the Troops.

Mr Manningham thereupon assures the Committee that he is persuaded the Gentlemen of Bengal will have no Objection to the leaving the whole Military Authority with Colonel Clive, that they will pay the greatest attention to all that he may recommend during the Course of

Fort St George 30th September 1756

the Expedition and a particular Regard to whatever may be represented to them from this Board — Finally Mr Manningham desires that the Resolution of the 21st September may be reconsidered —

As Mr Manningham can have but one Vote in the Council of Bengal, his Assurances cannot be deemed decisive, but in conformity to his Request it is Agreed to take under Deliberation the Question whether the Resolution of the 21st Septemr relating to the Nomination of Deputies for the Conduct of the Bengal Expedition should be alterd or not, and after a Long Debate in which on one Side were urged the Reasons entered in the Minutes of Consultation of 21st September; on the other the Arguments offered by Mr Manningham; so many Inconveniencies and Objections appeard on both sides, that the Committee could not at this Meeting decide upon the Question in debate, and having sat till nine at Night It was Resolved to defer the Determination until to Morrow Morning.

George Pigot
Robert Clive
Stringer Lawrence
Henry Lewis
Robert Orme
Wm Percival
Robt Palk

832

Fort St George 1st October 1756

Sent the following Letter to Captain Caillaud pursuant to the Resolution made yesterday.

No 411

To Captain John Caillaud

Sir

We have before us your Letters N.s 378 38 dated 18th & 21st September.

We would have you take no Notice of what may pass between the King of Tanjour and Tondaman, but if Application should be made to you by either Party, transmit such application to us and return for answer that you wait for orders from hence.

We approve of the Steps you have taken towards the fulfilling our Intentions concerning the disturbance at Madura, and we hope your Endeavours will be attended with Success.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

George Pigot &c. Committee.

Fortst George
1st Octr 1756.

At a Committee present

George Pigot Esqr Governour President
Robert Clive — Stringer Lawrence
Henry Lowney — Robert Orme
William Perceval — Robert Palk

Friday the 1st

The Committee having fully considered and maturely weighed the Advantages and Inconveniencies of the Resolution of 21st September for appointing Deputies from hence to conduct the Intended Expedition; and the Benefits of mutual

Fort St George 1st October 1756.

ving a Harmony and Good Understanding with the Gentlemen of Bengal being urged in addition to the Arguments and Observations offered yesterday by Mr Manningham, the Question was put whether the said Resolution shall be alterd or not, and Resolved by the Majority that it be altered, and that Deputies, as therein mentioned, be not sent from hence.

Mess.rs Clive and Orme abide by the opinion of the 21st September, and desire that their reasons for dissenting to the present Resolution may be entered on these Minutes as follow.

Arguments offered by Mr Orme on the Subject of the present Question, in which Argument Mr Clive declares he concurs.

Since Mr Manningham's arrival what has happened to alter the Resolution of the 21st September?

Mr Manningham says much to exculpate the Gentlemen of Calcutta, from the two points which are generally esteemed the causes of the Loss of that Place.

1st The protection of the Nabobs Servants.

2d The not endeavouring to peaceably turn them incensed.

But an Inquisition of this kind is in my opinion not of the Resort of this Board. It belongs to our Masters, the Ld. India Company.

Here Mr Manningham says that the Resolutions of the Council held by us Sept.r 21 take away all Power from the Gentlemen at Fulta. That they are absolutely Governors and Council and are so by act of Parliament, that for his own particular he shall quit the Service. That he believes the

rest of the Gentlemen, more of the Council, will do so too, as Subordination and all Good Government will be destroyed and no more Respect be paid to them.

What weight is this to have with us?

Shall the Resolutions of the Council of the 21st Sept.r be changed or no?

I cannot see any Reason for altering the Resolution of the 21st Sept.r A Particular tenderness to avoid a Determination on the Authority of the Gentlemen of Calcutta, has been exerted. The Expedient of sending Deputies to give orders to the Military and to manage that part of the Company's Property which shall be sent from this Settlement to Bengall, was thought by me a Mean between two Extremes. The one Extreme that of declaring the Authority of the Gentlemen of Bengal, absolutely Null and Void; The other Extreme, that of putting so large a Force and so large a part of the Company's Property entirely under the Disposal of those Gentlemen. It is with great pain that I now find myself obliged to declare that when the Majority of this board were of opinion that the Authority of the Gentlemen at Bengall was as Valid as ever, Smith Col.o Clive thought that opinion liable to Objections and it is not mentioned that that opinion was unanimous but that the Majority were of that Opinion. I have never met with the Particular Act of War Clairmont refer'd to by Mr Manningham and wait with more patience to see it. But I think I can venture to say that I know, had the Town and Garrison of Calcutta belonged to a

Fort St George 1st October 1756.

Since on board of the East India Company, the Gov[r] from whom th
[illegible] taken could never have presumed his Authority there until
the first Seizure of this Province had been known. And this Parallel for
want of the Act of Parliament we all have to judge by, and it implies
as my opinion so strongly, tho perhaps unconsciously, that were I
in the Case of the Gentlemen of Bengal, I would sooner presume my Le
Authority from Calcutta from the Donation of the Nabob of Madra
than, I would absolve from my own authority, as in the one case I
should proceed to act from the best authority I could get and thus not
involved one with it would be responsible for the consequences [illegible] the
pleasure of my Masters was known, whereas taking the authority
as one [illegible] table light, till that can be proved without Contradiction
would subject me if it should not be proved at all to censure

Despatched

Fort St George 1st October 1756.

difficulties. These Reasons I beg leave to add to those which are fully explained in the Consultation of the 21st I see determining none to think there is any occasion to alter the Plan there digested. As to the Authority of the Chief of Calcutta diminished by this Deputation as urged by Mr Manningham, it concerns me extremely that it should be so. But in such complicated cases as these, many Inconveniences must arise, and the Authority of these Gentlemen will never in my opinion be properly confirmed, till it is by the Orders of our Honble Masters from Europe.

Signed Robert Clive
Robert [illegible]

Fort St George 1st October 1756.

When the second Question was put; who are to be esteemed the proper Representatives of the Company in Bengal, and under whose Direction is the Intended Expedition to be carried on.

Whereupon it was Resolvd that Roger Drake Esq, Colonel Lawrence, when present; Mr Watts, Mr Manningham and Mr Becher, the Select Committee appointed for that Presidency joined to Colonel Clive, are to be esteemed the proper Representatives of the Company at Bengal. That they be desired to form and deliver to Colonel Clive a Plan for the Conduct of such Treaty as they shall recommend to be made for the best Advantage of the Company with the Nabob of Bengal, and also a Plan of such Military Operations as they would recommend to be carried on against the Nabob until he shall consent to such Terms as the Treaty may be concluded on.

But as the Committee think they could not answer putting the Company to the Expence of fitting out this Armament without taking at the same time all possible Precautions to secure to them Equivolent Advantages, not merely the Retaking of Calcutta but the Re-establishment of their Several former settlements with all the Privileges granted them by the Great Mogul; And as the Committee have an entire confidence in Colonel Clive's Abilities and that he will exert his utmost Endeavours to carry this our design into full Execution, whereas it might not impossibly meet with Interruptions or Delays from Divisions of opinion among the Bengal Gentlemen, if it depended totally on them.

Wherefore it is Agreed that Colonel Clive be further instructed

Fort St George 1st October 1756.

instructed to weigh and consider well the Plans he shall receive from the before mentioned Select Committee of Bengal, and in case he shall judge any part of them not to tend to the most Speedy and Efficacious Method of obtaining the hoped for advantages to the Company, then to give his best advice on the Subject to those Gentlemen, and in case their Opinions should still differ, then finally to pursue those Measures which he shall judge to be most for the Company's benefit, transmitting letters in a very explicit Manner his Reasons for such a Proceeding, which reasons shall be referr'd to the Court of Directors.

Thus the Committee are of opinion they have removed as far as in them lies all Obstacles to the Compleat Execution of their Intentions in sending the Armament to Bengal; Supposing that a War is not declared with France; for upon the first news of such a Declaration, we shall hold it absolutely necessary to recall all the Troops to this Coast, except so many as will be necessary for the immediate Defence of Calcutta, attaining the certain advantages of the Settlements and Inland Possessions of the Company on this Coast to be more worthy of attention than the uncertain hopes of regaining their Settlements in Bengal.

Therefore the Committee think it necessary to send Colonel Clive with Independent Powers on this Head as that in case upon the news of a War or other Emergency it should be found necessary to recal a part of the Troops for the Defence of this Coast, and the Select Committee at Bengal should not think proper to act on them upon our Representation them that

Fort St George 1st October 1756.

Colonel Clive do follow the orders of this Committee and proceed
further with such Part of the Troops as shall be necessary leaving
only as many as may be requisite for the Defence of Calcutta.

Mess.rs Clive and Ormetheing asked whether they assent
to the Resolutions made upon the second Question, deliver in the
following answer.

In Answer to this question we beg leave to refer to the
4th Article of the Plan of Instructions intended to be delivered to the
Deputies then resolv'd to be sent as Entered in the Consultations of
the Council held 21st September 21st which says

"That the Deputies be directed to re-establish the Gentlemen
"of Bengall in Calcutta as soon as Colonel Clive's Success shall render
"it proper, and that they do when the place is in a sufficient state
"of Security, put those Gentlemen in possession of all such part of the
"Company's Effects as shall remain with them."

By this Resolution which Colonel Clive and Mr Orme then
agreed to with the rest of the Council, it appears that they had no
objection to entrusting the Gentlemen of Calcutta, after the Service of
the Deputies to be sent was at an end.

As now determined that the Deputies shall not go;
therefore Mess.rs Clive and Orme think as they did the 21st Sept.r that
in lieu of Deputies the Gentlemen of Bengal are to be empowered;
and therefore as the Resolution of 21st Sept.r is laid aside, declare that
they can think of no better Expedient than that now resolved by the
Majority of this Board.

At the same time they beg leave to recommend to the
[illegible] that the necessary Measures

to

Fort St George 1st October 1756.

to be taken that the Gentlemen of Bengal may enter into our Sentiments on the Seclusion of Plunder &c. to the Company's Use.

Robert Clive . Robert Orme

An Answer to Mr Watson's Letter of the 30th Sept Enquiring the names of the Persons whom we esteem to be the proper Representatives of the Company in Bengal, is now wrote conformably to the foregoing Resolution, and immediately sent to them as follows

To Charles Watson Esq
Rear Admiral of the Red & Com[r]
in chief of his Majesty's Squadron in India.

Sir

Our time was taken up till 9 o'Clock last night in laying before Mr Manningham, one of the Council of Bengal, the whole Proceedings relating to the Intended Expedition. This morning the duty of the President and most of the Members of this Committee call'd them to attend the Quarter Sessions, which has debarr'd us the pleasure of acquainting you sooner that we deem Roger Drake Esq[r] Colonel Lawrence, Mr Watts, Mr Manningham and Mr Becher or any part of them joined to Colonel Clive, to be the proper Representatives of the Company in Bengal, and to whom we shall request you to pay the same attention as you have hitherto done to us. We are Sir

Your most Obedient Humble Servants
George Pigott &c Committee
Ch[s] Pratt

Fort St George
1st Oct[r] 1756

Robert Orme Robert Clive
Will[m] Frewen Stringer Lawrence

Fort St George 4th October 1756

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esq Governour President

Robert Clive — Stringer Lawrence

Henry Lawney — Robert Orme

Monday the 4th — William Percival — Robert Walk.

The following Letter from Rear Admiral Watson with the Proceedings of the Council of War Read.

To the President and Members
of the Secret Committee at
Fort St George

Gentlemen

I yesterday afternoon receivd your Letter of the 1st Instant acquainting me with the occasion that debarrd you the pleasure of informing me the day before, who you deemed to be the Company's proper Representatives in Bengal. I am sorry you were so closely engaged with Mr Manningham as to prevent your employing a few minutes, which would have been sufficient to have wrote the names of those Gentlemen it was necessary for me to know.

I have since assembled again the Council of War, whose Opinions I for your Satisfaction I herewith inclose you a Copy.

The Proposal made to me Relative to the holding Councils of War, and who should & should not reside thereat, did not require to be laid before a Council of War to be answered; there being but one practice ever observed among all Officers in his Majesty's Service, in the execution

of

Fort St George 1st October 1756.

to be taken that the Gentlemen of Bengal may enter into our Sentiments on the Seclusion of Surajah Dowlah &c. to the Company's Use.

Robert Clive Robert Orme

An Answer to Mr Watson's Letter of the 30th Sept Enquiring the names of the Persons whom we esteem to be the proper Representatives of the Company in Bengal, is now wrote conformably to the foregoing Resolution, and immediately sent to him as follows

To Charles Watson Esq
Rear Admiral of the Red & Com
in chief of his Majesty's Squadron in India.

Sir

Our time was taken up till 9 o'Clock last night in laying before Mr Manningham, one of the Council of Bengal, the whole Proceedings relating to the Intended Expedition. This morning the deputy of the President and most of the Members of this Committee call'd them & attend the Quarter Sessions, which has debarr'd us the pleasure of acquainting you sooner that we deem Roger Drake Esq, Colonel Lawrence, Mr Wade, Mr Manningham and Mr Becher or any four of them, joined to Colonel Clive, to be the proper Representatives of the Company in Bengal, and to whom we shall request you to pay the same attention as you have hitherto done to us. We are Sir

Your most Obedient Humble Servants
George Pigot &c Committee
Geo Pigot
Robert Orme Robert Clive
Wm Pearkes Stringer Lawrence

you a
Manning-

Fort St George
1st Oct 1756

Fort St George 4th October 1756

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esqr Governour President

Robert Clive — Stringer Lawrence

Henry Lonney — Robert Orme

William Percival — Robert Talk.

Monday the 6th

The following Letter from Rear Admiral Watson with the Proceedings of the Council of War Read.

To the President and Members of the Secret Committee at Fort St George

Gentlemen

I yesterday afternoon received your Letter of the 1st Instant acquainting me with the occasion that debarr'd you the pleasure of informing me the day before, who you deemed to be the Company's Proper Representatives in Bengal. I am sorry you were so closely engaged with Mr Manningham as to prevent your employing a few minutes, which would have been sufficient to have wrote the names of those Gentlemen it was necessary for me to know.

I have since assembled again the Council of War, whose Opinions I for your Satisfaction I herewith inclose you a Copy.

The Proposal made to me Relative to the holding Councils of War, and who should preside thereat, did not require to be laid before a Council of War to be answered; there being but one practice ever observed among all Officers in his Majesty's Service, in the execution

of

of any duty wherein the Sea and Land Are to Co operate.

So Soon as you are pleased to let me know the number of Men you propose sending on the Expedition, I shall make a Distribution accordingly, and give the necessary orders for their being received; and I must desire you will inform me at the same time how many Ships you are determined shall go with me, and that you will give their Captains orders to put themselves under my Command.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient humble Servant
Charles Watson

Port St George
2 Oct. 1756

At a Council of War held at Port St George
3 Sept. 1756

Present
Charles Watson Esq. Rear Admiral of the Red & President
George Pocock Esq. Rear Admiral of the White.
Captain Tho. Latham ... Capt. Wm. Martin
Captain Henry Speke ... Capt. John Harrison
Captain Henry Smith

"The undermentioned Representations being made
"by the President and Members of the Secret Com-
"mittee of Port St George to Rear Admiral Watson

Fort St George 11th October 1756

"at a Committee held the 29th September 1756, were
"Read to the Council, and their Opinion desired
"thereon."

Representations made to Mr Watson.

1st "It may be supposed that one or more of the Men of War will
"be sent before Calcutta, and the Moors driven out by her Can-
"non; it is requested of Mr Watson that he will Land Colonel Clive
"with a Company's, or a part of them, to take Possession again
"of that Settlement, and whatever may be found within the
"Company's Limits as usually understood between Perrin's
"Garden and Surmans Garden, for the sole benefit of the Company;
"which Request it is hoped will be thought Reasonable, as the Company
"have suffered an immense Loss, and are to be at the whole Expence
"of the Expedition."

2d "Should it be judged proper by the Company's Representatives
"after the taking of Calcutta, to request the assistance of the
"Squadron to attack Hughley, or any other Moors Town, or to
"make Reprisals in the River upon Moors Vessels, it is hoped it
"will not be thought unreasonable to appoint Commissaries on
"both sides to dispose of the Booties that may be so taken; their
"Produce to be deposited until it shall be determined by his
"Majesty in what manner it should be distributed. Agreeably

to

Fort St George 4th October 1756.

"to be given for the present at the discretion of the Council of
"War to the Petty Officers and Private Men, and to be deducted out of
"the Shares which may be allotted them.

The Council proceeded to examine the before mentioned Representations, and are of Opinion no answer can be made till the President and Members of the Secret Committee of Fort St George declare who they deem to be the Company's Representatives in Bengal. Accordingly a Letter was immediately sent from the President of the Council of War, to the President and Members of the Secret Committee for that purpose, to which the following Answer was returned.

Sir

"The Servants of the Company must doubtless
"and can alone represent their Masters in Bengal on
"all occasions relating to their affairs and it is to the
"Representations of those Servants that we shall at your
"departure do ourselves the honour to desire the same
"attention from you, that you have hitherto been pleased
to shew to those made by ourselves. We are Sir
Your most Obed.t Humble Servants
George Pigot &c.a Committee

Fort St George
30th Sept.r 1756.

To Thos Saunders Watson Esq.r &c.a &c.a

This Letter not being thought Satisfactory, another Letter was wrote by the President of the Council of War, to know the

Fort St George 1st October 1756

names of the Company's Representatives, and then the Council adjourned.

No answer being returned to this Letter in the Space of Twenty four hours, the President wrote a third Letter, and on the 2d Sept. the Council assembled again, when the following Letter was laid before them.

Sir

"Our time was taken up till nine O'Clock last night in laying before Mr Manningham, one of the "Council of Bengal, the whole Proceedings relating to the "Intended Expedition; This morning the duty of the Presi- "dent and most of the Members of the Committee called "them to attend the Quarter Sessions, which has debard "us the pleasure of acquainting you a few hours sooner, "that we deem Roger Drake Esq, Colonel Lawrence, Mr "Wills, Mr Manningham and Mr Becher, or any part "of them joined to Colonel Clive to be the Proper Repres- "tatives of the Company in Bengal, and to whom we "shall request you to pay the same attention as you have hitherto "done us." We are Sir

Your most Obedient humble Servts

Fort St George
1st Octr 1756

George Pigot &c Committee.

To Charles Watson Esq &c &c &c

The Council being satisfied with the above answer, proceeded to the Examination of the before mentioned Representatives, and are of Opinion, That as the Proposition is stated by 2d That everything within the Company's Limits be delivered up to Colonel Clive for the sole benefit of that Company. The Admiral cannot in Justice and

Equity

Fort St George 4th October 1756.

Equity gives his consent to the depriving of so many private People of their Property as dwell within the said Limits, under Colour of indemnifying the Company for Losses, they are but equal sharers in with those every private people Neither do they see the Propriety of delivering the place to any but the Company's Representatives.

Upon the whole, the Council are of Opinion that this Proposition as it is first, cannot be consented to, but they are of opinion that the Admiral may consent to deliver Calcutta to the Company's Representatives, so as that they are put in possession of every thing they have a Legal Claim to, and Private People be not thereby excluded from so that they have an equal right to be indulg'd in, Viz. the Possession of their Property, which we consent to give as far as our Rights extend.

With respect to the second Representation. "That of depositing in the hands of Commissaries what may be taken from "the Enemy, either at Hughley or any other Moors Town, or in the "Rivers, till his Majesty's pleasure be known, only reserving for a Council of War the Government part as a Gratuity to the petty Officers and Private Men" They are of opinion the Admiral ought not to acquiesce to this Proposition, as they conceive it might slacken the Ardour and good Inclinations they would otherwise have to the Expedition and be of the greatest detriment to the Service of the Company, it being a known fact to every Seaman who either served in, or has heard any thing of, last war, that even in cases of Reprizal the Indulgence of the Parliament has given half to the Captors. And indeed the Council cannot help expressing their Surprize to see a Proposi-

-tion made to the Admiral or any other Foundation, when they are well acquainted that that made to Col. Adlercron with respect to the Regiment, was agreeable to this known determination of Parliament.

It is therefore the Opinion of the Council, that for the Encouragement of the Officers, Seamen & Soldiers, that one half only of what may be taken from the Enemy be deposited for his Majesty's pleasure, the other to be divided amongst the Captors. But we of this Council do consent that the whole of what we may have a claim to, be likewise deposited till his Majesty's pleasure be known. Given under our hands at Fort St George this 2d of October 1756.

Charles Watson

George Pocock ... Thomas Latham

Wm Wm Marten ... Henry Speke

(Copy) John Harrison ... Henry Smith.

Consideration being had upon the foregoing Proceedings of the Council of War, the Committee are of Opinion that the Resolution of the Council upon the first Article of our Representation regarding the Delivery up of Calcutta, with the Effects that may be found therein, to the Company's Representatives, is not sufficiently explicit as neither that, nor Mr Watson's Letter contain any positive assurance that the Company's Settlement with their Effects shall be delivered up as soon as taken to the Company's Representatives. On the contrary, the Expressions of the Council upon this Article seem to convey a doubt whether they [the Council] have a Right to restore them unsubjected to future Claims. The Committee are of Opinion that an Explanation upon this Article should be requested from Mr Watson

is

their

this

Fort St George 4th October 1756

Watson previous to all other Proceedings, as it would become a matter of fresh debate whether we should be justified in carrying on the Expedition under the least uncertainty as to the Delivery to the Company of all their Settlements and Effects which may be retaken? Accordingly the following Letter was immediately wrote and sent to Admiral Watson.

To Charles Watson Esq. Rear Admiral of the Red, and Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Squadron in the India's.

Sir

We have now under consideration the Minutes of the Council of War held by you the 30th Sept. and 2d October. It is there said that the Council are of Opinion that the Admiral may cause to deliver Calcutta to the Company's Representatives so as that they are put in Possession of every thing they have a Legal Claim to, and Private People be not thereby excluded from what they have an Equal Right to be indulg'd in. Viz. the Repossession of their Property which we consent to give as far as our Rights extend.

Our duty to our Masters obliges us to determine that if Calcutta is retaken by Operations recommended by you, as an immense Expence to the Company, the whole of their Property found in Calcutta recovered by this Enterprize be restored to them. Now the Expressions of your Council of War carry a Meaning with them to us, as it was thought that you had not a Right to give up this Property unsubjected to future Claims upon the Company for the Services his Majesty's Squadron may render in

Fort St George 4th October 1756.

the Receipt hereof it

We request the favour of an Explanation of your Opinion upon this Article.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient humble Servants.

Fort St George
4th Oct. 1756

George Pigot &c Committee.

To which the following Answer was presently received

To the President and Members
of the Secret Committee of
Fort St George

Gentlemen

I have received your Letter of this days date, and must beg leave to be excused from giving any Opinion in the matter you request, till I have summond a Council of War, which I shall immediately do, and will give you an answer as soon after as possible.

I am Gentlemen

Your most Obedient humble Servant

Fort St George
4th Oct. 1756

Charles Watson

The Committee then proceeded to the Consideration of the Opinion of the Council of War upon our Second Representation regarding the Depositing all Reprizals that might be made upon the Moors until his Majesty's pleasure should be known concerning the Distribution — The Council of War consent

That one half be deposited for his Majesty's pleasure.

That the other half be divided amongst the Captors;

but the Admirals and Captains consent that their

Shares

850

Fort St George 4th October 1756.

Shares be likewise deposited for his Majesty's pleasure.

The Committee wont of a desire to maintain a good Harmony and prevent further difficulties or Altercations Resolve to acquiesce in this Disposition of the Council of War, although their Arguments appear to be subject to some Remarks which it may not be improper to insert here for the Observation of our Honble Masters as they will have an Application to make on this Subject in England,

First that the Councils principal objection (the Vogue of Slackening the Order of the Petty Officers and Private Men) was provided against by assigning a Gratuity at the Discretion of a Council of War, to be deducted out of the Portion which should be allotted them by his Majesty.

Secondly that the only Instance we know of Reprizals allotted by Act of Parliament was in the case of the St Joseph and St Jago, two Spanish Ships, stopp'd by his Majesty's Ships before the Declaration of the Last War with Spain. The Parliament decreed one half to the Suffering Merchants, the other half to the Captors. But there is a wide difference between that case and the present in question, There, the Suffering Merchants were at no Charge in making the Reprizals and yet a half was decreed them Here, the East India Company are at the whole charge of the Expedition and yet their Right is left in Suspence for not a half reserved to the Captors, the Admirals and Captains consenting and given their private Characters that their Share of that half be deposited for his Majesty's pleasure.

deposi-
ted

Fort St George 4th October 1756

And Thirdly as the Case of the St Joseph & St Jago was referred to the Determination of Parliament the Committee think that the present Case, as it is of a nature entirely new, might reasonably be referr'd to the same Determination or to his Majesty's Pleasure. The Committee having notwithstanding acquiesced to the Opinion of the Council of War, Colonel Clive represents that he thinks it would be hurtful to the Service to make Distinctions between the Land and Sea Forces, and that the share of the Officers and Soldiers should be also distributed, he consenting for himself and such of the Officers as shall be entitled to share with the Captains of the Men of War, that their Share shall be deposited also. The Committee think this a very reasonable proposition and unanimously give their Concurrence

George Pigot
Robert Clive
Stringer Lawrence
Henry Bonney
Robert Orme
Wm Percival
Robt Palk

65v

Fort St George 4th October 1756

Late in the Evening received the following Letter from Admiral Watson.

To the President and Members of the Secret Committee of Fort St George

Gentlemen

I have consulted the Members who compos'd the Council of War, summoned on the Representations you made to me the 29th Sept and they all agree, the meaning of the sentence you want to have explain'd, cannot be more fully expressed than is already done in the Copy of the Council of War you have before you. There, you will find a general consent from every Member to give up to the Company any right he may have in the retaking Calcutta, and you may depend the expressions of the Council of War onas certainly mean to give up nothing more than their own, because they do not think their Power extends further.

Should I succeed in the Expedition to Bengall and retake Calcutta, I will then put it in possession of the Company's Representatives, and I do assure you, I will not lay any claim to what may be found there, neither will any of the Gentlemen of the Council, nor can I think any body under my Command will attempt it seeing that Myself and the Members of the Council have given to the Company what may be their Right, and for the same reason if any Persons should lay a claim, I believe they would not succeed.

I am Gentlemen

Your most Obedient humble Servant Charles Watson

Fort St George
4th Oct 1756

Fort St George 5th October 1756.

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esqr Governour & President

Robert Clive — Stringer Lawrence

Henry Bonney — Robert Orme

William Percival — Robert Palk.

Tuesday the 6th

The Committee having read and debated on the foregoing Letter from Admiral Watson containing his assurance that if Calcutta is retaken by him he will put it in Possession of the Company's Representatives, and that neither he nor any of the Gentlemen of the Council will lay any Claim to what may be found therein, The Question is put whether the said Explanation is sufficient to determine the Board to carry on the Expedition.

Agreed unanimously in the Affirmative.

And then a second Question was put, Do or any other Consideration occur, which ought to prevent the Prosecution of the Expedition to Bengal?

Agreed unanimously that no such Considera-tion do occur, and Resolv'd that the Expedition be forwarded with the Admiral Despatch.

The President acquaints the Board that he had agreed with the Master of the Boneta Ketch a Country Vessel now Laying in the Road, Burthen above one Hundred Tons, to carry down Gunpowder and Troops to Bengal, and that the Company's Car-penters Work on board the Vessel was prepar'd. The terms are for three

85v

Fort St George 14th October 1756

Late in the Evening received the following Letter from Admiral Watson.

To the President and Members of the Secret Committee of Fort St George

Gentlemen

I have consulted the Members who compos'd the Council of War, summoned on the Representations you made to me the 29th Sept and they all agree, the meaning of the sentence you want to have explain'd, cannot be more fully expressed than is already done in the Copy of the Council of War you have before you. There, you will find a general consent from every Member to give up to the Company any right he may have in the retaking Calcutta, and you may depend the expressions of the Council of War most certainly mean to give up nothing more than their own, because they do not think their Power extends further.

Should I succeed in the Expedition to Bengall and retake Calcutta, I will then put it in possession of the Company's Representatives, and I do assure you, I will not lay any claim to what may be found there, neither will any of the Gentlemen of the Council nor can I think any body under my Command will attempt it seeing that My self and the Members of the Council have given to the Company what may be their Rights, and for the same reason if any Persons should lay a Claim, I believe they would not succeed.

I am Gentlemen

Your most Obedient humble Servant Charles Watson

Fort St George
14th Oct 1756

Fort St. George 5th October 1756.

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esqr Governour & President

Robert Clive — Stringer Lawrence

Henry Bonney — Robert Orme

William Percival — Robert Palk.

Tuesday the 6th

The Committee having read and debated on the foregoing Letter from Admiral Watson containing his assurance that if Calcutta is retaken by him he will put it in Possession of the Company's Representatives, and that neither he nor any of the Gentlemen of the Council will Lay any Claim to what may be found therein, The Question is put whether the said Explanation is sufficient to determine the Board to carry on the Expedition.

Agreed unanemously in the Affirmative.

And then a second Question was put, Do any other Consideration occur, which ought to prevent the Prosecution of the Expedition to Bengal?

Agreed unanimously that no such Consideration occurs, and Resolvd that the Expedition be forwarded with the utmost Dispatch.

The President acquaints the Board that he had agreed with the Master of the Bonetta Ketch, a Country Vessel now Laying in the Road, Burthen above one Hundred Tons, to carry down Gunpowder and Troops to Bengal, and that the Necessary Carpenters Work on board the Vessel was prepard. The terms are for three

854

Fort St George 5th October 1756.

three months from the 6th September at the Rate of three hundred and fifty (350) Pagodas p Month. Which the Committee approve.

As the Honble Company's Ships Marlborough and Walpole with the Bomb Ketch will carry on all only 700 Seapoys and 150 Lascars and as Colonel Clive represents that the Success of the Expedition will be much promoted by having a Large Number of Seapoys it is Agreed to endeavour to take up the Bombay Frigate, a Country Ship Burthen five or six hundred Tons now lying in the Road.

The Attorney for the Owners being sent for & an Offer made him to hire the Ship for the Seapoys only to Bengal on her Arrival there to be deliverd back to his order; He requests the Committee that he is by no means empowerd to deviate from the Destined Voyage of the Ship, his Orders being only to take out her Cargo here put on board some Goods for Bombay, and then dispatch her to the Malabar Coast where a full Loading is lying ready for her, he therefore apprehends if the Destination of the Ship is alterd, he may become liable for all damages that may accrue by means of Touching Cargoes or Sale of Slaves, as well as for all Vogue of the Ship and the Respondentia that may have been Contracted for her first Intended Voyage which is a very Considerable sum.

The Committee do not chuse to employ the Ship under so many Inconveniences but Resolve to make use of any future Conveyance that may offer, even after the Fleet is sailed, to send a further number of Seapoys. Agreed

also to request of Admiral Watson to carry if possible a few Seapoys on board his Majesty's Ships, besides the Europeans.

A Return of the Troops to be employed on the present Expedition is now laid before the Committee amounting, all Officers and Volunteers included, to 593 Men, all Europeans.

Ordered that the Return be entered after these Minutes, and as the Troops are ready to embark, Colonel Clive is desired to wait on Admiral Watson with the said Return that he may distribute the Officers and Men on board the several Ships in such manner as he shall think best.

The following Letter was accordingly wrote and sent to Adm.l Watson.

To Charles Watson Esq.r
Rear Admiral of the Red, & Com.r
in chief of his Majesty's Squadron in India.

Sir.

We received last night your favour of the 4th Instant containing the Opinion of your Council of War upon our Letter of the same date with your assurance that if you retake Calcutta you will put it in possession of the Company's Repre=sentatives and that neither you nor any of the Gentlemen of the Council will lay any Claim to what may be found there. We are to return you our thanks for this promise, and to acquaint you that we acquiesce to the Resolutions of the Council upon the Second Article, relative to the Reprisals that may be made upon the Moors.

Colonel Clive will wait on you with a Return of the Troops intended to be sent on the present Expedition. The number of Mili=tary and Artillery including all Officers will amount to about

Six

856

Fort St George 5th October 1756.

six hundred which we beg the favour may be embarked on his Majesty's Ships, any day you think proper; and if you can possibly carry some seapoys besides it will be of great use to the Company's Affairs.

We have the honour to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Humble Servts
George Pigot &c Committee

Fort St George
5th Octr 1756.

Agreed that Mr Thomas Mainwell do proceed in quality of Commissary to the Troops as appointed in Consultation 21st September.

And that Mr John Walsh go as Paymaster to the Expedition.

As it will be necessary that Colonel Clive be empowered to appoint Courts Martial during the Present Expedition and that some person be also empowered to officiate as Judge Advocate the following Letter is now wrote to Colonel Adlercron on that Subject.

To John Adlercron Esqr
Comr in Chief of the Land Forces
in India Sir

As it will be necessary that the Commanding Officer of the Intended Expedition to Bengal be invested with an Authority of appointing Courts Martial over the Officers and Soldiers that may be employed on the said Expedition, we are desired that you will be pleas'd to direct a Proper Power to Lieut Colonel Clive, and in case of accident to him, to such Officer as may

succeed to the Command, and that you will also give a Warrant to Captain Edmund Maskelyne to officiate as Judge Advocate upon all such Court Martial, with a Power to appoint a Deputy or Deputies if there should be occasion, or otherwise provide in such manner as you shall think best, against the Inconveniences which might otherwise be the Consequence if an accident happened to that Gentleman. We are Sir

Fort St George 5th Octr 1756

Your most Obedient Humble Servants

George Pigot &c Committee

Ordered that Letters to the Nabob of Bengal, to the Gentlemen appointed to be a Select Committee there, to Admiral Watson and to Major Kilpatrick, and Instructions for Mr Walsh, be prepared conformably to our former Resolutions concerning them.

Also Instructions for Colonel Clive, and a Commission appointing him Commander in Chief of the Troops to be employed on the Present Expedition.

Agreed likewise to advise the Select Committee at Bombay of the Large Draft made from our Troops for the Service of the Intended Expedition, reviewing in the most strenuous manner our Request for a Reinforcement to be sent us from thence with all Possible Dispatch, and desiring their Compliance with an Indent for Military Stores to replace in part of the Quantities we

are

858

Fort St George 5th October 1756.

a Copy sending to Bengal,

George Pigot
Robert Clive
Stringer Lawrence
Henry Ellwood
Robert Orme
Wm. Percival,
Rob. Palk

A Return of the Strength of the Troops Order'd for Bengall

Fort St George Octo 8th 1756	Lieutenant	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Volunteers	Sergeants	Corporals	Drummers	Centinels	Bombardiers	Gunners	Matrosses	Total
Train of Artillery	"	"	1	5	"	"	5	5	3	"	21	21	48	103
Grenadiers	"	1	"	1	2	2	8	6	4	94	"	"	"	112
Capt Mashelynes	"	1	"	1	2	2	6	6	4	73	"	"	"	89
Capt Gauppis	"	1	"	2	1	2	4	6	4	11	"	"	"	91
Capt Campbells	"	1	"	1	2	1	6	6	4	73	"	"	"	89
Capt Callendars	"	1	"	"	3	1	6	6	4	73	"	"	"	89
Total		5	1	10	10	8	35	36	23	390	21	21	48	573

Robert Clive Lieut Col

N.B. 2 Captains 2 Lieutenants 4
2 Sergeants Majors, 1 2d Master Serjt 1 Corporal .. 4
& 12 Corps Coloumers not returned 12
on the Body of the Return 20

573

Fort St. George 5th October 1756.

Mr. John Walsh Paymaster to the Bengal Expedition, having Occasion for a Supply of money to pay the Seapoys, it was Agreed to advance him forty thousand (40.000) Rupees, and Application was made accordingly to the President and Council

6th Sent the following Letter to the Select Committee at Bombay pursuant to the Resolutions of last Committee.

To the Honble Richard Bourchier Esqr.
President & Governor, and the Gentlemen
of the Select Committee at Bombay.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

The last letter we had the
honor to write you, was dated 24th August. Your
favor of the 3. of that month, reachid us the 7th
September.

The Europe Ships for this
Side are all arrivid, the latest of them, which left
England the 18th March were joinid at Madagascar
by two of the Ships bound for your Place. Those
two we hear came out the 28th April, and that
War was not then declarid, but a declaration
hourly expected. The Letters we receivid from the Secret
Committee by our last Ships, dated 13th February

Fort St. George 6th October 1756.

1756, contradicts their former Advices of a French Fleet having saild for India, and says on the Contrary.

"By later accounts, we have "been given to understand that the French "Company have fitted out but an inconsiderable "Number of Ships this Season, and that they "do not intend to send any more until they "know what turn Affairs will take as to "Peace or War between the two Nations; which "of the two accounts is to be depended on we "cannot pretend to say, and although we are "inclin'd to hope the latter is the truest, yet "it behoves you, and we accordingly recommend "it to you, to be constantly on your Guard, "and prepar'd to ward off any Blow the "French may aim upon our Settlements "in India, which we have too much reason "to believe they will attempt whenever they "have a sufficient Force."

The Company's Settlements on this Coast, particularly Fort St. George & Fort St. David, by their Vicinity to Pondichery and our Northern Settlements to that of Metchlepatam are certainly the most liable to the attacks of the French: Nevertheless we look upon the Recovery of the Company's Establishments at Bengal and the obtaining

Reparation

Fort St. George 6th October 1756.

Reparation for the Loss they have Suffer'd there to be Objects of so much Importance to the Welfare of the Company that we resolv'd to request of Admiral Watson to proceed thither with the whole Squadron and we are now embarking four hundred Militar and one hundred Train to proceed on that Service under the Command of Colonel Clive.

When you add to this Draft the Number of two hundred and fifty men sent before to Bengal under the Command of Major Killpatrick, above two hundred of the Regiment which are embark'd for the Service of the Ships, and our Loss by the Dodington, you may Judge Gentlemen that Situated as we are close to the Capital Establishment of the French, We are but insufficiently Furnish'd for the Defence of the Company's own Establishments upon this Coast, and the Protection of a very large Tract of Inland Country which by the vast yearly Revenue it brings to the Company well deserves an Attention to be paid to its Security.

And although the present Force of the French at Pondichery is not very formidable, yet whatever Supplies may be intended them from Europe are now hourly to be expected, and we are besides continually liable to the Junction of their Force at Golconda, now more considerable than

Fort St. George 6th October 1756.

than ever, to that of Pondichery.

For the Danger pointed out to You, in our Letter of the 24th August, has prov'd but too Real. Mr Law having effected a Junction with Mr Bussy, not six days elapsid before Salabat Jung consented to an Accommodation, the terms of which according to our best Intelligence are that the French shall enjoy all their former Grants, but not interfere in the Affairs of Country Government; how far they will abide by this last Restriction their universal Practice may teach us to Judge.

This Resolution at Salabat Jung's Court in favor of the French gives us the utmost Concern, being Sensible how much that Influence adds to their Power in this Country; we are Conscious at the same time that we could not with any degree of Prudence, after hearing of the Danger of Bengal, make use of the Opportunity that offer'd of removing that Influence; for it was impossible for us to Spare Troops for both Occasions;

We have entered into this detail Gentlemen in order to shew you how liable the Company's Establishments on this Coast are to be visited at a very short Warning by a far

Superiour

Fort St. George 6th October 1756.

Superiour Force of the French. We hope that on the news of the Misfortune at Bengal, and of our Intentions to send a Force thither you have already dispatch'd us in Consequence of our repeated Representations as large an Assistance of Men both Military and Artillery, as you can possibly Spare; If not, we now again make Application to you in behalf of our Honble Masters for such immediate Assistance, and we cannot help Remarking that as the French have no footing near Bombay, they cannot suddenly form an Attempt against your Garrison. Upon the first Notice of such an a Danger we should exert ourselves for your Safety as much as we have done for the Safety and Re-establishment of Calcutta.

As we have embarked large Quantities of all Sorts of Military Stores for Bengal, we request you will Comply with the Accompanying Indent. We are in daily Expectation of the Protector with the Field Pieces & Gun Powder promis'd in your Letter 3d August

We hope Mr Spencer has been successfull in his Negociations with the Nana; It was by his advice & Influence the French

884

Fort St. George 6th. October 1756.

French were last removd from Salabat Jung. We shall be oblig'd to you if you will give Orders to Mr. Spencer to consult with the Nawa on that Subject, as well as make him sensible of the Justice of our Proceedings against the Nabob of Bengal.

We are

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient

humble Servants

George Pigot Ffrn. Committee

Fort St. George
6th October 1756.

N.B.

This was wrote with the large Cypher.

Receivd the following Letter from Col. Adlercron.

To George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor
& Council of Fort St. George.

Gentlemen,

My Secretary being at present indisposed, and as I am informd, the Troops do not embark till the latter end of the Week, Shall defer for a day or two sending Colo. Clive the Power you desire of holding Courts Martial I am

Gentlemen,

Your most Obedient
humble Servant.

John Adlercron

Fort St. George
6th October 1756

Recvd

Fort St George 6th October 1756.

" Received also the following Letter from Admiral Watson

To the President and Members of the Secret Committee of Fort St George

Gentlemen, I have received your favor of Yesterday's date, requesting me to embark on board his Majesty's Ships about 600 Military, and acquainting me if I could possibly carry some Seapoys besides, it would be of great use to the Company's Affairs. Colonel Clive gave me a Return of the Military yesterday Evening, which I have made a distribution of, and sent him. I shall direct them to be embark'd as soon as the Provisions for the Seapoys, design'd to be sent in the Marlborough and Walpole, can be sent off, and as the Men of War will be so full, I must desire the Baggage belonging to the Troops may be order'd on board the Indiamen, except such necessaries as the Officers cant do without.

As the Bombay Frigate is not to be taken up for this expedition, I will order fifty Seapoys to be receiv'd on board each of the Capital Ships, tho' I confess it's contrary to my Judgment, as the Squadron will be crowded, and a long Passage will Probably bring on a Sickness.

I

860

Fort St. George 6th October 1756.

Sam

Gentlemen &c.

Your most Obedient
humble Servant.

Fort St. George
6th October 1756.

Chas. Watson.

At a Committee Present
George Pigot Esqr Governor President
Robert Clive " Stringer Lawrence "
Henry Powney " Robert Ormie "
William Percival " Robert Palk "

Saturday
the 9th

Letters for Rear Admiral
Watson, the Committee of Bengal, and Colonel Clive
Read, and Amended.

It being thought most
for the Company's Advantage to contract for the
Dieting of the Military & Seapoys on board during
their Passage to Bengal, Mr. Henry Doidge offers
to provide for the Europeans at the Rate of
eight Fanams a day each Man, and for the
Seapoys at the Rate of four Fanams a day ea
Man. The Committee think eight Fanams
a day for the Europeans to be too much, and
propose to Mr. Doidge to provide for them
at Six Fanams, which he at length consents

each

to

Fort St George 9th October 1756

to, on condition that he receive a Rupee for every
eleven Sanams.

Agreed to direct the
Paymaster of the Expedition to account with
Mr. Doidge accordingly.

Agreed Further

That an Advance of three
months Pay, and a Gratuity of twelve Rupees a
Man be given to the Seapoys, and Lascars, who
with great Difficulty, and only on those Conditions
have been prevail'd on to go.

That a Copy of the Book of
Military Regulations form'd in Committee 27th
November 1755. containing an Account of Pay,
Batta &c. be deliver'd to the Paymaster of the
Expedition for his Guidance, and wherever the
Payment is Specified in Pagodas it is to be
reduc'd into Pounds Sterling at 8s Shillgs and
then into Rupees according to the Bengal
Establishment.

That Colonel Clive be furnish'd
with a Table at the Company's Expence, in lieu of
Batta

And that it be left to
Colonel Clive to contract in the cheapest manner
he can for the Diet of the Troops when they take
the

Fort St George 4th October 1756.

the Field in Bengal.

The Paymaster of the Expedition having Occasion for a further Advance of thirty thousand (30,000) Rupees, and three thousand two hundred and fifty (3250) Pagodas for the beforemention'd Services, Agreed that Application be made to the President and Council to advance him that Sum, and also to consign four hundred thousand (400,000) Rupees to Colonel Clive, by the Ships Walpole, & Marlborough for the general Service of the Expedition.

Mr Manningham having acquainted the President that he is of Opinion the Nabobs of the Provinces of Perenea, Dacca, & Cuttack, Situated in, or on the Borders of Bengal may be disaffected to the present Government, and inclinid to Join our Forces, it is Agreed to Furnish Colonel Clive with a Letter to each, Setting forth the Injuries that have been done us, and our Desire to be in Friendship with them, and to Assist in their Affairs.

A Danish Ship being under Dispatch for Europe from Tranquebar. Ordered, that a Letter be prepar'd to be sent on her to the Secret Committee of the East India Company, informing them of the most material

Occurrences

Fort St. George 9th October 1756.

Occurrences since the Dispatch of the Winchelsea,
of the Strength of the Detachment for Bengal and
of the Force remaining here.

Orderd that Instructions
to the Commanders of the Ships Walpole, and
Marlborough, be prepard, directing them to put
themselves under the Orders of Admiral Watson.

And as the Boneta Ketch
has receivd on board four hundred Barrels of
Powder and is ready to proceed to Bengal it is
Agreed that She be immediately dispatchd.

George Pigot

Henry Ewer

Robert Orme

Wm. Percival

Ro. Palk

Fort St. George 9th October 1756.

the Field in Bengal.

The Paymaster of the Expedition having Occasion for a further Advance of thirty thousand /30,000/ Rupees, and three thousand two hundred and fifty /3250/ Pagodas for the beforemention'd Services, Agreed that Applica-tion be made to the President and Council to advance him that Sum, and also to consign four hundred thousand /400,000/ Rupees to Colonel Clive, by the Ships Walpole, & Marlborough for the general Service of the Expedition.

Mr Manningham having acquainted the President that he is of Opinion the Nabobs of the Provinces of Purnea, Dacca, & Cuttack, Situated in, or on the Borders of Bengal may be disaffected to the present Govern-ment, and inclind to Join our Forces, it is Agreed to Furnish Colonel Clive with a Letter to each, Setting forth the Injuries that have been done us, and our Desire to be in Friendship with them, and to Assist in their Affairs.

A Danish Ship being under Dispatch for Europe from Tranquebar. Ordered, that a Letter be prepar'd to be sent on her to the Secret Committee of the East India Company informing them of the most material Occurrences

Fort St. George 9th October 1756.

Occurrences since the Dispatch of the Winchelsea,
of the Strength of the Detachment for Bengal and
of the Force remaining here.

Ordered that Instructions
to the Commanders of the Ships Walpole, and
Marlborough, be prepard, directing them to put
themselves under the Orders of Admiral Watson.

And as the Bonetta Ketch
has receivd on board four hundred Barrels of
Powder and is ready to proceed to Bengal it is
agreed that She be immediately dispatchd.

George Pigot

Henry Bourry
Robert Orme
Wm. Percival
Rob Palk

870

Fort St. George 9th October 1756.

In the Evening delivered the Master of the Bonetta Ketch his Dispatch to Bengal, with the following Letter.

To the Honble Roger Drake Esqr

Sir.

Having laden on the Bonetta Ketch 400 Barrels of Powder, I now dispatch her to you imagining that She might not be able to keep Company with the Men of War, who will follow in four or five Days.

This Vessel being Freighted for the Company from the 17th of September at 350 Pagodas pr Month for three Months you will be at Liberty to employ her any way that She can be of use.

I am Sir

Your most Obedient humble Servant.

George Pigot.

Fort St George
9th October 1756.

11. Letter to the Secret Committee of the East India Company to be sent viâ Tranquebar. Read in its full Draft, approv'd, & order'd to be copied fair.

At a Committee Present.

George Pigot Esqr Governor President
Robert Clive " Stringer Lawrence "
Henry Powney " Robert Orme "
William Percival " Robert Palk "

Wednesday 13th October

Se
Letter

Fort St George 13th October 1756.

87

Letter from Vice Admiral Watson

Read as follows.

To the President and Members
of the Secret Committee of Fort St George

Gentlemen, I yesterday received an Order from the Right Honble the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, dated 29th March 1756. directing me to return to England with the Squadron under my Command, his Majesty having Signified his Pleasure to them, for my so doing. I think it proper to communicate these my Orders to you, that you may on this Occasion take such measures as appear most advisable for the Company's Interest. However, Gentlemen, as the Company's Affairs are in so distressid a Condition, I continue my Resolution to proceed to Bengal, agreable to your Request, before I put his Majesty's Orders in Execution.

I heartily wish you Success, and have the honor to be Gentlemen, Your most Obedient Humble Servant. Chas. Watson.

Fort St George
13 October 1756.

Sent

872

Fort St. George 13th October 1756.

Send the following Answer to Mr Watson.

To Charles Watson Esqr
Vice Admiral of the Blue
& Commander in Chief of his Majesty's
Squadron in India.

Sr

We have received the favor of your Letter dated the 9th October, in which you are pleasd to communicate to us the orders you have receivd for Returning to England with the Squadron under your Command. Permit us Sir, to assure you, that we esteem the Continuance of your Resolution to proceed to Bengal, as a strong Additional Instance, to the many we have receivd of your Constant Attention to every All the Services in your Power to the Welfare of the Affairs of the East India Company.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient
humble Servants.

George Pigot, Robert Clive,
Stringer Lawrence, Henry Conway,
Robert Orme, William Percevall,
Robert Pitt &c.

Fort St. George
13th October 1756.

&c

Fort St. George 13th October 1756.

The President acquaints the Committee that Admiral Watson although he has Receivd Orders to return to England with the Squadron, has been so kind to promise to leave the fifty Gun Ship, the twenty Gun Ship, and the Sloop at Bengal if the Company's Affairs should require it, at the time of his coming away from thence. Agreed to apprize the Gentlemen of the Committee at Bengal of this Obliging Offer of Mr. Watson's that they may make use of it, Should they see Occasion.

The following Letter from Colonel Adlercron Read with a Warrant as thereinmentiond

To George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor &ca
Gentlemen of the Secret Committee

Gentlemen,

Agreable to the Request contaiind in your Letter to me of the 5th Instant, I have made out a proper Power for Lieut. Colonel Clive, which I inclose to you herewith.

I am Gentlemen,
Your most Obedient
humble Servant.
John Adlercron

Fort St. George
10th October 1756.

Order'd

8/4

Fort St. George 13th October 1756

Ordered that the Warrant be inclos'd in our Packet to Colonel Clive.

The following Letters read

at

in their fair Copies, and Sign'd

To Vice Admiral Watson
To the Gentlemen of the Committee of Bengal
To Major James Killpatrick
To Mr. John Zephania Holwell
To the Nabob of Bengal
To the Nabobs of Purnea, Dacca & Cuttack
Instructions to Robert Clive Esq.r Commd.r in Chief of the Land Forces employed on the Expedition to Bengal
Instructions to Mr. John Walsh Pay master to the Expedition to Bengal
Instructions to Mr. Thomas Maunsell Commissary of the Forces
Orders to Captain Fowler of Ship Walpole and Captain Mc. Leod of Ship Marlboro'
all which are Ordered to be here copied.

To Charles Watson Esq.r
Vice Admiral of the Blue, and Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Squadron in India

Sir

It is with great pleasure we congratulate You, on your late Promotion, and

Fort St George 13th October 1756.

at the same time, We beg leave to return you our Thanks for the Readiness you have shewn at all times to promote the Interest of the Company and particularly in the Forwarding this Expedition.

The Commanders of the Comp.ys

Ships Walpole and Marlborough have directions to put themselves under your Orders We have only to request that when the President and Council of Bengal apply for them for the Service of the Company, you will then give them Orders to Obey their Commands.

You have already been

acquainted in the Conferences, we have had the honor to hold with you on the Subject of this Expedition, that our General View in putting the Company to so vast an Expence is the Re establishment of the Company's Settlements in Bengal upon the most advantagious and Secure footing possible and a Reimbursement of the loss they have lately suffer'd from the Violences of the Nabob, the readiest means of obtaining these ends, we Judge to be an immediate Opening of Hostilities against him both by Sea and Land in such manner as Shall appear to be most likely to distress his Country. The Particular Operations of the Ships under your Command, you will be the best Judge of, when you arrive in the River where you will probably meet with Gov.r Drake

and

87b

Fort St George 13th October 1756.

and most of his Council, Of those Gentlemen the following are appointed by the last Ships from England to be a Committee for the Management of Matters Relative to the Protection and Preservation of the Company's Estate, Rights and Privileges. Viz.d Roger Drake Esq.r Colonel Lawrence whom present, Messrs Watts, Manningham and Becher

To the Representations therefore that may be made you in behalf of the Company by the beforenamed Gentlemen, or any part of them Joind to Colonel Clive, we do request that you will be pleasd to pay the same Attention as you have hitherto done to the Representations that have been made you by us.

Relying on the Promise you have been pleasd to make us, of landing the whole or a part of his Majesty's Troops on board the Ships under your Command, if the Occasions of the Squadron shall not make the Detention of them on board absolutely necessary We have not sent so many of the Company's Troops on this Expedition, as might perhaps otherwise be necessary for the Execution of it.

As we are present in great Uncertainty of the Measures that may have been taken in Europe. We must request that when you shall think proper to leave Bengal, You will

if possible come to Madras with the Ships under your Command, and should at that time the news of a War, or any particular Emergency's render it necessary to the Welfare of the Coast, to call back the whole or any part of the Troops which we have put under the Command of Colonel Clive. We have directed that Gentleman implicitly to obey the Future orders he may receive from us on this Subject. We, therefore Sir, request that whenever Colonel Clive shall make Application to you to embark any Troops and to bring them to the Coast. You will be pleas'd to comply with such Request, as you may be assured it will not be made, but when the absolute necessity of Affairs requires it.

We have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient
humble Servants.

George Pigot V.to Committee.

Fort St George
13. October 1756

To the Honble Roger Drake Esq.r
Mess.rs William Watts, Charles Manningham
and William Becher.

Gentlemen.

The Secret Committee of the Honble East India Company in their Letter to us Dated 13.th February, having advis'd us that they have appointed you with Colo Lawrence when present

Fort St George 13th October 1756.

present / to be a Select Committee with powers to take such Measures as shall be necessary for the Protection and Preservation of the Company's Estates, Rights, and Priviledges, and having directed us the Committee for the Affairs of this Presidency, to Correspond with you on all Matters relative thereto, It is therefore to you, Gentlemen, that we address the Advice we have to Offer on the Subject of the late Calamity that has befallen the Company's Settlements and Estate in the Province of Bengal with an Information of the Efforts we have made for the Re establishment of the Company's Possessions and the Reimbursement of the Loss of Property they have Sustained.

We are to acknowledge the Receipt of the following Letters.

From Roger Drake Esq.r and the Gentlemen of the Council at Fulta, dated 18th August.
From Roger Drake Esq.r Messrs Watts, Kellpatrick & Holwell at Fulta 19th Do
From Mr. Holwell at Muxadavad the 17th July 1756.
From Mr. Holwell at Hughely Dated 3. Augt 1756
From Messrs Watts & Collet Dated 2. 6. & 18 July
the last inclosing a Letter for the Court of Directors.
From Mr. Becher & Council at Dacca Dated 13th July

Of all which, Copies will be transmitted to our Honble Masters.

By Letters from the President and Council of Madrass to the Gentlemen

Fort S.t George 13.th October 1756

Gentlemen of the Council at Fulta, dated 18.th & 21.st Sept.r which was dispatchd by the Kings Fisher Sloop, you were advisd of the Disposition that had been made for the Departure of the whole of his Majesty's Squadron, and a large part of our Troops under the Command of Colonel Clive, for the Execution of the Service beforementiond

Watson

Accordingly Vice Admiral, with his Majesty's Ships Kent, Cumberland, Tiger, Salisbury and Bridgwater, with the Company's Ships Walpole & Marlborough, now Sail for Ballasore Road, and we have embarkd, all Officers included 528 Military and 109 Train, and 940 Seapoys under the Command of Robert Clive Esq.r who has his Majesty's Commission as Lieutenant Colonel.

It is our Duty to represent to you that we think Mr. Watson should be present and asist in all your Councils and Deliberations held on the Subject of the War you shall carry on, or the Treaties which you shall make with the Nabob. You will find in this Gentleman, as we always have, the greatest Disinterestedness as well as Zeal and Willingness to promote the Welfare of the East India Company

Mr. Pocock likewise always asisted with Mr. Watson at our Councils, and will at your Request, We are persuaded as readily asist at Yours.

As

880

Fort St George 13th October 1756.

As Colonel Clives Rank in the Company's Service is Deputy Governor of Fort St David, and to succeed to the Presidency of Fort St George, we doubt not but you will show him all the Respect that Rank entitles him to; and as his Assistance in your Councils will be particularly useful, you will think it proper to offer him a Seat at your Board. During his Stay at Bombay he took the Right hand of the President.

We could not have resolved to engage our Honble Masters in the vast Expence of fitting out this Armament, but with the hopes of obtaining an equivalent advantage. The retaking of Calcutta should we think by no means be the end of this Undertaking, not only their Settlements and Factories should be restored, but all their Priviledges established in the full Extent granted by the great Mogul, and ample Reparation made to them for the Loss they have lately Sustain'd: Otherwise We are of Opinion it would have been better nothing had been attempted than to have added the heavy Charge of this Armament to their former Loss without Securing their Colonies and Trade from future Insults and Exactions.

Should the Nabob on the news of the Arrival of these Forces, make Offers tending to the Acquiring to the Company the beforementioned

Advantages

Fort St George 13th Octber 1756.

Advantages, rather than risque the Success of a War, we think that Sentiments of Revenging Injuries altho they were never more Just, shou'd give place to the necessity of Sparing as far as possible the many bad Consequences of War, besides the expence of the Company's Treasures; but we are of Opinion that the Sword shou'd go hand in hand with the Pen, and that on the Arrival of the present Armament, Hostilities shou'd immediately Commence with the utmost Vigor. These Hostilities must be of every kind, which can either distress his Dominions, Estate, or bring Reprizals into our Possession.

We need not represent to you the great advantage which we think it will be to the Military Operations, and the Influence it will have in the Nabob's Councils, to effect a Junction with any Powers in the Provinces of Bengal, that may be dissatisfied with the Violences of the Nabob's Government, or that may have Pretensions to the Nabobship.

And it is we think more immediately necessary at the Opening of the Military Operations to request Mr Watson to block up if possible all the Passes of the River thro' which the Salt, Rice and other Provisions are carried into the Country; and to Seize on all

that

Fort St George 13th October 1756.

that shall come within the reach of the Armament consulting at the same time proper measures for supplying our own Force with Provisions.

We have directed Colonel Clive to apply to you Gentlemen, for a plan of such Treaty as you would reccommend to be made with the Nabob; and also for a Plan of such Military Operations by Land as you would reccommend to be carried on against him, untill he shall consent to such terms as the Treaty may be concluded on, and Colonel Clive will assist you with his advice in the Forming these Plans.

But as we have a particular Dependence on Colonel Clive's Abilities for the Management of this Expedition, and as it is absolutely necessary that no Division of Opinion or other Impediment should prevent its being carried into full and entire Execution, our Instructions to Colonel Clive will impower him to proceed to such Military Operations by Land, as he shall Judge most for the Company's Interest, transmitting to us in a very explicit manner his Reasons for any Proceedings which may differ from your Sentiments, which Reasons shall be referred to the Court of Directors; And should we upon the news of a War with France, find it necessary to recall him with a part of the Troops, that he

do

Fort St George 13th October 1756.

do immediately come away with such Troops leaving only as many as he shall think Sufficient for the Defence of Calcutta; As in that Circumstance we must think the Preservation of the Company's Estate under our Authority a Concern of too much Importance to be Subjected to the Risques which may be incurrd by the Want of those Troops. We thought it indispensably our Duty to invest Colonel Clive with so large a Power, Judging that the Certain Possessions of the Company on this Coast would in such a Case require infinitely more your Attention, than the present uncertainty of this Enterprize.

We have laden 600.000 Rupees on the Walpole, and Marlboro' each two Lack Consigned to Colonel Clive, for the Service of the Expedition

We have appointed Mr Johny Walsh Paymaster of the Forces, and Mr Thomas Maunsell Commissary.

The Military Stores embark'd for the Service of the Expedition are under the Charge of the proper Officers Subject to the Orders of Colonel Clive, who will deliver you Lists of the Whole.

You will observe by the inclosed Copies of a Council of War and three Letters to and from Admiral

8864

Fort St George 13th October 1756.

Admiral Watson in what manner the Disposal of the Reprizals that may be made upon the Moors is Settled. Accordingly if any should be made you will be pleas'd Jointly with Admiral Watson & Colonel Clive to appoint Proper Persons to take Charge of the Share that is to be deposited.

The Honble Court of Directors having transmitted to us by the Ship Chesterfield a Commission appointing James Killpatrick Esq.r to be Major of the Forces on the Bengal Establishment with orders to deliver it to that Gentleman, we forward it accordingly by this Conveyance

We have delivered Colonel Clive a Letter from our President to the Nabob of Bengal and a Letter from Salabat Jung to the same Nabob, of both which we now inclose Translations for your Perusal.

We have also delivered Coll.o Clive a Copy (attested by the Cauzee of Delly) of the Mogulls Phirmaund to the Company for the Possession of their Several Settlements, and a Book containing a Translation not only of the Phirmaund but also of the Orders sent from Delly to the Officers of the Different Subahs enjoining them to put the Company in Possession, and permit them to enjoy the Privileges granted by the said Phirmaund. Coll.o Clive is directed to leave both the Persian Copy

and

Fort St George 13th October 1756

and the English Translations with you, when he
returns to the Coast.

The Company's Ships Marlboro
and Walpole are put under the Directions of Admiral
Watson, as you will observe by the Copies of our Orders
to the Commanders. Should you have Occasion to employ
them for the Company's Service, we doubt not he will
upon your Application direct them to follow your
Orders.

Mr. Watson has receivd orders
to return to England but his good Inclination to the
Service of the Company has led him to assure us that
if at that time it shall be necessary for him to quit
Bengal, you should be in such a Situation as to require
further Protection from a Part of his Squadron he
will on your Application leave with you the 50
and 20 Gun Ships, and the Sloop.

We cannot too much enforce to
you the absolute Necessity which appears to us that the
Houses and Buildings of Calcutta, from which an
Enemy can annoy the Fort, be immediately levelld
as otherwise we cannot Conceive any method of
preserving the Fort from the same Fate it has
lately Suffered. We are

Gentlemen, Your most Obedient
humble Servants.
George Pigot &c Comm.

Fort St George
13th October 1756.

Fort St George 13th October 1756.

To Major James Killpatrick

Sr

We have received your Letter dated at Fulta the 5th August 1756 The Honble the Court of Directors having been pleas'd to transmit us a Commission appointing you to be Major of the Forces upon the Bengal Establishment we forward it to you under this Cover, and it gives us pleasure to see this Proof of the Company's Approbation of your Services.

We are now making a great Effort for the Re establishment of the Company's Affairs in Bengal, and in the Commission we have given to Colonel Clive appointing him Commander in Chief of the Land forces to be employ'd on this Expedition, we have named you to succeed to the same Commission in case of Accident to him.

We are Sir Your most Obedient servants.

Fort St George
13 October 1756.

George Pigot &c Committee.

To John Zephaniah Holwell

Sr

We have received your letters (Dated 17th July from Muxadavad & 3d August from Hughely, Copies of which shall be Forwarded to the Honble Court of Directors by the first Ships from hence We are Sir Your most Obedt Servants.

George Pigot &c Committee

George
ober 1756.

Fort St. George 13th October 1756.

To the Nabob of Bengal October 14th 1756

I receiv'd the letter you was pleas'd to write me on the 30th June, advising me that it was not your Intention to remove the Mercantile Business of the English Company out of the Subah of Bengal; and at the same time I receiv'd Information that all the Company's Factories in the said Province with their Effects amounting to several x Kerours had been Seiz'd by your People also all the Effects of all the Merchants who resided in the said Settlements amounting to a great many Lacks more, and I was further inform'd that the greatest Part of the Merchants were kill'd by your People in a cruel, and barbarous manner beyond what can be describ'd in writing. I must inform you that the English have above all other Nations enrich'd your Province by a most extensive trade, and the Importation of immense Sums of ready money. The Mogul was so Sensible of the many Advantages of our Settling in Bengal that he has given us by his Phirmaunds his Protection together with many Priviledges and Indulgences in all parts of his Dominions, and these Priviledges and Indulgences the English have enjoy'd from that time to this according to the Intent of the Royall Phirmaund. Indeed in Bengal the Subahs did not comply with the Royall

x a Kerour is one hundred Lacks

886

Fort St George 13th October 1756

Phirmaund, but out of thirty two Villages given to us by the King suffered us to possess but three, and moreover have often on trifling Pretences taken large Sums of Money from the Governors of Bengal. However as it was the Intent of the English to live peaceably, and follow their Trade in your Province they submitted, and made no Disturbance. All that the Subahs your Predecessors have done is nothing in Comparison to what you have lately done. I should have been willing to have believ'd that the Violence and Cruelties exercis'd by your Army against the English was without your Knowledge, but I send you commanded your Army in Person, and after Killing and murdering our People took Possession of the Fort. The Great Commander of the King of England's Ships has not Kept in Peace since this news, and is come down with many Ships, and I have sent a great Serdar, who will govern after me, by name Colonel Clive, with Troops and Land Forces. Full Satisfaction and Restitution must be made for the Losses we have Sustain'd. You are wise, Consider whether it is better to engage in a War that will never end, or to do what is Just and right in the sight of God; a great Name is obtain'd by Justice as well as by Valour. You have heard that we have fought, and always been victorious in these Parts. The Nabob of this Province writes you how much we have assisted in his

Affairs

Fort St George 13th October 1756.

Affairs, and always acted in Support of the Orders of the King of Delly. Salabat Jung ask'd our Assistance, but we determind to obtain Satisfaction in Bengal. Mr Clive will explain all things to you. What can I say more?

To the Nabob of Perencal.

It was with the greatest Grief and Surprize, I receivd the news of the new Nabob of Bengals ill treatment of the English who have for so many Years brought immense Riches into that Country, and carried on their Trade quietly It is besides well known that the English have in all Parts acted in Obedience to the Great Mogul, and in Support of his Orders. In this Province they have maintaind a long and Successfull War against those who were Enemies to the Moguls authority, and the Mogul on his Part granted them several Settlements with great Priviledges as a mark of his Favor. Now as the Nabob of Bengal acted contrary to the Royall Phirmaun'd, Dispossess'd the English, & plundered the Company's as well as Private Effects to the Amount of Several Kerors, the Great Commander of the King of England's Ships thought it necessary to go to those Parts with a great number of Ships and I have also sent Colonel Clive who is to be Governor after me, and who is a brave Soldier, with

Land-

890

Fort St George 13th October 1756.

Land Forces. full and ample Satisfaction must be obtaind from the Nabob for all the Losses he has caus'd to the English, otherwise he must fight with such an Army as has never before appeard, in that Country that has been Victorious in a thousand Battles. As you are Sensible of the Justice of my Proceedings and that I am inclin'd to act in all things according to the orders of the Great Mogul, I hope you will Shew me Marks of your Friendship. For further particulars I refer you to Colonel Clive.

Write me of your Health that I may Rejoice

The same to the Nabob of Dacca
and the Nabob of Cuttack.

To Robert Clive Esqr.

Sir,

Judging the Re Establishment of the Company's Settlements at Bengal to be of the highest Importance to their Welfare, we have requested of Admiral Watson to proceed thither with the whole Squadron under his Command.

We have imbark'd on the several Ships of the Squadron all Officers included 528 Military and 109 Train, and on the Company's Ships Walpole and Marlboro with the Bomb Ketch and those on board his Majesty's Ships 950 Seapoys and 160 Lascars with twelve field Pieces, one Haubitzer

Fort St. George 13th October 1756.

Haubitzer, and a necessary Quantity of Ammunition;
and Reposing full confidence in your Abilities we
have appointed you to be Commander in Chief of the
Land Forces to be employ'd on the present Expedition.

You are therefore to proceed
with this Command to Bengal. In the River you
will probably meet with most of the Gentlemen of
the late Council of whom the following have been this
year appointed by the Secret Committee of the Honble
East India Company to be a Select Committee for the
Management of all Matters relative to the Protection
or Preservation of the Company's Estate, Rights and
Privileges Viz.t Roger Drake Esq.r; Colo Lawrence
when present, Messrs Walls, Manningham & Becher.

To these Gentlemen, we have
addressd a Letter which we now deliver you together
with a Copy thereof, by which you will observe our
Intentions in setting out this Armament, and
this Letter will serve to guide you in acting up to
the Spirit of these Intentions.

Conformably to these Instructions
we have desird the Gentlemen of the Select Committee
appointed as beforementiond to form and deliver you
a Plan of such Treaty, as they would recommend
to be made for the best advantage of the Company
with the Nabob of Bengal, and likewise a Plan
of such Military Operations, as they shall Judge

most

Fort St George 13th October 1756.

most likely to compel the Nabob to consent to the Terms of the said Treaty. They will probably desire your Presence at their Councils. we need not recommend to you to assist them, with your best advice; and We most earnestly require You to endeavor to preserve a good Harmony throughout.

If any part of the Plans you shall receive from the Gentlemen beforementioned Shall appear to you not to lead by the most Speedy and efficacious way to the obtaining the hop'd for advantage to the Company you will explain very particularly your Sentiments to those Gentlemen, pointing out to them Such alteration as you think will better answer the purpos'd End, in which Alteration we flatter ourselves they will them concur. If not, as you are empower'd, and we do hereby empower you to pursue such Measures as you shall judge most conducive to the Company's Benefit, transmitting to them, & to us in the most particular manner your Reasons for so doing.

Our last Advices from Europe have given us too much Reason to fear there will be but a very short time for the Execution of this Project, it being our Resolution, Should we receive Newes of a War with France, immediately to

Fort St George 13th October 1756.

to recal you, and the greatest Part of the Troops for the Defence of this Coast. Upon the Receipt of such Orders from us you are to leave so many Men as you judge necessary for the immediate Defence of Calcutta, and proceed hither with the Rest without Loss of time, notwithstanding any thing that may be urg'd to the Contrary by the Gentlemen of Bengal, for in such Circumstances we cannot but regard the certain Posession of the Establishments under our Authority on this Coast, and in this Country to be an object of too great Importance to the Company, not to employ our utmost Attention. Should our Orders for returning arrive with you, before his Majestys Ships have left Bengal, you are to request Admiral Watson or the Commander of the Ships that may be there to bring the Troops to Madras; but should none of his Majesty's Ships remain with you, then you are to apply to the President & Council for such of the Company's Ships, as may be there, or employ such private Vessels as may be procurable.

Inclos'd is a Copy of a Council of War, held here by the Officers of his Majesty's Squadron the 30th September, & 2. October concerning the Disposal of what may be taken from the Moors, with Copies of three Letters which past between Mr Watson and us on the same Subject.

As

89

Fort St George 13th October 1756

As far as the shares of the Sea Forces are distributed we consent that the shares of such Part of the Land Forces, as by their Ranks are to share with those Sea forces, be distributed also. In case Reprizals should be made, you are to consider Jointly with Mr. Watson, and the Bengal Committee of the Appointment of proper Commissaries to take charge of Such Portion that is to be deposited.

We have appointed Mr. John Walsh to be Paymaster of the Forces to be employ'd on the present Expedition, and Mr. Thos. Mannsell Commissary. They are to act in all things according to your Orders, but we have deliverd the Paymaster for his Guidance a Copy of our Military Regulations relating to Pay, Batta &c. and a Letter of Instructions of which herewith is a Copy.

Conformably to the Paragraphs of your Honble Masters Commands therein refer'd to, N8 Batta, or extraordinary Allowance should be given to the Troops in any of their Garrisons, but as the state in which their Settlements at Bengal may be found is quite uncertain we leave it to you to regulate this in such Manner, as you shall see Reasonable. When their Settlements are Re-established and the Inhabitants

Fort St George 13th October 1756.

Inhabitants returnd, so that Provisions become Plenty as usual. This Order of our Honble Masters must be Strictly observd.

It has been Customary here to diet the non Commissiond Officers, and Soldiers in the Field, instead of Batta, and this has always been done by Contract. The last Contract was 4 fanams a day for each man, but as Provisions have generally been much cheaper, and more plenty at Bengal, than on this Coast, we hope you will be able to contract for a less Price. We leave it to you to settle this to the best advantage of the Company.

The Military Stores embark'd for the Service of this Expedition, according to the inclosd Lists, are under the charge of the respective Officers, who are accountable to You. You will give them Orders to be particularly careful that none are lost or Damagd, and cause very exact Monthly accounts to be deliverd you of the Receipts and Issues. You are to give Copies of the Lists of Stores to the Committee at Bengal.

On the Ships Malborough, and Walpole, we have laden Arcot Rupees 400,000 two Lacks on each Ship, consignd to you for the Service of the Expedition. Out of this you are to make such Issues to the Paymaster as you shall

See

Fort St George 13th October 1756.

See necessary, and in case you should have occasion, for a further Supply, You are to apply to the President and Council there, and if they should not be able to furnish you, you have Liberty to draw on us.

You are to cause a General Muster to be made monthly by the Commissary, of all the Forces, Lascars, Artificers, Cooley's and others in the Company's Pay. We desire you will be present at these Musters, as often as your Business will permit, and when you cannot be present yourself, depute Such Person as you shall think proper. These Musters should be taken as near as possible to the end of every month, because they are to be a Guide to the Paymaster for his Issues of Pay, and the Commissary is to transmit Copies of the Muster Rolls to us by the most Secure Opportunities that offer.

We deliver you herewith a Letter from the President to the Nabob of Bengal, and a Letter from Salabat Jung to the same Nabob, both which you are to transmit to him at such time as you shall Judge most proper. Inclosd are likewise Translats of the two Letters for your Perusal.

We

We deliver you likewise a Copy attested by the Cauzee of Delly of the Mogul's Phirmaund to the Company for the Poſſeſſion of their Several Settlements, and a Book containing a Translation not only of the Phirmaund, but also of the orders sent from Delly at the same time to the Officers of the several Subahs enjoining them to put the Company in Poſſeſſion and permit them to enjoy the Privileges granted by the said Phir=maund. By this Book you will be particularly informed what the Company have a Right to pre=tend for in the Province of Bengal, which will be a great Assistance in your Negociations with the Nabob. When you return to the Coast you are to leave both the Persian Copy, and the Book of Translations in the hands of the Select Committee at Bengal.

We inclose Colonel Adlercron's Warrant empowering you, or the Commander in Chief of the Expedition for the time being, to appoint Courts Martial, and Persons to officiate as Judge Advocate. With our Wishes for Your Success We are Sir, Your most Obedient Serv.ts

Fort S. George 13. October 1756.

George Pigot, Stringer Lawrence
Henry Fonnereau, Robert Orme
William Percival, Robert Palk,

&c.

81

Fort St. George 13th October 1756.

To Mr. John Walsh

Sir

We have appointed you to be Paymaster of the Forces to be employd on the Expedition to Bengal, and we have order'd a Copy of the Book of Military Regulations, to be deliver'd you for your Guidance.

In that Book you will see the Regulations for the Pay and Batta of Officers and Soldiers, Seapoys, Lascars &c. but as some of those Regulations are stated in Pagodas & Fanams you are to observe the following Instructions for Reducing them into Rupees, the Currency of Bengal.

The Pay of the Military is Settled by the Company in £ Sterling, at Bengal it is to be turn'd into Rupees, according to the Bengal Establishment.

The Lascars have been paid here in Pagodas. You are to value the Pagoda at 8s and reduce that into Rupees according to the Bengal Establishment, and you are to advance the Seapoys and Lascars three Months Pay, besides a Gratuity of twelve Rupees a man.

The Pay and contingent charges of the whole Detachment from the 1st of October is to be carried to the Account of the Expedition, and you are to transmit Accounts monthly, or as often as

you

you have Opportunity to the Presidency of Bengal as well as to us.

We have agreed that Colonel Clive be furnish'd with a Table at the Company's Expence in lieu of Batta.

The Batta of the other Officers is already settled in Rupees. It is to commence from the day of their Embarking, and you are to advance them two months Batta.

The Non commiss'ond Officers and Soldiers we have agreed with Mr. Doidge to diet on board at the Rate of 6 Fan.s a day for each man. His Bill is to be paid accordingly on your Arrival at Bengal at the Rate of eleven Fanams for a Rupee.

When the Troops take the Field the Non commiss'ond Officers and Soldiers will be dieted by Contract at such Rate as Colonel Clive shall settle.

For the Diet of the Seapoys & Sascars on board, we have also Agreed with Mr. Doidge At the rate of 4 Fan.s a day each man; for which his Bill is to be paid at Bengal at the Rate of 11 Fan.s for a Rupee.

When the Seapoys & Sascars take the Feild they are to be paid Batta according to the Book of Military Regulations reckoning

the

Fort St. George 13th October 1756

the Fanams at the Rate of twelve to a Rupee as has been always practis'd here.

Inclos'd is Copy of a Paragraph of the Company's Orders to this Presidency by which you will observe that no extraordinary Allowance is to be paid to the Troops, while in any of the Company's Garrisons, But as it will be some time before the Settlements in Bengal can be Re-establish'd on their former Footing, Colonel Clive may find it necessary to deviate from this Rule, on the Scarcity or Dearness of Provisions.

Mr Thomas Maunsell proceeds in quality of Commissary. All the Military, Seapoys, Lascars, Artificers, Cooleys, in short every Man who is to receive Pay from the Company, must be regularly muster'd monthly by the Commissary in presence of the Commanding Officer or the Person by him deputed, and according to that Muster Roll, which is to be deliver'd to you properly certify'd, you are to issue the Pay, taking care that all Casualties are regularly noted according to the Book of Military Regulations, which shou'd be done by inserting the names of the Military, Sepoys Lascars &c. in a Book kept on purpose and noting opposite to their Names the Deaths, Promotions, Desertions &c. which may happen.

Lastly you are to follow

all

Fort St. George 13th October 1756.

all Orders you shall receive from the Committee at Fort St George for the time being or the Commander in Chief of the Expedition. Dated in Fort St George the 13th October 1756.

To Mr. Thomas Maunsell

Sir We have appointed you to be Commissary of the Forces employ'd on the Expedition to Bengal.

You are to muster the whole Detachment, Military, Artillery, Seapoys, Lascars Artificers, Cooleys, in short all that receive Pay from the Company, monthly, if time and place will permit, and to take notice of such as are Sick, Wounded, deserted, Dead or absent without Leave. You are to deliver a Copy of the said Muster Roll Sign'd by the Commanding Officer or the person he shall depute, and by yourself, to the Paymaster of the Forces; and to transmit a Copy, ascertained in the same manner to us, by such secure Opportunities as shall offer.

And as these Muster Rolls are to be a Guidance to the Paymaster in his Issues of Pay, the said Musters are to be taken as near as possible to the end of every month.

Lastly you are to follow all such Orders as you shall receive from the Comittee of Fort St George for the time being, and to give due Obedience to the Commander in Chief of the Expedition. Dated in Fort St George the 13th October 1756.

To

902

Ordered that the Packet to the Committee at Bengall and Letters Commanders of the following Ships under the Command of the Committee at Bengall

Fort St. George 13th October, 1756

To Captain Thomas Trevilor
Commander of Ship Walpole

Sir,

You are hereby required to follow the Directions of Admiral Watson until you shall receive contrary orders from him

Dated in Fort St. George 13th October 1756.

The same to Capt. Alex.r Mc.Leod of Ship Malboro.

X

List of the Packet to the Select Committee at Bengall
Dated 13th October 1756

1 Committee's Letter to the Committee at Bengall.
2 Copy of the Council of War, and letters relating to the Distribution of Prize money
3 Copy of the Nabob of Bengall's letter to the President
4 Copy of the President's letter to the Nabob of Bengall
5 Copy of the President's letter to the Nabobs of Perenia Dacca & Cattack
6 Copy of Salabat Jung's Letter to the Nabob of Bengall.
7 Copy of the Europe Ships orders

X

List of the Packet to Robert Clive Esq.r

Where Entered	No.		1756
Proced.s Cons.n 13 Oct.	1	Colonel Clive's Instructions dated	13th October
Proced.s Cons.n 13 Oct.	2	Copy of the Committee's Letter to Admiral Watson	Do
Proced.s Cons.n 13 Oct.	3	Copy of the Committee's Letter to the Comittee at Bengal	Do
Proced.s Cons.n 13 Oct.	4	Copy of the Committee's Instructions to Mr. Walsh Capt.n	Do
Proced.s Cons.n 13 Oct.	5	Copy of the Committee's Instructions to Mr. Maunsell Lieut.	Do
Do. 13 & 15 Oct.r	6	Copy of the Council of War & Letters relating to the Distribution of Prize money	Do
Proced.s Cons.n 13 Oct.	7	Copy of the Europe Ships Orders	Do

Copy

Fort St. George 13th October 1756.

Consulta 17th Augt. No 8. Copy of the Nabob of Bengal's Letter to the President.

Country Corr. Dec. 1756 p. 226 9. Copy of Salabat Jung's Letter to the Nabob of Bengal

Proced. Com. 13th Oct. 10. Copy of the President's Letter to the Nabobs of Porenea, Dacca, & Cuttack

Proceds. Com. 13 Oct. 11. Copy of the Presidents &c to the Nabobs of Porenea, Dacca, & Cuttack

12. Copy of the 68th Para of the Company's Letter dated 31st Jan 1756
Relating to the Allowances of the Military sent
from one Settlement to another

13. Colonel Adlercron's Warrant empowering the Commander
in Chief of the Expedition to Bengal to appoint Courts
Martial & Judge Advocates

14. Commission appointing Robert Clive Esq. to be
Commander in Chief of the Troops employ'd on the
Expedition to Bengal, and in case of his Death to
James Killpatrick Esq.

15. Military Regulations to be added to the Book

Proced. Com. 23 Thurs. & 6 May 16. Invoice of Medecines & 2 Lacks of Rupees per Walpole

17. Invoice of 2 Lack of Rupees per Malborough.

18. Bill of Lading for the Rupees.

Deliver'd to Colonel Clive apart.

19 Persian Copy under the seal of the Cazzee of Delly
of the Moguls Phirmaund to the Company.

20. A Book containing a Translation of the Phirmaund &
of several Orders issued at the same time by the Mogul
in favor of the English

21. A Seald Bag containing a Letter from Salabat Jung
to the Nabob of Bengal

22. A Seald Bag containing a Letter from Nabob
Anaverdy Cawn to the Nabob of Bengal.

23. A Packet containing ten Letters of the same Tenor

and

Fort St George 13th October 1756

and date / from the President to the Nabob of Bengal.

24 A Packet containing a letter from Colonel Clive to the Nabob of Bengal, also Copy Of that letter and of Colonel Clives letter to Salabat Jung.

25 A Packet cont.d Letters from the President to the Nabobs of Perenea, Dacca & Cuttack, all of the same Tenor and date

26 A Packet cont.d Viz.t

List of Military Stores for the Service of the Expedition
List of Engineers Do
List of Artillery Do
List of Ordnance & Ordnance Stores

A Letter to the Secret Committee of the East India Company to be sent by the Danish Ship from Tranquebar. Read in its fair Copy and Signd

Ordered that it be immediately dispatchd and the President is desird to write to the Governor of Tranquebar requesting him to give Orders to the Captain of the Ship to send it ashore by any English Boat that may come

Fort St George 13th October 1756.

off to him in the Channell.

George Pigot

Henry Brooke

Robert Orme

Wm. Percival

Rob Palk

Fort St. George 13th October 1756.

Dispatchd to Tranquebar a Letter for the Secret Committee of the last India Company, to be forwarded by a Danish Ship from thence.

16th This Morning Vice Admiral Watson, Saild from this Road for Bengal with the following Ships under his Command Viz.t his Majestys Ships Kent, Cumberland, Tiger, Salisbury, Bridgwater, & Blaze Fireship & the Honble Company's Ships Walpole & Marlboro having on board Lieutenant Colonel Clive with a Detachment of Land Forces.

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esq.r Governor President
Stringer Lawrence, Henry Powney
Robert Orme, ——————
Robert Palk.

Thursday the 21.st

Mr. Percival indisposd

A Letter receivd by the Honble Company's Ship Protector from the Select Committee at Bombay read as follows.

To the Honble George Pigot Esq.r
President & Governor &.ca Members of the
Select Committee at Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

The accompanying is a Duplicate of our last Address, and we shall now Reply to your Honor &.ca Favors, of the 13th & 14th July, receivd

20.th

Fort St. George 21st October 1756.

20th Ultimo.

On the 2. instant we deliver'd Mr. John Spencer our Instructions, for his proceeding to the Nanah at Poonake, but the Weather has since been so boisterous, as to prevent his setting out, however we hope shortly to be advis'd of any thing material, you may have transacted with Salabat Jung, that he may have an Opportunity, of improving any Advantages resulting therefrom, during his Stay with the Nanah.

The General Letter transmitted to your Board, on the 10th Instant per Sapwing, would inform your Honor &c. that our Honble Masters Ships, Portfield, Clinton, & Royall Duke imported here from Great Britain, between the 3. & 7th instant, having left St. Helens on the 27 April last, when there was no War declared, by us, or the French, and Affairs were much in the same Situation, as when the Normont &c. Ships for China, arrived with you.

As to the large Force, which the Secret Committee, in their advices to your Honor &c. apprehend the French had sent to India, & which you likewise Expect, are destind to attack the Settlements on your Coast, the Secret Committee gives us the same Account of them, & tho they add that they have since learnt, that the French Company's

Fort St. George 21st October 1756.

Company had fitted out but an inconsiderable number of Ships this Season, and that they did not intend to send any more, till the knew the Issue of Affairs between the two Nations in Europe, yet the Secret Committee did not know which of those Accounts, were to be depended on, and tho they hop'd the latter, yet they recommend it to us, to be prepard against all Events, and we cannot but think, there is equal, or more Reason, to imagine the above Force will be employ'd against this Place, rather than against the Settlements on your Coast, or Bengal, considering that the French are fully acquainted, with Mr. Watsons Squadron being Station'd on your Coast, all the fair Monsoon, and that Colonel Adlercrons Regiment, is likewise there to assist you. They the French may also think from the Report which was current, on the Departure of our last Years Ships, that Colo Clive, with the three Companies of His Majesty's Royal Regiment of Artillery, proceeded immediately thither, and on reflecting how speedily Mr. Watsons Squadron might succour Bengal, should not the great Disgust of large Ships going up that River, prevent the French, having any Design of attacking them, We cannot but conclude; for these Reasons that they will look on us as the easiest conquest, and of Course that we have the most reason

to

Fort St George 21st October 1766.

to expect an Attack, especially as we well know, that the French have been long anxious, to get a Sea Port on this Side India, capable of Sheltering their Ships from the Monsoon.

We have fully acquainted your Honor &c. that it was not in our Power to send you the Protector, but fitted as a Merchant Ship, &c. in Regard to your so Strenuously requesting, to be assisted with her, and the Revenge, we are concern'd to acquaint, you we cannot comply with your request and that the Secret Committee, have besides signified, that no Men of War, can be spard for India this Season, which your Honor &c. will doubtless take all possible care, to prevent the French being informd of.

The Secret Committee have likewise directed us, not to proceed on their Plan of the 26th March 1765, in conjunction with the Mortattos, but to act on the defensive only, & presume before this comes to hand, the same Orders with's have reach'd you.

We are truly concern'd, for the bad Situation of our Honble Masters Affairs in Bengal, and that it had requir'd your Honor &c. sending them a Reinforcement, which we wish may arrive in time, but we acquainted you, under the 3. Ultimo, why we could not

Send

910

Fort St. George 21st October 1756.

Send you a Reinforcement of men, We have now to add, that we have receivd but very few Recruits by the Ships lately arrivd, before which our Garrison only consisted of about Fifteen hundred & Seventy /1570/ men, including all the Kings, as well as our own Military, Sick and well of every Denomination, occasiond by our Draughts to Ghereah & Fort Victoria, so that it is not only our own Unanimous Opinion, that we are not able to reinforce you, in the manner you desire, but likewise that of all his Majesty's & our own Artillery Officers, with whom we have consulted on this Occasion, and who declared, that they thought it highly necessary, for the Safety of the Island, that we should keep all the Force we have, and that was it their own case they would not part with a single man, We however dispatch now the Protector, and tho' we intended you a Supply of your own Gun Powder by her, Sir James Foulis & Major Chalmers Representation of the necessity of keeping all we have in Garrison, has obligd us to have recourse to that pointed out by your Honor &c. in your Letter of the 7th May last, a considerable part of which, we have been afraid is good, & considering the ill Consequences, which may attend your Honor &c. being disappointed of a Supply of so material an Article, we now

Order

Fort St George 21st October 1756

Order the Protector to Gheveath, I write the Provisional Chief, to procure the whole Quantity and lade it on board her, when the Commander is directed, to proceed immediately to Negapatam, and from thence to your Place, I will acquaint you with the Quantity of Powder he receives at Gheveath. We also send your Honor & Co Six /6/ 6 Lb Field Piece with their Appurtenances, which are all we can Spare, amounting as P. enclosed Account to Rupees 6,283. - 6

Being in great want of the Shot, Shells, &c specified in the accompanying List, we request your Honor & Co will supply us therewith, or such Part, as you can Spare.

We must repeat our Request of the 25th April last, that your Honor & Co will advise us, the allowances of Garrison Batta, you make to his Majesty's Troops, and if you have receivd any Directions from our Honble Masters on that head.

You may depend on our instantly communicating to you, any Intelligence we may receive, of the Designs of the French, not doubting of the like from you, and in the mean time, we are endeavouring to render

The

9/2

Fort St. George 21st October 1756.

the Island, as defensible as possible against them

We are Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient

humble Servants.

Bombay Castle
12th Sept. 1756.

Richard Bourchier, Cha. Crommelin,
James Foules, I Spencer, Sam. Hough

The Force which the
Gentlemen at Bombay mention to have had
on the Island before their Recruits arrivd. from
Europe is twice the number we have in this
Garrison, and we cannot help being of Opinion
that they might, and ought to have sent us a
Reinforcement upon the Receipt of our Repeated
Applications The Secret Committee in the 10th
Paragraph of their Commands to the Select
Committee at Bombay dated 26th March 1754
recommend to them to send hither the whole
Force sent out with Colo. Clive, in case their
Project then concerted shou'd not be put into
Execution, which might have added Weight
to our Applications

Without any Reason given
they refuse to send us the Revenge, and have sent

the

Fort St. George 21st October 1756

the Protector unarmed. The Committee do not see the absolute necessity of so large a Sea force at this time at Bombay, and the Assistance of those two Ships properly equipp'd would have been of most material use here as they would have been able to perform all those Services at Bengal which are now to be done by his Majesty's Squadron, by which means the whole Advantage of the Reprizals that might have been made upon y^e Moors would have belong'd without dispute to the Company, who have now only the Chance of one half.

The Gunpowder Landed from the Protector being found to be packd up in Chests with Iron hoops & Nails, it is Ordered that fresh Packages be prepar'd for it as fast as possible, and that Proofs be made of its Goodness, and Reported to the Committee.

Agreed that such Part of the Indent of Military Stores wanted at Bombay, as we can possibly spare be sent them by the first conveyance

Agreed to write an answer to the Select Committee at Bombay, conformable to the foregoing Paragraphs, but as our Request for a Reinforcement is press'd in the Strongest Terms in our two last Letters, dated 24th August and 6th October, it is Resolv'd to add nothing more on that Subject, What we have already said being Sufficient for our Justification in all Circumstances.

The

9/4

Fort St. George 21st October 1756.

The following Letter from
Captain Caillaud Read
To the Honble George Pigot Esqr
President & Gentlemen of the Committee at Madras

Honble Sir & Sirs No 39.

My last letter was dated the 21st of September No 38. In which I had the honor to inform you of Nawains departure for Madura. from whom I have receivd three Letters, advising me of his Arrival, and what was done towards Settling the Affair. He informs me that he had already brought the Zemidars down from their first demand of four Sack and a half, to two Sack & a half. That he on his Side continued to offer but one Sack and a half, and that only to be paid on the arrival of Mahofez Cawn, and themselves here, and our Seapoys again in the Fort. Thus far he had gone by his last letter, which he concludes by assuring me he has Reason to believe it will soon be terminated; and I hope soon to have the Satisfaction of informing you of it.

I have sent in this months the account of Disbursements signd as directed by the Shilledar. The Account Current for the Commissary is in a Seperate Sheet, as the Shilledar has nothing I believe to do with that. I have also transmitted a three months Account of the Sale

of

Fort St George 21st October 1756.

the old Grain, which I hope will all be off of hand by the end of December.

It is not yet settled what is to be paid this year by the Renters for the Trichenopoly Country. As soon as I can with certainty Inform you, I shall do it, that the share which the Honble Company is to receive may be Agreed on. The Countries will certainly pay more this Year, than the last; and if about two Pack could be collected for the Company, It would well go near to pay the expences and Disbursements of this Garrison.

There is one Chubb who deserted from this Garrison, with two Serjeants in the month of November returnd. The two Serjeants, one he says went to Pondichery by Sea from Cochin, the other is some where in the Madura Country. I have sent to enquire after him, and beg to be informed what shall be done with him who I have Prisoner.

Incloid with the accounts, I have the honor to transmit the monthly Returns.

I remain with great Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient &
most humble Servant.

John Caillaud.

Trichenopoly
21st October 1756

Agreed that the Man mentiond by Captain Caillaud to have returnd from Desertion be put upon the Rolls.

Setter

916

Fort St. George 21st October 1756.

Letter from the Nabob Read
as entered No. 300 in the Book of Country Correspondence
advising that he has sent Bills to Vakeel Anlazey
Punt for two hundred & twenty five thousand two
hundred & fifty /225,250/ Rupees on account of
the second half of his Assignment of eight Lacks
of Rupees to the Company out of the Arcot Countries
the first half was due and received in May last, the
second half was due the 12th. September, but no Part of
it yet Paid.

The Bills now transmitted by
the Nabob are on the following Accounts.

	Rupees
On account of Nazeabulla Cawn, Renter of Saravapelly & Nellour	61,000.—
On acco.d of Meer Mahomed Japhier Renter of Chellour	27,500.—
On account of Hamedally Cawn Renter of Condaperam	46,534.—
On Account of the same Hamedally Cawn Renter of Ponnia	12,174.—
On Account of Mustead Cawn Renter of Solangavaram	42,042.—
On account of Mahomed Nieredeen Renter of Muperewauck	33,500.—
On account of Saudet mund Cawn Killedar of Covrepauck	2,500.—
Rupees	225,250.

Two hundred & twenty five thousand, two hundred & fifty
Rupees

Fort St. George 21 October 1756.

Rupees, which compleats the second, and full Payment of their Respective Obligations.

The President acquaints the Committee that the Nabobs Vakeel has delivered him the said Bills which are as follow.

On the Ducan or House of Porshatum Dos

			Rupees	Anas
1 Bill payable 22 Oct.r		for	16,000.—	
1 Do	11 Nov.r		51,603.15.—	
		Rup.s	67,603.15.—	

On Buckanjee Cofeedos his Ducan or house

			Rup.s	Anas
1 Bill payable	11. Nov.r	for	12,807..	15.—
1 Do	Do		500..	
1 Do.	Do		7763..	15/2
1 Do	Do		2575..	
			157,646..	1.—
		Rup.s	225,250.—	

And the President further acquaints the Committee that Sheroff Linga Chitty has given him Notice that he is Ready to pay the Sollowing Sums on account of those Renters for whom he is Security Viz.t

	Rupees
On account of Royal Punt Renter of Terpasore Pagodas 25,000 valued at 375 Rup.s p 100 Pag.s	93,750.—
On Account of Appazey Ninar Renter of the two Conjeverams & Malchery	57,000.—
On Account of Pushepenada Ninar Renter of Tervatore	24,000.—
Rupees	174,750.—

One hundred and Seventy four thousand Seven hundred and fifty Rupees which compleats the second and full Payment of their Respective Obligations, and on full of the eight * Lacks assigned by the Nabob to the Company out of the Rents of the Arcot Country for the

* account of the 8 Lacks Receivd in May 400,000
now Reld from y.e Nabob 225250
p.d Linga Chitty 174750
400,000
Rup.s 800,000

916

Fort St. George 21st. October 1756.

The last Year of Phasely ending 12th July last./

Letters from the Renter and Tasealdar of Tripetty Read, as entered in the Country Correspondence No 292 & 293 advising that they have sent five Bills for twelve thousand /12,000/ Pagodas & Seventeen Thousand /17000/ Rupees in part Payment of the September or first Kist of the present Year of Phasely 1166.

And the President acquaints the Committee that he has receiv'd the said Bills as follow

1 on Gocul Terwady payable 10th Nov. for	Pag.	5000.	
1 on Do	Do	5,250.	
1 on Buckanjee Cosseedos	Do	1,750	Pagodas 12,000.
1 on Do.	Do for	Rupees 15,000	
1 on Governundos	7 Do	2,000	Rupees 17,000.

Ordered that Report be made to the President and Council, of the Receipt of all the beforementioned Bills, as well as of the Money due from Linga Chitty, that they may give Directions concerning it.

Letter from Solanapa Mondillee Renter of Tinnevelly as entered in the Country Correspondence /No 291/ Read representing the Difficulty of his producing Securities at Madras and desiring that we will consent to their being accepted at Trichenopoly.

It is indifferent to the Committee

where

where the Securities are given, so as they be fit and Responsible Persons, but that is a Circumstance which must be determin'd here, wherefore it is Agreed to write to Moodillee that he must acquaint the President with the Names of the Persons he has to offer, and where they reside, that Enquiry may be made into their Circumstances, as from which it will be determin'd whether they can be accepted or not.

Letter from Balazaron

The Nana or Chief of the Morrattas / Read, as entered No. 301, complaining of the Injustice done him by the Keeping Possession of Gheriah, and inclosing a Second Letter in a Seal'd Bag for the King of England which he desires may be forwarded.

Agreed that the Letter for the King of England be sent on the Chesterfield and that a Copy of Balazaron's Letter to the President be forwarded to the Select Committee at Bombay.

The Supracargo & Captain of the Snow Lapwing Burthen near three hundred Tons offering to freight that Vessel to the Company at the rate of two thousand eight hundred / 2,800 / Rupees a month Agreed that She be taken up two months from the 19th Instant.

And Resolved that two hundred Seapoys be embark'd on her & three hundred on the Protector, and that both Vessels be dispatch'd for

Fort St. George 21st. October 1756.

for Bengal, as soon as the necessary Quantity of Water can be put on board them.

Order'd that Letters for the Select Committee there, and for Colonel Clive be prepared to be sent them.

The President acquaints the Committee that the Vakeel of the Polligar Bommerauze, has desir'd in his Masters Name that the Securities given for his Ballance of 170,000 Seventy thousand Rupees due to the Company, may be releas'd, promising that one quarter part shall be paid as soon as the Securities can be sent to his Master, and his Answer Receiv'd.

As the Securities in Question do not appear to be Responsible Persons it is Agreed to send them to Bommerauze with ten of the Company's Peaons, and a Letter from his Vakeel, and another from the President, enlarging upon the favor that is shown him & requiring him in the strongest Terms to make good the Promise of his Vakeel.

Geo. Pigot

Henry Brooke

Robert Orme

Rob.t Peck

Fort St George 23. October 1756

Sent the following Letter to Captain Caillaud pursuant to the foregoing Resolution.

To Captain Caillaud No 1

Sir

We have receivd your Letter dated the 4th of this month and hope soon to hear of the Success of your Endeavors to put an end to the Disturbance of Madura. We approve of the measures you advise that you have taken in that Affair in consequence of our Orders of 8th September.

You may put the Deserter Chubb in the Ranks as his Return appears to have been Voluntary.

We are Sir

Your most Obedt Servants.

George Pigot &c Committee.

Fort St George
23 October 1756

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esq Governor President
Stringer Lawrence, Henry Powney,
Robert Orme, ——— ———
Robert Palk, Wm Percival indisposed

Monday the 25th

The 5th Paragraph of the Letter from the Secret Committee of the East India Company Dated

922

Fort St George 25th October 1756

dated 13th February 1754, relating to the Negociation to be carried on with the King of Mysore for the delivering up of Trichenopoly to him on his Paying the whole of the Nabob's Debt to the Company, being now read and considered, it appears to the Committee that whatever might be the King of Mysore's Design at the time when his Vakeel Vencatrow delivered to Mr. Saunders the proposals entered on the Minutes of the Consultation Book of Extraordinary Occurrences, the 13th May 1761 there is very little Room to hope that he would now enter into such Engagements. First, because by the last accounts from Mysore the Province was involved in Troubles & Confusion, the young King being imprisoned by his uncles. Secondly, because his Treasuries have been much diminished by the large Drafts made twice by the Morattas, and once by Salabat Jung. & Thirdly, because the Nabobs Debt to the Company which was represented to Vencatrow at the time of his delivering the Proposals to thirty or thirty five Lacks, is now increased to near Sixty Lacks. It has indeed always been a Doubt whether Vencatrow was even intrusted by the King to make such Proposals, or whether the King would even then have given his Consent, and it is now as great a Doubt whether he would be able to furnish the Money although he were

inclined

inclind to engage in the Treaty.

Colo. Lawrence & Mr. Palk who at this Time were at Trichenopoly, and empowerd to treat with Nandroajah the Mysore Dolloway on the same Plan, declare that tho they sent frequent mefsages to him; He appeard very averse to their Proposals, his General method of answering them being a long Recapitulation of his Expedition, and a Demand of the surrender of the Fort, or the Payment of his Expences once he proposd to make good to the Company, what they had expended about Trichenopoly only which was then a small Sum; and afterwards would receive no more Mefsages, which induces them to believe that the Proposals of Vencatrow were never dictated from Mysore, and they are more confirmd in this Opinion, as about that time a brifling Bill drawn by the Vakeel on his Master, for his Expences, was refusd Payment.

Considering therefore the little Room there is to hope that a Treaty with the King of Mysore founded on the Proposals made by Vencatrow the 13th May 1754 could now be concluded and executed: the Committee are of Opinion it would be imprudent to alarm the minds of the Nabob and the King of Tanjour with the Apprehensions of the Cession of Trichenopoly, by Publickly making their Offer from the Board, at a time when the Prospect of any Good resulting is very doubtful.

But

924

Fort St. George 25th Octr 1756

But Mr Orme offering conformably to the Secret Committee's Directions to proceed upon this Negociation if the Board think fit, or to write to Mysore, so as to discover what hopes there may be of Succefs, he is desird to write in his own Name to Vencatrow to sound him upon the Proposals formerly delivered to Mr Saunders: and if by Means of that Correspondence it shall appear that the Mysore Court is inclind to treat upon those Proposals, and is in a Capacity to pay the Company's Debt, it is Resolv'd in Compliance with the Directions of the Secret Committee to proceed forthwith to treat with the King of Mysore upon the Plan laid down in Consultation 13th May 1754, or one as nearly Similar as Circumstances will admit of.

It is however to be remark'd that the Cefsions to be made to the King of Mysore are now of much more Worth to the Company, than At the time Vencatrow made his Proposals; Madura and Tinnevelly Countries (which are included in the Cefsions) having since been recover'd, and their Poßeßion being now so well establish'd, that unleß some unforeseen Accident Shou'd happen, they are likely to bring in a Constant Revenue of Six Lacks to the Nabob and Six to the Company — In case the Mysorean shou'd object to the increase of the Company's Debt, this may be urg'd in answer.

I

Fort St. George 25th October 1756.

It being found impossible to provide a Sufficient Quantity of Casks for the Water necessary to put on board the Ships Protector & Sapwing Snow for the Number of five hundred Seapoys intended to be sent on them to Bengal, It is Agreed that as much Water as possible be put on Board them immediately and a proportionable Number of Seapoys imbarkd &c. And Ordered that they be dispatchd with the utmost Expedition, the Season growing extremely late.

The number of Seapoys remaining here, being very large, and many of them new Men, & not having a Sufficiency of Arms for them, it is Ordered that a General Muster of them be made, and such dischargd as appear to be most unserviceable.

Letter from the King of Tanjour

Read, as enterd No 308. in the Country Correspondence recapitulating what we formerly wrote on the Subject of Dispute with the Danes, who he says were the Cause of the Disturbance, and adding that Damages were done on both sides, and therefore he cannot make good theirs, unless they do his, Ordered that a Copy of this Letter be sent to the Gentlemen at Tranquebar.

The President acquaints the Committee that by a Letter from Governor Kroog of Tranquebar he is informd that our Packet for the Secret Committee reachd in time to be sent by their Ship for Europe, and that the Commander has Directions to send it ashore by any Boat that may

Kroog

come

Fort St George 25th October 1756.

come off to him in the Channel.

Ordered that a Letter for the Secret Committee containing a full account of all Occurrences since the Departure of the Eastcourt be prepaid to be sent on the Ship Chesterfield.

George Pigot

Henry Lowrey

Robert Orme

Robt Palk

Fort St. George 25th October 1756.

Sent the following Letter to the Governor & Council of Tranquebar pursuant to the foregoing Resolution.

To the Honble Hans George Krog Esqr.
Governor, & the Gentlemen of the Council of Tranquebar

Gentlemen

In the Letter we had the honor to write you the 25th of last month, we acquainted you that we had addressd the King of Tanjour in your Behalf, and we now inclose you the Copy of the answer we receivd from him.

By the Contents of the said answer you will perceive Gentlemen that he will by no means consent to make you any Acknowledgment or Reparation on his own Part, he mentions that he offerd to oblige the Pollygar Permaul Naicker to satisfy his Debts to you, and he will undoubtedly Still be ready to do.

We therefore recommend to You to transmit to the King of Tanjour a Statement of your Demands upon the said Polligar, desiring him to cause Justice to be done you.

And we fear no further Advantages can at this time be procurd for your Company; whenever any Opportunity shall offer we shall be ready to exert ourselves for your Service. We remain with Esteem & Consideration Gentlemen Your most Obedient Humble Servants.

George Pigot P. Committee

Fort St. George
25th. October 1756.

Letters

Fort St George 27th Octr 1756

Letters to the Committee of Bengal & to Robert Clive Esqr to be sent on the Protector and Lapwing Snow, Signd as follow

To the Honble Roger Drake Esqr
President & Governor and the Gentlemen
appointed to be of the Select Committee at Bengal.

Gentlemen

Inclos'd is Duplicate of our Letter of the 13th Inst. which went by the hands of Colonel Clive; The whole Force therein mention'd saild out of this Road the 16th, and we hope will meet with a speedy Passage.

We have since taken up the Snow Lapwing to be employ'd in the Company's service for two months, from the 19th Instant at the Rate of 2800 Rupees a month.

Incloss'd are the Returns of the Seapoys embarkd on board her and the Protector, both which we now dispatch to you giving orders to the Commanders to follow the Directions they shall receive from you.

As soon as you Gentlemen & Colonel Clive shall Judge that the Protector's Service is no longer necessary you will please to returne her back to Bombay before the Season is too late.

We omitted in our last Letter to mention that on the first news of the Taking of Calcutta we wrote to the Great Mogul representing the Injustice that was done us, and requesting

Your

Fort St George 27. October 1756

2/

him to appoint another Nabob to govern the Province of Bengal, & to give his Orders that the Company be restord to the Posession of all the Rights & Priviledges granted them by his Predecessor We wrote also at the same time to Balazarow the Nanna or Chief General of the Morrattas and to Salabat Jung We are Gentlemen,

Your most Obedient humble Servants.

George Pigot & Committee

Fort St George
27th October 1756

To Robert Clive Esqr

Sir

Since your Departure we have taken the Snow Lapwing into the Companys Service for two months from the 19th Instant at the Rate of 280 Rupees a month, and we now dispatch her and the Protector with the Seapoys mentiond in the inclosd Return, we should have embarkd a larger Number, could we have procurd a sufficient Quantity of Water Casks.

Inclosd is Copy of the Letter we now write to the Gentlemen of the Committee, also Invoice of the Stores &c which you carried with you and of which you was then furnishd with Lists; Copies of the Invoices must be given to the Gentlemen at Bengal

No other Vessels as yet offer

Fort St. George 27th October 1756.

for Freight, and the Season is now too late that we can hardly expect to see any more. This therefore is the only Reinforcement you can depend on.

Messrs Griffith & Powney, the Supracargo and Captain of the Lapwing have been paid one Months Freights here, the other you are account for with them.

We are Sir

Your most Obedt Servants.

George Pigot V.n Committee

Fort St George
27th October 1756.

22d To Captain William Powney
of the Lapwing Snow.

Sir

You are hereby directed to make the best of your way to the River of Bengal, and deliver the accompanying Letter to the Gentlemen of the Committee there whose Orders you are to follow untill the Expiration of your Contract with the Company Dated on Fort St George the 28th October 1756.

29th The Honble Company's Sup. Protector having Receivd on board one hundred & fifty Seapoys which are as many as can be furnished with Water for the Passage, Delivered Captain England his Dispatch as follows.

To

Dispatch

Fort St. George 29. October 1756.

To Captain George England
of the Protector

Sr. You are hereby directed to make the best of your way to the River of Bengal, and deliver the accompanying Letter to the Gentlemen of the Committee there whose Orders you are to follow in your future Proceedings. Dated in Fort St. George the 29th October 1756.

30th Captain Hislop delivered the President a Return of the Proof of the Powder received by the Ship Protector as follows.

A Return of the Proof of Gheria Powder at Fort St. George 27th Oct.

10 Inch Mortar charged with 2 lb. Powder		Different Forings	Range Yards	Medium Range Yards	Medium Range Yards
Coarse		1	206	102	
		2	23		
		3	65		
		4	72		
		5	23		
		6	105		
Medium		1	309	233	1160
		2	293		
		3	217		
		4	216		
		5	192		
		6	273		
Fine		1	530	391	
		2	437		
		3	450		
		4	237		
		5	440		
		6	402		

The mortar elevated at 45 Degrees.
The Weight of the Shell 96 Lb.

Wm Hislop

NB. 2 lb of the Powder made at Madras
throw the Shell upon a Medium 940 Yards.

949

93r

Fort St. George 3. November 1756.

1 Signd the following Letter to the Select Committee at Bombay, wrote in pursuance of the Resolutions made the 29th October

To the Honble Richard Bourchier Esq.
President and Governor, and the Gentlemen
of the Select Committee at Bombay.

Honble Sirs & Sirs

We wrote you by Cattamar the 6th of last month and now inclose a Duplicate of that Letter.

On the 11 the Protector arrived and brought us your favor of the 12 September with the 6 Brass Six pounder field Pieces, and the Gheriah Powder you was pleas'd to send us.

In our Letter of 7th May we desir'd the Gheriah Powder might be sent us if good, but not otherwise - Incloss'd is a Return of the Proof we have had made, by which you will see how ill it answers the description; the best of it throwing the Shot about one third part of the proper Distance, the worst of it not one tenth part, We beside to remark to you that it came in chests nail'd down with Iron Nails, and bound with Iron hoops, and many of the Chests had the Seams so open, that the Powder had a Passage out, so that it was with the greatest [illegible] it was put on board, and taken out of [illegible]

As the very best of this Powder will not serve even for Salutes it is of no kind of

use to us, and as we have been under a necessity of
Sending a large quantity to Bengal, and have eight
or ten considerable Garrisons to supply, we find it
impossible to make a Sufficiency here. We must
therefore again request that you will assist us with
as much as you can possibly Spare.

We were in hopes of receiving a
Reinforcement from you, at least a part of the Artillery
Companies, on the Protector as our Letters of the 13.th & 15.th
July advising of our first Detachment for Bengal
had reach'd you.

Admiral Watson sailed with
the whole Squadron for Bengal the 16.th Instant having
on board, Coll.o Clive with above
600 Land forces, Officers included.

Our force remaining here of the
Kings and Company's Military and Train does not
amount to the half of the number which you mention
to have had in your Garrison before the arrival of your
Supplies from Europe.

You can no doubt produce
sufficient Proofs of the necessity of your detaining so
large a body of men at your place, notwithstanding the
repeated Applications made to you by us, and notwith-
standing the Secret Committee Orders to you in their
Letter of the 26.th March 1756. the 10.th Para.s "If
"contrary to our Wishes and Expectations you find the
"Korrattas untractable and that no Dependence
"can be made on their concurring in the most essen
"parts of the Plan proposed, your next Consid
"must be how to dispose of the Artillery with the
"and Men which should have been employed in

Fort St George 3d Novemr 1756

"the Expedition, so as to render them of the greatest use
"that can be in support of the Company's Affairs on
"the Choromandel Coast. We think the best way in
"that case will be to send them all directly round to
"that Coast excepting such part of the Artillery as you may
"think necessary to keep."

Again in the 17th Para.

"If contrary to our Expectations the Expedition does not
"take place, then you are to observe the Directions
"given in the 10th Para."

The President lately receivd a Letter from the Nana, of which inclosd is a Copy. He wrote him in answer to that as you had acquainted us with your Intention of sending a Gentleman to his Court we did not doubt but every thing was amicably Settled. His two Letters for the King of England will be forwarded on the Chesterfield

Inclosd is the account you desire of Garrison Batta, paid to the Kings Artillery. Also Copy of the Company's Direction receivd this Year on that Subject.

It being judged necessary to send as many Seapoys as Possible for the Service of the Expedition to Bengal we are now dispatching the Protector with three hundred; we have desird she may be sent up hither so soon as the Company's Service will permit, and we Shall then return her to You.

You would have seen by very important Services to the Company if you had

Fort St George 3 Novem.r 1756.

thought proper to send us the Protector manned and fitted for War accompanied with the Revenge as we desired, for these two Ships would have been capable of performing all the Services requir'd from the men of War, and the Company would by that means have had the advantage of all the Reprizals that could have been made, to compensate for their heavy Loses Now the most they will get is one half which is to be deposited for his Majesty's Pleasure in consequence of the Representations which we made to Mr. Watson on that Subject

Such part of your Indent for Military Stores as we can possibly spare shall be sent you by the first Opportunity

We are Gentlemen

Your most Obed.t hble Servants.

George Pigot &.ca Committee

Fort St George
3 Novem.r 1756

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esq.r Governor & President
Stringer Lawrence " Henry Fonnereau "
Robert Orme " William Percevall "
Robert Palk

Tuesday the 9.th

The following Letters from Captain Caillaud & Read.

To the Honble George Pigot Esq.r President & Governor & Gentlemen of the Committee at Madras

730

Fort St. George 9th Novem.r 1756

Honble Sir & Sirs. No 40

On the 14th of last month, I had the honor of addressing the Governor, and Informing him how affairs then stood at Madura and my hopes that they would be speedily determined. But every day since that time, brought me accounts that baulked my expectations, and seemed to remove every thing further from an accommodation, this oblig'd me to take Steps for which (however the Success may prove) I must humbly beg your pardons, as it was expressly against your Instructions, when you were pleas'd to honor me with the Command of this Place; that I Should not absent myself from my charge without your orders, & leave. Yet I took the Liberty for a Week to go to Nadoom, there to give a meeting to Mosst Caron if he could leave the army with prudence for three days, and also to the Dubash Narrain, that by hearings from them really how affairs stood, which by their Letters was difficult to do, I might the better be enabled to Judge from their opinions & my own, what should be pursued. I will beg your Patience while I give you a more particular detail of Affairs there, from the time Narrain went to my setting out for Nadoom, with my motives for so doing, and what has been since the Consequence of that Step.

When Narrain arrived at

Madura

Madura he found Mahofor Cawn in a disposition that promis'd little Success from applying to him, or that he would use his endeavors to finish the disturbance. He insisted that it was great Injustice in his Brother to give the Country from him, that he was willing to give the Company as much as their present Renter, and also Security; that in short he could not think of leaving Madura, without those terms were complied with. Navrain then changed his Method, and applied to the Jemidars, and told them he was come to pay them their Arrears on the delivery of Madura Fort; that if they would let Usoff Cawn march in with his Seapoys, they would receive fifty thousand Rupees on the Spot, the Remainder some time after; On this offer the Jemidars went to the Camp and desir'd the Nelloor to be Security for these conditions and promis'd on their side that they would stand to their Agreement. Navrain and Usoff Cawn Immediately inform'd me of this, my Answer was that I approv'd so far of what they had done, that on the Fort being given up 50 thousand Rupees should be paid: but at the same time with this Restriction that Mahofor Cawn & Barkatoolah should both be in the Fort when we came to take Possession. For if either, or both, as it was probable on the Knowledge of such an Agreement would or might attempt to make their escape, and if once effected the troubles were not likely to be soon finished, while those two men were not in our power, every thing at this Date was agreed to, fifty thousand on the Delivery of the Fort, the other Lack and a half by

Bills

Fort St George 9th Novem. 1756.

Bills payable in 30 days, when the Jemidars had dispersd, and evacuated the Country & Mahofor Cawn & Barkatoolah in our Power.

Moodelle was wrote to for to have the money ready, which he promisd day after day. The money was coming sometimes by Bills, sometimes by his Brother or his Vakeel, these delays gave Mahofor Cawn & Barkatoolah time with the Assistance and advice of one Seer Cawn a Jemidar, to tamper with the Jemidars we had agreed with. In short the money not coming Immediately they persuaded them, we were only amusing, and by large Promises of what should be done for them, if by their means he could get the Country, Mahofor Cawn & Barkatoolah got the Jemidars from their first Resolutions, took no notice of Nawains offers, and a party marched from Madura towards Tinnevelly which Kalatherminaigue was to Join and along with him all the Cavalry about 700 left behind in that Country by Mahofor Cawn. The Dubash Nawain went to Mahofor Cawn, & represented to him in the strongest Terms he could the injustice of his Proceedings, but he could receive no other answer but that he must have the Country on the terms he offerd, and then he would do as we pleased. Meeta Seerden who was sent to him from the Nabob, to try what he could do, had no better Success in all he could represent. I receivd this Account with many Circumstances more from Mahofor Cawn of the danger the Tinnavelly Country was in. That all the Polligars were rising, and to be Joind by the Cavalry

Cavalry already in the Country, & those sent from Madura who threatned to do all the mischief in their Power, which he was afraid they would be able to execute, as Moodille had divided our Seapoys; and desiring I would immediately send him directions how to act, whether to stay where he was, or to march and prevent the trouble he was apprehensive of in the Tinnevelly Country. I had some reason to think affairs were not so bad, and the circumstances some what aggerated. To be better able to Judge I sent him word to meet me at Nadom, if he with prudence thought he might leave his Army, and Narrain to be with him. As I had a longer Journey to make I set out immediately the 23. and arrivd at Nadom the 25th. An hour after the Dubash and Meerla Seerdeen arrived. The Nellour would not venture as he had no one to leave with whom he thought he could trust the Command, and hostilities again had begun. I have ommitted to inform you that I took with me Buckunjee's Agent at this place, with money In case my Arrival should procduce any Change in Affairs. After Narrain had informd me of every thing I wanted to know, I thought it best to send him immediately back with Buckunjee's Agent with a final Offer to Mahosoz Cawn, whether he would on Payment of the Tributes, give up the Fort, and come with me to Trichenopoly. That I would wait where I was for him, and attend him to that Place. Meerla Seerdeen informd me also that Barnatoolahs fear of being hardly used by the Nabob, either in his Person, or effects was a great retardment to the affair being ended, but

That

Fort St George 6th Novemr 1756

that if he had Assurances to the Contrary / he had declard so much to him / that he would do what the Honble Company pleasd to order. I therefore wrote to him assuring him I would venture to promise, to be his Security between him & the Nabob; and that if he would leave Madura, and come to Trichenopoly he should neither be hurt, in person or Family.

Narrain arrivd at Madura made my Proposals. Both the Nabob's Brother and Barkaloolah were Satisfied, and my Letters quieted the Apprehensions of the latter, and made the former more Inclind to hear reason. He ordered every thing to be got ready to come and meet me, but the Monsoon breaking prevented him: But finding he was by my Journey that the Honble Company & whom he could trust Interested themselves in the Affair he could with them come to any Agreement they plead He therefore ordered one of his Jemidars to come to me with Proposals he had to offer, which he hopd would be thought reasonable; and then before the Debash, he took his Oath on the Alcoran, that he would on his Part do what he had promisd. The same Weather which prevented his coming to meet me, at Natam, drove me from thence, having hardly Shelter, and apprehensive if it continued, as likely it might at this Season, the Roads might be so bad as to prevent my coming to Trichenopoly so soon as I thought was proper. Narrain, the Jemidar, & Meertajeerdeen Set out from Madura after me the former arrivd Yesterday, the other two I expect

expect every minute.

In general these are Mahafoz Lawrs Proposals. That in Consideration of his Birth some Provision may be Insured him for his Support, as he is quite destitute of means to live. He therefore desires any Place in the Nabob's Dominions may be appointed him for his Residence, from which Place, and the Revenues belonging to it, he may be allowed two Lack of Rupees yearly for his Maintainance. But as he is Sorry to say, he cannot trust his brother, he must have the Company Security between him, & the Nabob for that yearly maintainance. It is all equal to him where it is, wherever the Nabob or the Company shall think proper. That if this is Agreed to, and the Troops paid as offer'd, two Lacks of Rupees for their Arrears due to them; he will immediately quit the Fort of Madura, to the Honble Company, and come where they will please to order. He further hopes, in Consideration of his having been oblig'd to sell every thing he had, to satisfy in Part the demands of his Troops that 20000 Rupees will be allow'd him for that Job. But this he leaves to the Honble Company's Generosity. These are as I have said before are his Offers in General. The Particulars when I hear them from the Jemmidar I shall immediately transmit.

I make no doubt but this business can easily be adjusted. A Place for his Residence

Fort St George 9th Novem 1736

Residence, I am inclined to think may be found, where he may enjoy what he asks, without being of any more trouble to us, or his Brother. Suppose it was Trichenopoly, from the Revenues of which he may be allow'd what he asks; But this I submit to your better Judgements. Banbatoolah is also Satisfied If Security can be given him for his Person & fortune, & will come where ordered.

I have the honor to inform you the Jemidar has just left me, what he says is almost a Repitition of what before I have acquainted you with. That Mahofoz Cawn will have nothing to say to his Brother, but if the Honble Company will please to order him any place of Residence, and a Revenue annexed to it, Secur'd to him by them, there he will Stay. My answer was that I would lay the whole before you, but that if he expected any favors, he must give this first proof of his Sincerity. To recall all his Disbanded Troops from Timmavelly, to write Circular Letters to the Polligars there not to make use of his name on Pretext to make disturbances in the Country, for that he has relinquished all Right & title to it, and acknowledge the Company, by the Nabobs Phirmaund, have the sole Only right to it, for a term of Years. In return I have promis'd him when I know this done, the troops relieved, & the Polligars he has wrote to, quiet, that Usoff Cawn with his Army shall remove out of the Madura Country, until your Pleasures are known on his offers.

I have

Fort St. George 4th Novem. 1756.

Thus far affairs are settled, but

there is something of more Consequence to be well regulated in order to establish perfect Tranquelity in those Parts. It is a good understanding between the Commander of your Troops and Renter. which as yet does not subsist in Spite of all my Efforts. This arrises in the Nellour from a Zeal which I cannot help thinking is a little interrested as it is too forward. However money at present is the Dispute. Moodille says he is only by his Agreement with you obligd to pay that Number of Troops which he fixed upon as necessary the 10 Companies now with him at Tinnavelly, but that if he advances more on account of Troops being kept upon Exigencies like the last, that that expence is to be passed in his Accounts with you; the Nellour urges the contrary.

You will see by my letter to Mosff Cawn that I was vexed at Semalcaib's Indiscreet proceeding, As I think indeed it was much so. I hope that mistake is now rectified by my letter, and that Mosff Cawn will not have reason to complain for want of money. When Moodille comes to settle, I give in his Accounts, you may be, Gentlemen better Judges of his honesty; I think him still an honest man from a Principle which sways greatly with those Country People that it is not his Interest to be otherwise. I remain with great Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obed. Hble Servant

John Caillaud

Pricheropoly
2 Novr 1756.

Fort St George 9th Novem. 1756.

Translation of Sölanapa Moodelliar Letter dated Tinnavelly 4th October Received the 11th Octr 1756

You must by this time received my last Letter and have seen in it what has happend here, My Vakeel must also have told you the same, I came from Nadom thro the Morravar Country, the Roads near Madura not being safe, and arrivd at Uoff Cavens Camp, after I had spoke with him I Set out and arrivd at Tinnevelly, Makofor Cawn on Purpose to give me Disturbance wrote Several Letters to the King of Travancore, To some Polligars also to the Merchants and Inhabitants of this Place, I have sufferd a good Deal in Consequence of those Letters. To prevent any further mischiefs and Disturbance I thought it necessare to have some Polligars in my Side, to which Purpose I Sent for Katabominaigee and the Pullitaver to meet me, they came, & after having regulated a certain Quantity of Colleries in my Service I dismiss'd them, & the rest, of their being sent for here I have given your advice, those who were before employ'd in this Business thought it a proper time for them to think of themselves, and they have Committed no means to get what Money they could out of the Inhabitants, which is the Reason that few hands have been at Work, and that neglect has occasiond the Rains to break thro all the Tanks for repairing of which I advanced 50,000 Rupees now the Ground is all sown & the Country in a flourishing Condition I must yet advance 50,000 Rupees more

to

to the Inhabitants, that I may lose nothing by the Country.

I have sent for all the Merchants of this Place, about the Security, they told me they had Correspondents at Trichenopoly, but none at Madras, You know very well what you and I said about it when I was with you at that Place, and trust entirely to your Goodness about the Affair, that the Security and the money may be receivd at Trichenopoly instead of Madras. As Mahomed Usoff Cawn has sent me word he has no Money for the Expences of his Army, I told him I paid regularly the Seapoys that were in this Country, but however I sent him 30000 Rupees he has wrote me again for more Money, as he is involved in a great deal of Business, I have got together 20,000 Rupees more to send him, Now in case he wants more, what must I do, I have got no Order from you to give money to him, or from the Honble Governor, I desire the favor of you to let me know how I Shall conduct myself in this Affair

My answer to the Above Letter

I receivd yesterday your Letter I am well acquainted with Mahomed Cawns Proceedings but before you receive this, every thing relating to that Business, will I hope be Settled, and that you will receive no more trouble from that Quarter

You

926

Fort S.t George 9.th Novem.r 1756

You must soon be repaid the Money you have advanced to the Inhabitants. It was wisely done for your own Good, & the Interest of the Honble Company's Affairs. They will also I dare say be well Satisfied with the Steps you have taken towards making a Friendship with the Polligars.

With regard to Mahomed Usoff Cawn you must make no difficulty to supply him with money for his Troops while he stays in the Country, for what he is now doing for the Service of your Country. The Honble Company will no doubt make you all proper & Reasonable Allowance for this Extraordinary Expence, and for which Reason, and untill we can be honord with their orders & Directions You must observe in their Letter to you of the 8.th September in which they say that the Ballances which are Due from the Country to Mahofor Cawn and which they had ordered you to collect and pay in to me, as I am to find Money for the Arrears Due to Mahofor Cawns Troops. Now I take it upon me and this will be your Security (until we have further Orders from the Honble Company) that you may apply that Money to the present Expences of Mahomed Usoff Cawn.

Besides that Expence there will be also some ready Money wanted by Nawaun and

Mahomet

Fort S.t George 9.br Novem.r 1756

Mahomet Usoff Cawn, Perhaps two Lacks, and in that same Letter from the Governor he promises it shall be allowed to you out of this years Rent, now it is upon the immediate Payment of this Sum that the good Order and Tranquility of the Country depends therefore you must contrive and raise it for the Honble Company altho you may not have receivd so much yet, from the first and Second Payments of the Cor Padde Crop, yet as you are a man of Interest and Credit, your Word will be Sufficient for more than that sum and which you can repay when you receive the last Payment of this Crop, you may also allow them for advancing the money the common Country Interest. You must manage this Affair for your Character Sake, and your good name that you may give Proof to the Company of your Zeal for their Service. With regard to the Security which you have promisd to the Honble Company, and with regard also to the Payment of the Money here or at Madras, I will immediately write to the Governor and inform him what you say on the Subject I dare say if he thinks what you propose Reasonable, & right, he will readily agree to it.

A Copy of Usoff Cawns Letter Dated at Chocquendanooty the 27.th October 1756. Recd the 28.th and answerd directly

'Tis some time since I re

9/28.

Fort S.t George 9th Novem.r 1756.

a Letter from the Honble Governor directing me to draw on the Moodelair for the whole Expence of the Army Pay. Batta &.ca beginning from the 13.th July, and likewise to demand Securities from him. Agreable thereto, I Sent Bafsopa Naick to him and wrote to Ismael Saib to the same Effect. They both went to the Moodelier and asked him for the Payment, he answerd them that he did not care to disburse any for the Expences and wrote me no answer with regard to the Securities, he has paid one months Pay only to the Seapoys at Tinnevelly, for which reason our People are very Importunate with him for Money, from him, If I am to demand the Securities and in what Manner I am to act at this Place. I wrote to the Serjeants to talk with the Moodelair about this Affair. Their answer to me I enclose you, I thought it necessary likewise to acquaint you that the Moodelair has contracted a Friendship with many of the Pollegars.

Copy of the Serjeants Letter

Sir

I have done my Endeavor according to your Orders, Ismael Saib asked three Months Pay & Batta for the use of the Honble Companys Troops, the Moodelair says that he has orders from Madras to pay only ten Company's of Seapoys, what Nawn Saib has left under his Command and what

Fort St George [illegible] Coven.r 1756.

what he has in Camp, he will not Pay, Jemaul Saib with Bapoopa Naick have consind the Moodelair untill they hear from you.

Your humble Servants &c.a

Signd Tho.s Harris
Richd. Jeffrys
Saml. Underwood
Richd. Sculthorp
John McKain
Joseph Johnson

Copy of my Answer to Mr Call Cavin's Letter Dated 28th October 1756.

This Instant I receivd your Letter and am extremely sorry that Jemaul Saib has been obligd to proceed to Extremities with the Moodelair I know not what the Honble Governor may think of it & fear he has been too hasty in this Affair, the Moodelair never appeard to me to make any Difficultys about the Payment of the Troops (that is of the ten Companys under Jemaul Saib's command and for those which are under your Orders he did not know, whether he ought to pay them, and wrote to me for Directions on that head, I immediately wrote him that he should pay them for the Present, and that he might place it to the Honble Companys Account, untill we knew from Madras what Regulations had been made there, he also wrote me, that he could not negociate this

Securities

950

Fort St. George 9th Novem 1756.

Securities between Madras and Tinnavelly but that he could between the Merchants from Tricheanopoly to Tinnavelly, that he should likewise find great Difficulties in making Remittances as he had promis'd from Tinnavelly to Madras, But that he could easily do it from Tinnavelly to Tricheanopoly

Upon this I wrote to the Honble Governor to know his Pleasure, but have not yet been favord with an answer this accident gives me much Concern and I wish the Honble Company's Interest may not suffer by it.

I enclose you an Order on the Moodelair to furnish Money for the immediate Payment of the Troops under your Command, and would advise you not to give him any Trouble on Account of the Arrears due, until we receive Directions from the Honble Governor & Council which will serve to regulate our future conduct and I beg that when you send him the order you will at the same time give Directions to Sirmaul Saib to set him at Liberty, If he should refuse to comply with the order I have sent him, You are then to draw on me, for the immediate Subsistence of your Troops. To morrow I return to Tricheanopoly where I shall lay every thing before the Honble Governor, and then we may expect Orders, which will make all these Difficultys cease.

ceased.

To Teraprah Moodillee.

It is very extraordinary that after the answer I sent to your Letter in which you asked me whether you were to furnish money for the expences of Ussoff Cawn (which if you remember was, that I made no Doubt but that the Honble Company would make you Allowances for this Extraordinary Expence) that you don't mind my Letter, and that you have Been Stopped in your house. I am very sorry that has happened, and I now send an immediate order for your Release, but at the same time, in Consequence of the orde you have receivd to follow my Directions, I orde you to pay the Subsistance of the Troops under Ussoff Cawn, besides the ten Companys you have with you in the Country, and you may be assurd that all the Agreements you have made with the Honble Governor will be inviolably kept on his his Side, and that you will have Leave to place to Account the Money you may advance to Ussoff Cawn, mind this Letter and do as I desire you.

From the foregoing Letters

d appears to the Committee that the Affairs of

Fort St George 9. Novem. 1766.

the Madura and Tinnevelly Countries are in a very perplexed Situation Mahofor Cawn on one hand Ripe for Rebellion and offering to Submit only on such terms as it will be difficult to comply with, on the other a great want of money for the Payment of the Compranies Sepoys under Moff Cawn, who by too hasty a Zeal Subjected the Renter on that Account to a Disgrace which may hurt his Credit, and by that means render him incapable of Furnishing the Supplies which this Disgrace was intended to hasten - Before any Resolution can be made it will be necessary to be informed particularly of the Situation and Circumstances of every Party concerned, from whence we may Judge how far it is necessary to consent to such Terms as Mahofor Cawn proposes for himself; and as a Personal Interview with Captain Caillaud will be the quickest and most efficacious Method of obtaining this necessary Information It is Agreed to direct him to come immediately to Madras, Leaving the charge of the Garrison to Captain Smith & first sending Directions to Mr Cawn to draw upon Tetrapa Moodilly for the Money he may have absolute and immediate Occasion for, and to Tetrapa Moodilly to answer Moff Cawns Drafts.

Agreed also to write to Mr Nabob concerning Mahofor Cawns Demands Desiring his Opinion whether they should be granted or not and what Place he thinks advisable to assign for his Residence and Subsistence.

damaged

seventeen

made

Fort St George 9th Novem. 1756.

The President acquaints the Committee that the fifty eight Garce 8a quarter of damaged Paddy lying at Changlepuet being sold for Pagodas one thousand four hundred & twenty eight, and Seven fanams /1428.7/ the merchant is ready to pay the Amount ... Ordered that Report be made to the President and Council that they may give Directions concerning it.

Letter from Roger Drake Esq.
Vizt Gentlemen at Fulta, Read as follows.

To the Honble George Pigot Esq.
President and Governor &ca Council
at Fort St George.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Inclosd is Duplicate of our address under date the Vigilance which we have received advices from Cazimbuzar that we thinke proper to communicate to your Honor &ca with our Sentiments & Resolution thereon.

Mr Warren Hastings one of the Honble Company's Covenanted Servants at Cazimbuzar and now detaind at that Place by the Nabob writes Major Kilpatrick to the following Purport, that Suraja Dowlat is no longer Subah of Bengal which is conferrd upon the King of Delly's eldest son, that the Nabob of Purnea / Soukat Jung / has receivd a Phirmaund from the King investing him with the Nabobship

Fort St. George 6th Novem. 1756.

Nabob of Bengal, Bahar and Orixa under his son, and great Preparations are making at Meixadavad for a War with Purnea in consequence of the foregoing Appointments, that the Nabob of Bahnaras has sent 6000 Horsemen to the assistance of Soukat Jung that most of the Rajahs whose Territories lie near Purnea have deserted Sourajah Dowlah, and that on the 29th of last month a Letter arrivd from the Dutch Chief at Patna with advice that the King with his Son and Viziar was upon his march this way at the head of a Formidable Army, having x'ed the River Jumna 20 days before with an Intention first to reduce those Provinces to his Obedience and afterwards to visit all the other Parts of his Dominions that the Morrattas likewise are expected soon, It being reported they have imprisoned the Person sent to pay them their annual Chout, with which they are not contented, and that Mirzah Sallah the Nabob of Cuttack, has joind them That the Nabob begins to be much troubled at the impending dangers, and his Zumindars seem not very inclinable to serve him with that Zeal which his present desperate Circumstances require, against their King, as they may expect to be treated like Rebels, most of the principal of them having a great part of their Fortunes and some their Families at Delly That notwithstanding all this, Surrajah Dowlah is raising a great Army, and extorting as much mon as he can g[illegible] from the Rajahs, and other people that are so unfortunate as to lie under his power, not

Sparing

Sparing the Europeans.

The above is the Substance of Mr.
Hastings his information upon which we beg leave
to make the following Remarks: First that the who
of it is not affirmed by that Gentleman to be matter
of Fact, and that in all probability great part of it may
be no more than a Report raised by the Enemies of
Sourraggee Dowlat, next, that Sourraggee Dowlat is
possessid of such immense Riches, and has so large
an Army on foot, that it is very possible he will be
able to extricate himself by one means or other from
the dangers which threaten him at present, Lastly
should he be cut off or expelled from his Soubahship
we should find immense Difficulties to Reestablish
ourselves, In the Priviledges and Grants which the
Royal Phirmaun sets forth and upon a proper and
Secure Footing unless we can support our Demand
with a Sufficient and respectable Military Force;
These reasons we flatter ourselves will convince your
Honor &c. of the necessity we lie under of exerting
our power for recovering the Honble Companys Settle
ments, Rights, and priviledges in these Provinces
notwithstanding the intelligence we have received
from Cazimbuzar.

We do not write this intelligence
as a Certainty or with any Intention to check the
Resolutions you may have come to for the assisting
us, but if you should be prevented from sending
us so considerable Force as we could wish, by

St. George 9th Novem. 1756

have requested, by advice of a Rupture between the Crowns of Great Britain and France, We are then to desire you will supply us with as large a number of Military and Artillery as you may Judge consistent with the Safety of the Honble Companys Possessions on your Coast, that we may be ready and in a Condition to make use of any turn in our favor, for which purpose and in hopes of your Honor's complying with our Request, we are determined to keep the River till we receive your Answer and are ascertained if we may expect a further Reinforcement, without which we apprehend it will be impossible to Reestablish ourselves in Bengall.

We beg leave to remark, that could we regain our Settlement during the troubles in the Country, it would be extremely difficult, as well as expensive if the Government should be Settled before we repossess our Colony; This consideration we flatter ourselves will have its due weight with your Honor's and we make no doubt will influence your Resolutions for sending us as large a Force to our Assistance as you can possibly Spare from the Calls on your Coast, & that, as early as your conveniency can.

Inclos'd we transmit you the Returns of Military & Military Stores now in our Fleet and are sorry to observe to your Honor's that

Lieutenant

Fort St George 9th Novem 1756

Sickness greatly prevails among them, having lost Capt Godwin, Lieut Samson, Lieut Hardman Ensign Vouga, and Ensign Walcott belonging to this Establishment, and private men now Sick and dead upwards of one hundrid.

When Capt Dogan left Pegu in the month of May, he carried away some Freight belonging to the Moors, which was returned in his Absence and by us demanded of him, but he peremptorily Refus'd to deliver it upon our Receipt which we beg leave to mention to your Honor &c. That you take proper Notice of his Behaviour.

Inclos'd we transmit you a Packet for the Honble Company which we request you will forward by any Vessel that may be under dispatch for Europe from your Coast, and we likewise inclose a Packet for the President and Council of Bombay to be forwarded by Pattamar or Shipping as you may Judge most expeditious.

We are Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obt Humble Servants

Roger Drake Junr, William Watts,
James Killpatrick, Richd Becher,
Paul Richd Pearkes, Willm Frankland, Mbr
Jno Z. Holwell, William Mackett,
Paul Amyatt, Thos Boddam,

Fulta
17th Septembr 1756

Order

Fort St George 9th Novem. 1756.

Ordered that the Packet for the Honble the Court of Directors be forwarded by the Chesterfield.

And it being observed that two Dacca Consultations and the Copies of three French Letters written from Chandernagore to Dacca were received along with the Letter from Rich.d Becher Esq.r Pr.o Council at Dacca and read in Consultation the 8.th of Septem.r last committed to be entered after the said Letter, it is Ordered that they be entered after this Committee to the end that our Honble Masters may be acquainted with every Information that has come to our Hands from all Quarters concerning the late unhappy Event, although we must at the same time Declare, that from all the different advices we have rece.d from Pulta we see not the least Room to suspect any such Mystery of Iniquity as is laid down in the last of the French Letters as the cause of the Loss of Calcutta.

Letter to the Secret Committee to go by the Ship Chesterfield, Read, approved, and ordered to be copied fair.

The Seapoys having been reviewed pursuant to the orders of last Committee, 150 were discharged, it is now agreed to reduce all the Companies from

Fort St. George 9th Novem. 1756.

Ps to Co Seapoys in order to leave the Spence.

George Pigot

Geo. Stevens

Peter Perring

Wm. Foreman

Rob. Palk

Dacca June 27th. 1756.

At a Council Present, Richd. Becher Esq.
Messrs. Luke Scrafton, Thos. Hirdman
& Saml. Walker.

The Consultation of the 21st. Read, approvd & Signd
This Day at noon over Vakeel came from the Dew
and acquainted us that the Kotwal told him he

Fort St. George 9th Novem. 1756.

Dowlat had taken and plundered the Town of Calcutta and had also made himself master of Fort William, taken Mr. Holwell and some other Gentlemen Prisoners. That the Governor, Second, & some few more having taken to the Ships were endeavouring to make their escape down the River. That this Intelligence came from the French. Our Vakeel further acquainted us that Dufsuraut Khan our Nabob demanded, that we should surrender ourselves immediately which if we did not comply with, he would attack us, having every thing in readiness. This account appears to us so improbable, that we apprehend it is put about in order to induce us to Surrender. Agreed Therefore that Mr. Scrafton write to Mons. Courtin desiring him to acquaint us if he has received any certain advice of the taking of Fort William by Seraja Dowlat. The answer to which we received the melancholy confirmation of what our Vakeel had told us, Mons. Courtin assuring us that he had received the most certain advices of Fort William's being taken by the Nabob; That his letters were of the 19th 20th & 21st from the Governor & Council of Chandernagore and several other Gentlemen, that he was using his Endeavors to Rid Durbar to save our Lives & Honor, he advises us to come to as Speedy a Resolution, telling us that Bravery becomes Temerity and Imprudence when exerted mal à propos. Taken this Affair into our most Serious consideration, we are unanimously of Opinion, that there is no Reason to doubt the truth of this news. Agreed therefore, that we write to Mons. Courtin returning him our most Sincere

Fort St. George 9th Novem. 1756

Sincere thanks for his kind Designs in our Favor. and to desire he will permit Mons.r Fleurin to come to us, and let us know what Terms can be procured for us in case we find we cant avoid Surrendering.

We now take into consideration the State of our Factory, Garrison Provisions &c.a & from thence are to form a Judgement whether we can render any material Service to our Honble Employers by attempting to defend ourselves.

As to the Situation of our factor[illegible] it stands in a large Town surrounded with numbers of houses from which [illegible] might annoy us with Cannon & Small as [illegible]. The Factory is little better than a common house, not surrounded with a thin Brick wall one half of is not above nine feet high, our Garrison consists of a Lieutenant, 4 Serjeants, 3 Corporals, & 19 Europeans Soldiers besides 34 Black Christians, and 60 Buxieries, As to the last we have little to expect from them, as they have almost all demanded Leave to quit us. Our Provisions may last three weeks or a month, but if we are attacked our Amunition will soon be expended, and our men exhausted with Fatigue, as we have so few they must be almost always on Duty. Our Factory is at the Distance of near a quarter of a mile from the River. The Passage by water to Calcutta from 14 to 20 days. That from Muxadavad to Dacca about four. From which Place our Enemies might receive Reinforcements in Four days. Notwithstanding the Disadvantages of

Situatio

987

Fort S. George 9. Novem. 1756.

Situation, the Smallness of our Garison &c. we were determind to defend ourselves to the utmost had we been attackd while Fort William continued in the hands of the English, and to enable us to do it we had planted what Guns we had to the best advantage and with the Assistance of the Soldiers throwen up Breast works &c. and privately procured an additional Quantity of Powder, But since we are sure Fort William is taken, and that we can't expect the least assistance or Reinforcement from the Gentlemen who are escaped on their Ships. It does not appear to us that our attempting to defend ourselves can be of the least advantage to our Employers, and would rather be an act of rashness than bravery. Agreed therefore that we endeavor to procure the best terms possible by means of the French and Surrender our factory

Observing numbers of armed men all around us. Ordered our Garison to keep under arms and a strict Watch to prevent a Surprize.

Rich. Becher
Luke Scrafton
Thō. Hyndman
Saml. Waller.

Daca

Fort St George 9th Novem. 1756.

Dacca 28th June 1756.

At a Council Present Rich. Fecher Esqr. chief
Messrs Luke Scrafton, Tho. Hyndman &
" Sam.l Waller "

Monday

The Consultation of the 27th Read, approved & Signed.

This Morning Mons.r Fleurin the French Secondcame
to our Factory to acquaint us that he had been with
Dafseraut Khan our Nabob endeavouring to procure
us the most favorable terms he could, but all that he
was able to obtain, was, that the Factory should be
delivered up directly, the Soldiers lay down their arms,
and be carried Prisoners to the Nabob, the Ladies to
out in Palanqueens to the French Factory, the Palan.n
not to be searched on Mons.r Fleurin's giving his wor.d
that nothing should be in them but the cloaths the
Ladies had on, As to the Chief & Company's Servants,
the Nabob demanded that they should be first be
brought to him, and afterwards go to the French Factor
Mons.r Courtin giving his Parole to the Nabob that we
shall wait the orders of Seer Raja Dowlat in regard
our future fate. Taking these Proposals into consid-
tion, we think them very hard. But as Mons.r Fleu
assures us that very little Alteration can be expec
Agreed that we beg Mons.r Flourin to endeavor to o
us the disgrace of going to the Durbar, & obtain Per
sion that we go directly to the French, also that the
may not be ill used. This he Promises to endea

Fort St. George 9br. Novem. 1756.

obtain and to return in the Afternoon.

The 22d. June in the Afternoon Mons. Renrin returned and acquainted us he had obtained Permission for the Gentlemen to go to the French Factory without going to the Durbar, and that the Nabob had promis'd the Soldiers Should not be ill us'd or put in Irons. We then gave our Parole to the French chief, gave up our Military Prisoners to the Nabobs People, and are now with sorrowful hearts leaving our Factory being Permitted to carry off nothing but the cloaths upon our Backs, having still this Satisfaction left, that we have to our utmost discharg'd our Duty to our Honble Employers

Richard Becher
Luke Scrafton
Thō. Hyndman
Samuel Waller

Dip in the Evening
the 28th June 1756.

Monsieur Courtin à Dakka à Chandernagore 16me Juin 1756.

Mons.

N°1

Vous sçavez déja ce que m'a dit Mons. Renfray les sujets de Plainte qu'a le Nabob contre les Anglois, l'origine par conséquent de la Guerre qu'il leur fait & tout ce qui s'est passé à Cazimbazar.

La prise de leur fort en cet endroit

endroit bien loin de Satisfaire Suraja Dowlat n'a fait que lui elever le courage, la facilité avec laquelle il s'est emparée lui a sans doute persuadé qu'avec une peine de peine il viendroit à bout de chasser egalement les Anglois de Calcutta et qu'au moyen de cela il se rendoit maître de tous les thrésors que la Beagum de Navages Mahmet & Rajaboulloe y ont fait passer, rempli de cette idée & du nom qu'il s'alloit faire par cette exploit, il n'a voulu écouter les représentations de personne, pas même celles de sa mère, qui a voulu le retenir par le reproche qu'elle lui fait de s'aller mesurer contre de Marchands, sur lesquels les ordres ont été donnés pour faire prendre les devants à son Armée dont nous avons vû successivement defiler sur nos barrieres plusieurs corps de 4 de 6 & de 7 mille hommes avec de l'artillerie, lui même est parti le cest à dire deux Jours après la réddition du fort Anglois à la tête de vingt mille hommes, l'on fait monter le nombre de ses Elephans à 300 — Son Artillerie est composée de 500 pieces de canon, du nombre desquelles sont 84 pieces de quoi a tiré de la loge Angloise, avec 500 mans de Poudre, et deux mille boulets de fer, à l'exception de cette Artillerie Europeinne, et de ses provisions le reste de cette appareille n'est pas fort dangereuse, Du moins à en juger par quelques pieces de canon que nous avons vû au Jardin des Hollandois, avec un detachment de quelques cavaliers que les conduisoit à reste deux Jours s'étant égarré de sa route, l'ayant Jamais pû obtenir passage au travers de Saldée nous les avons eu voir par curiosité de rien n'est plus pitoyable que la façon dont ils sont

mons

montés et approvisionné l'on prétend qu'ils n'ont que des boulets de balen.

Depuis le départ de Serajah Doula de Muxadavad jusqu'au 15.me l'on avoit eu aucunes nouvelles de lui ce retardement avoit donné lieu à bien des chasses plusieurs personnes prétendant qu'il étoit encore renfermé dans son Serrail, d'autres que sentant la difficulté de son entreprise, il vouloit entrer en negociation, en effet un Vaqueel de Coja Wazeed ayant voulu faire des propositions à Mons.r Drake, on Soupçonna que le Nabob pour, ne pas se compromettre, avoit fait agir ce Marchand, mais ces bruits furent bientôt dissipés par l'arrivée de ce Seigneur qui coucha le 15.e dans un Jardin vis à vis de Chinchurat.

Les Vaqueels des deux Nations leur presentés le Salame dans cet endroit, le nôtre fut bien reçu & même il y eut deux Betels pour Mons.r Renault, mais pour les Hollandois il ne se contenta pas de les refuser, il leur fit connoitre fort clairement le mépris qu'il avoit pour eux, et le dessein ou il étoit de leur rendre quelque visite à son retour de Calcutta, le lendemain on le vit passer dans cette grande Plaine qui est en face de la loge de l'autre côté de la Rivierre; ses Chameaux, ses Elephans, son train &.a nous occuperent toute la Matinée

Avant son départ de Muxadavad craignant peut être que les trois nations ne soutinssent mutuellement, ou bien, agissant de bonne [illegible] appellen au Durbar, les Vaqueels Français et Hollandois, leur declara la resolution

ou

ou il etoit de chasser les Anglois de Bengal, et en même
tems vouloit sçavoir quel Secours il pouvoit attendre
de leurs maitres dans son Expedition.

Les Hollandois qui avoient appris
ment sa leçon toute faite se hâta de repondre, que sa
Compagnie n'etoit que Marchand, point de toute faitte
pour la guerre, qu'a peine y avoit il a Chinchurat 10 pie
de canon et 30 Soldats tant blancs que noirs, mais
ajutât tout de suite et assurement pour nous rendre
un mauvais Service, addressez vous aux François, il
sont bien fort à Chandernagore, d'ailleurs ces sont de
Gens qui ne peuvent rester en repos, ils ne demand
ront pas mieux que de se battre contre les Anglois,
sur tout ils sont toûjours en guerre avec eux tantôt
battus, tantôt battans, il faut qu'ils ayent toûjours
les Armes à la main. Cette Reponse bien loin de
produire l'effet qu'en attendoit le Vacqueel, a
inspiré a Seeraja Dowlat dû son Durbar le plus
grand mépris pour les Hollandois, ce qu'ils ont
temoigné par beaucoup de marques d'indignatio
et en même tems leur a donné une idée avantage
de nôtre Nation, dont ils connoissent la valeur,
le Nabob etoit si content qu'il a fait mille amitiés
à nôtre Vacqueel, l'a renvoyé avec deux Betels
pour Mons: Law, et deux pour lui même, et a
Declaré publiquement qu'il vouloit nous donn

La

Fort St. George 9th. Novem. 1756.

Calcutta en propre qui b'alloit nous en faire délivrer les Paravana si nous voulions, à toutes ces offres il a ajouté que son dessein etoit de nous élever dans la Bengale au même degré que nous étions à la Côte après avoir ainsi vendu de peaux de Lours avant de l'avoir tuée &c.

Il etoit si persuadé que nous allions accepter ces offres que quelques Jours après il demanda à notre Vaqueel si Mons. Renault avoit Deja envoye ses Vaisseaux pour cercler Calcutta par eau, pendant que ses troupes l'entourreroient par terre, vous devez sçavoir Mons. qu'elle a été la resolution du conseil à cet égard et la réponse qu'on lui a fait faire Sçavoir, qu'on ne pouvoit rien entreprendre contre les Anglois sans y etre authorisé D'Europe, ou du moins de Pondichery. vu que la guerre n'etoit point Declaré entre cette Nation et la nôtre &c.

Ils avoient établis deux Batteries au dessus et au dessous de Calcutta, ils y etoit retranchée ainsi que derriere une grande Fosse qu'ils avoient tiré autour de leur Aldée, resolu de se defendre les approches de leur Colonie autant qu'ils pourroient, mais l'arrivée du Nabob a fait changer de face à toutes leurs Dispositions, à son approche ils ont non seulement abandonné cette enceinte, mais meme les Defences de leur Colonie Europienne, ils se sont retirées dans leur Loge, où ils sont entassées les Bravades qu'ils avoient faite dans les commencemens d'empêcher que qui que ce soit ne sortit de leur Aldée pour faire

faire voir leur confiance en a Servir qui les augmenter le Tumulte &c.

Les Anglois sont donc actuellement renfermés dans leur fort autour duquel ils ont élevé une espece de glacis qui les couvre entierement, pour n'être point étourdis par les cris des Femmes ils les ont fait transporté a bord de leur vaisseaux, qu'ils sont et prêts à faire voile au nombre de Dix ou douze y compris les Brigantins et bats ils ont aussi fait charger dessus les thrésors, qui leur sont confiés que l'on fait monter à Deux croies.

Signé Le Comte.

From the same

à Mons. Courtin à Patna à Chandernagore le 21.me Juin

N.o 2

Le Pattamar ayant retardé de Deux Jours me donne le tems et l'occasion de vous faire part de la prise de Calcutta, cet evenement auquel nous nous attendions pas en verités, ne malheureusement que trop certain en voici les particularités que nous avons apprises.

Le 19.me au soir nous sçumes ici par les Billets qui passerent qu'il y avoit eu une Sortie de faite par les Anglois dans laquelle ils avoient tués prés de 1500 hommes aux Maures, ainsi qu'ils s'étoient retirés avec precipitation, et avoient été obligés d'enclouer les Canons de Campagne, qu'ils avoient

avoient emmenés malgré cette avantage, l'esprit de vertige et de trouble est tellement emparrée deux qu'ils n'ont plus songés a un tems rendormir, Mons.r Drake qui étoit retiré de la veille, Mons.r Holwell qui iesoit trouvé Commandant na pas fait la moindre Resistance, les Maures montés sur les maisons qui dominent le Fort y ont établis tranquillement leur Batteries, et y ont fusillé à leur aise les Anglois qui n'ont jamais osés repondre on pretend qu'ils n'ont pas tiré dix coup de canon, le peu d'ordre qui regnoit fesoit que les Soldats maitres de Magazins étoient toujours yvres et incapables de Service, enfin hier le feu ayant pris aux Magazins, les Soldats au lieu D'echercher à l'etendre ont pris l'epouvante et se sont sauvés abord des Vaisseaux pele mele, Mons.r Holwell voyant cette fuite a écrit sur le champ aux Nabab pour entrer en composition a haussé Pavillon Maure a ce Signal les Maures qui entouroient le Fort croyant que leur Comrades y etoient entrés se sont Jettés comme des perdus sur les murailles, et aux Portes qu'ils ont enfoncés V.re Cet evenement qui s'est passé hier à trois heures après midi, et que nous n'avons appris qu'à onze heures le Soir a été accompagné de Circonstances les plus tristes pour les Anglois, leur plus grand Vaisseau et le plus Gros monté d'environ 2 cents hommes a echoué sur un banc à coté de Calcutta, et y est encore, le Nabab a fait charger de paille une quantité de Batteaux

avec

Fort St. George 9.bre 17

avec lesquelles il conte mettre le feu aux vaisseaux
si il ne se rend pas V.tre

Le Conte

Extrait D'une Lettre écrite Chandernagor en datte
Du 3.e Juillet 1756. concernant les Suittes de la Prise de
Calcutta.

N.° 3

Nous avons à remplir icy à
l'egard de plusieurs Anglois entre autres, Mess.rs Wats
Collet les mêmes devoirs que ceux vous vous êtes acquis
à Dakca. Ces deux derniers arriverent icy le 28 aoû fort
en Palanquin, mais du reste en assez mauvais equi-
page, quoique peu de Jours après sa Détent
Nabab ent donné ordre de le traitter un peu m
Il a toûjours été assujetti à une quantités d'ignominie
on lui a laissé a peine une Partie de son linge, et de
ses hardes; Lorsquil passa auprès de Chinchurah
Suivans le Nabab à son expédition de Calcutta, il
fit demander quelques Secours à Mons.r Bestdorn
qui outre quelques raffraichissements lui envoya
1,000 Rup.s pour pouvoir retirer cette envoy des mai
Des Sangsües qui l'egardoient il fut obligé d'entrer
en Accomodement et de Sacrifier plus de 6,000 R.s
de 1,000. pour sauver le reste; à la fin il a été relach
le Nabab même lui recommandé à Mons.r Renaud
avec injonction de le faire passer à la Coste; on dis
même que pour réparer le mal qu'il lui a fait, il
a promis d'écrire en sa faveur autem il ne

on luy marquant linsolente conduite des Anglois et de
Mons.r Drake, ce qui l'avoit obligé à en venir avec
eux aux dernieres extremités, et a les chasser de Bengal.
Je doutte fort que cette Protection serve beaucoup à
Mons.r Watts, quoique dans le fond, il soit bien moins
coupable que Mons.r Drake, On ne peut tout au
plus reprocher au premier que trop de foiblesse, et
d'imprudence, au lieu que ce dernier est coupable
en outre de lacheté de Poltronerie, et de la plus
insigne Trahison que lon puisse commettre, ayant
prêté ainsi que le Commandant des troupes, et la
plus grande partie du Conseil leur Societé et cette de
leurs Biens au Salut d'une quantité de Femmes, d'honêtes
gens, et d'une foule de chrétiens: Lon Scait à present
le détail de tout ce qui s'est passé dans ce triste événement
et les Resorts secrets de toutte cette Affaire, que lon ne
peut regarder que comme une Mistere d'iniquité
Il n'est plus douteux à la Facon dont se conduit Mons.r
Drake que son plan ne fut formé avec le Commandant
des Troupes et quelques Conseillers, et qu'ils n'eussent
jugés les uns et les autres ces Troubles, un coup de
Partie, pour s'approprier une partie des richesses
immenses qui leur étoient Confiés; C'est dans cette
vüe que Mons.r Drake au lieu d'entrer en accommodement
avec le Nabab, n'avoit chercher qu'à le pousser à
bout par les Réponses les plus Insolentes, il auroit
été bien fâché sans doutte que les choses n'en fussent
pas venües là; mais il est bien plus Surprenant
encore qu'ayant pour objet la perte de sa Colonie,

et

Fort St. George Nov.re 1746.

et sa retraitte abord des Vaisseaux, il n'ait pas mieux
songé à Sassurer ce dernier Article, et qu'il n'ait mis
abord de ces Batimens, ny eau, ny vivres, ny matelots
ny même de Lest, n'ayant uniquement songé qu'à leurs
Richesses, comme si en mer, l'argent Suppleoit au reste,
on prétend en Effet qu'ils manquent de tout, et que
les Conseillers vivrent au Cabestan.

Avans que l'on sçu tout ce qui
s'étoit passé dans le Fort, on ne comprendit pas comme
les Maures s'en étoient rendus maitres, et par quel
enchantement la tête avoit tournée aux Anglois à ce
point là. Les mesures de Mons.r Drake étoient si bien
prises qu'il logea dans la loge les 3 Conseillers, qui lui
étoient le plus opposés, Scavoir Mess.rs Holwell Eyre et
Baillie; il avoit choisi pour faire ce beau coup le moment
d'une Sortie qu'il avoit ordonnée, dans le tems qu'il
s'embarquoit une Foule de Soldats et de Peuple se
jetta pêle mêle a l'eau et dans les Batteaux pour Joindre
les Vaisseaux, ce à quoi fort peu reussirent, plusieurs
ayant coulés avant d'arriver: ceux qui ont été Temoins
de cet Tumulte, comptoient avoir vu se noyer plus
de deux cent Personnes.

Après cette retraitte qui avoit
occasionné une grande Sedition, et pendant la quelle
on tira quelques Coups de Fusil sur Mons.r Drake
la Consternation se mit dans ceux qui étoient restés
les Soldats du Détachement qui venoit de son

V.

2011. D. George 9.me Novem. 1756.

Expédition, ne trouvant plus ni Gouverneur ni Comman
dant se mutinerent, enfoncerent les Godons de vin
et se remplirent. Le peu qui etoient capable de faire
Resistance et de se laisser aller ainsi au Désespoir, fit
bonne contenance jusqu'au Jeudi ce devoit être Dimanche
que voyant que le desordre continuoit ils jugerent à
propos de se rendre. Le moment ou les Maures sem-
parent du Fort fut semblable à ce lui de la retraille
bien des Personnes se noyerent en cherchant Azile abord
des Vaisseaux. Les 2 premiers jours se passerent avec
la licence, et avec tous les Désordres d'une Place prise
d'assaut à lexception du massacre auquel les Maures
ne sont pas habituées envers ceux qui sont desarmés.
Environ 160 Européens qui furent pris dans le Fort, furent
renfermés dans une chambre si Petite qu'ils n'y pouvoient tenir que debout et les bras hauts: des la 1.re
nuit 132 y moururent etouffés par la chaleur
Mons.r Lyre Conseiller, que vous avez peut être connu
eut le même Sort le lendemain. Un Anglois qui s'est
Sauvé de cet enfer rapporte un trait de Mons.r Lyre
qui fait voir ce qu'ils avoient à souffrir, il dit que comme
il etoit extrêment gras et replet, il n'avoit pas imaginé
D'autre Soulagement, que de tirer sa Cagne qui avec
qu'aux autres etoit son unique Vêtement, de la tirer
D'dis je tout imbibé de Sueur, de la tordre, et d'en
exprimer dans sa Bouche ce qui en Sortoit pour se
desalterer, il n'est pas surprénant qu'il n'y ait pas tenu.
Mons.r Baillie Cautre Conseiller a été tué, mais
l'on ne sait pas au juste la facon dont il a perdu
la vie

comme c'étoit lui qui exercoit la Gemidarence à Calcutta,
les Maures lui en vouloient de loin en Conséquence on
lui donne la Chabouque presque tous les Jours, et lon
s'attend à apprendre à tous moments qu'il auroit
Succombé sous ce Jouvernent. Lorsque le Nabab fit son
entré dans le Fort de Calcutta, il ne put revenir de sa
Surprise en voyant un amas si prodigieux de Canons,
de Boulets, d'autre munition, le premier article en effet
monte à plus de 500 tant montés, que sur leurs affuts,
il fut frappé de la Beauté du gouvernement et le
trouva digne d'être habité par des Princes et non par
des Marchands. En voyant le feu en une quantités
D'endroits, et considerant le grande nombre de belles
maisons, il ne peut s'empêcher de dire en parlant des
Anglois, qu'il falloit que ces gens là fussent bien fous
pour l'avoir obligé de les forcer à abandonner une si
grande ville. Sur le champ il donnoit ordre de détruire
le Gouvernement en haine de Mons.r Drake à qui il
s'imagine qu'il appartenoit en propre. mais le reste
fut conservé et le feu éteint, il fut même demeurer dans
la belle maison de Mons.r Wedderburn, et il fut publier
un ordre après quelque tems, à tous les chrétiens et
Gentils de retourner habiter leur maisons dans 3 Jours
sous peine de le perdre: quelques uns ont obeï et il ne
leur a fait aucune mal, la plus grande Partie n'a
pas osés, et est dans notre Idée Ils [illegible] D'autant
plus de maison de nie se point
que le [illegible] dejeuer quelque

976

Fort St. George 9th Novem. 1756

on ne Scais sous quel Prétexte et quil a envoyé 2000 Rionos pour détruire et razer toutte la Colonie, ne voulant pas dit il quil y reste Pierre sur Pierre. Le Sauffedar passa même hier au Soir pour aller hater louvrage par sa Presence, on disoit icy dabord, que cétoit en Revanche des désordres que commetoient les Anglois au bas de la Riviere où ils bruloient et ravageoient toutes les Aldées, mais on a Sceu depuis que cette nouvelle étoit fausse, ainsi que celle de larrivée de 2 de leurs vaisseaux de guerre que lon dit tous le Jours être arrivés et qui Despatoissent le Lendemain.

Par ma derniere lettre javois lhonneur de vous marquer, je crois, que les Anglois etoient encore avec leur Vaisseaux un peu au dessous de Calcutta quaprès avoir abandonné 5 Vaisseaux sous leur Fort, et perdu un sur un Banc, ils étoient assez embarassés pour Passer Maconatana / Sanneri Fort / ou les Maures avoient dressé des Batteries, ils ont depuis franchi ce pas assez aisement, mais à celui de Bongi Bongi, où on les attendoit avec beaucoup De Bayetogues, ils ont perdu deux de leur vaisseaux qui ont echoués et se sont entrecouverts tout de suite heureusement les Maures ont sauvé tout le monde dont le nombre etoient considerable Surtout en Femmes parmy lesquelles sest trouvée la Niece de Mons. Fin[illegible]dy; on na fait de mal au person mais le Capitaine de Vaisseau na voulu les relache [illegible]ndition pour les Commerçoit 25 Bl. par tête [illegible] que les Ar[illegible]

et quelle avoient rejoient les vaisseaux les maures ont
trouvé sur ces vaisseaux une grande quantité D'argent
rie surtout cel de la Compagnie et 20 Caisses d'argent.
Nôtre vaisseau Le Silhouet ne sachant rien de la
guerre des Anglois a été fort surpris en passant devans
Maconatana de se voir tirer une grande quantitées de
coups de Canetogues, la force de la marée l'empêchant
de mouiller la, il a jetté L'Ancre au dessus de cette
Forteresse; les Anglois qui n'étoient pas encore passés
en ce tems la sont venus abord, du moins quelque
uns de la Connoissance de Monsr. Chambon, ils lui
ont appris de quoy il etoit Question, et n'ont pu em-
pêcher de convenir qu'ils s'étoient couverts de honte
par la Lacheté avec laquelle ils s'etoient enfuis, mais
en meme Tems pour engager le Capitaine à repasser
sur les Maures en cas que l'on tirés de nouveau sur
lui, ils lui ont declaré que nous étions aussi fourrés dans
cette affaire, et que le Nabab vouloit aussi nous chasser
De Chandernagore; il n'est pas difficile de Decouvrir l'intention
D'un rapport aussi infidel, Monsr. Chambon avant de se
determiner, a expedié à Monsr. Renault qui lui a
envoyé ordre de prendre garde à ne pas donner le
moindre ombrage aux Maures, en effet il a été obligé
D'envoyer Pendant la nuit quelques rafraichissemens
que les Anglois lui avoit demandés. Après la ruine
De Calcutta nous avons eu aussi que les Hollandois
nôtre tour pour la Peine. Non pas à la verité autant
que les Anglois mais peu s'en faut. L'Armée du
Nabob a presque toute defilée au travers de notre

Blé

Fort St. George 9 Novem. 1756.

Aldée insultant tout le monde dans les Rues, y commettant mille violences, enlevant les Domestiques et Bacoas pour porter leur Butin, accablant de coups des gens du Port pour avoir des Batteaux, enfin que vous dirai je les choses ont été vingt fois sur le point d'être portés à l'extremité; pour nous achever le Nabab étant rendu à Bugly le 25.e a mis à Contribution les deux Nations, les Hollandois lui ont payé 4 Lacs et demi, et nous malgré le Serment général de tout le monde, tant employées et Particuliers que Soldats et Matelots marque nôtre nombre de 300 blancs, et l'envie de venger l'honneur du nom Europeene nous nous Sommes Soumis à Payer dit on 3 Lacs, il faut croire que l'interêt de Petits Comptoirs n'a peu contre-balé à determiner Mess.rs du conseil dont les Lumieres plus étendues que celles de nous autres jeunes gens sont plus apportés de Juger des Avantages et des desavantages de nôtre resistance; a l'egard de la Loge je ne crois pas qu'on ait eu la moindre crainte, et qu'il etoit aisé de voir par l'ardeur que tout le monde y témoignoit combien elle étoit en Surreté, mais il n'en est pas moins vrai qu'outre les Petits Comptoirs il aut été bien difficile de defendre la Colonie, dont la destruction entraineroit tous les Marchands &.c Les Capitaines de ces vaisseaux qui se sont échoués à Bongi Bongi arrivoient hier ici, ils ont été Suivis par une quantité d'autres de tous Etats que le Nabab permet que nous retirions, il a même fait dire qu'il nous enverroit tous ceux dont il s'emparoit, ainsi nous nous attendons à voir bientôt ceux de Dacca.

Fort St. George 9th Novem.r 1756.

Sent the following Letter to Captain Caillaud pursuant to the foregoing Resolution

To Captain John Caillaud

No. 43.

Sir

We receivd this morning your Letter of the 2. Instant. It is with great Pain we observe Mahomed Sax Cawn's Ripeness for Rebellion and we approve of your going to Nattom upon so emergent an occasion. The terms of an Accommodation require so much caution and Good Management and the whole Affair is indeed in so intricate a position that we think it necessary before we can settle any thing to have the clearest and most explicit Information of the Circumstances of every Party concerned, and of the State of the Countries in question, which Information we can no way so well arrive at, as by a personal Interview with You.

We desire therefore that you will set out with the utmost Expedition for Madras first writing to Usoff Cawn to draw upon Moodlie for what money he may have an Absolute Present Occasion for, and to Moodlie to answer such Drafts as Usoff Cawn may make, promising that we will settle the Account with him hereafter.

Write also to Mahomed Sax Cawn that you are going to Madras upon his Business for which Reason

You

Fort St George 9th Novem.r 1756

you recommend to him to wait quietly for your Return taking care that none of his People or others in his Name commit any Disturbance in the Country.

The Charge of the Garrison during your Absence is to be left with Captain Smith

We are Sir
Your most Obed.t Servants
George Pigot &.ca Committee

Fort St. George
9th November 1756.

At a Committee Present
George Pigot Esq.r Governor President
Stringer Lawrence, Henry Powney,
Robert Orme, William Percival,
Robert Palk,

Saturday the 13th Novem.r

The President lays before the Committee the following Letter which he received last night from the Select Committee at Bombay

To the Honble George Pigot Esq.r
President & Governor, Or to the President and Governor for the time being at Fort St George

Honble Sirs

This is to dispatch by an express Boat to the Chief of Tellichery purposely to give Cover to

his

Fort St. George 13th Novemr 1756

his Majesty's Declaration of War against the French King, and Copy of the Secret Committees Letter to the President relative thereto, received the 5th Instant via Busporah.

We now send Copies of the above to the Chiefs of Tellechery and Anjengo. for Admiral Watson to be delivered on his Appearance of either of those Settlements, but if contrary to our Expectations he should continue on your Side, we desire your Honr will inform him of the above Advices, with all possible Expedition

Please also to forward the accompanying Packet for the President at Fort William.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants.

Bombay Castle 17th October 1756.

Richd. Bourchier
Chas Crommelin
James Foxcroft
Saml Hough

The President likewise lays before the board the copy of a Letter from the Secret Committee of the East India Company Directed to the President of Bombay dated 18th May last advising of the Declaration of War and containing their Directions in consequence.

Ordered that Letters be immediately dispatchd to Fort St. David, Devecotah, Trichenopoly, Arcot, Changleput, Vizagapatam, Injeram, & Bandermalanka, to inform them of the War with France that they may be constantly on their Guard

Fort St. George 13th Novem.r 1756

Guard, and as the three last Settlements will be continually Subject to be overrun by the large Force the French have to the Northward it is Agreed to direct the Gentlemen there to provide in the best manner possible for the Security of the Company's Effects in case of Emergency.

This News making it necessary for Captain Caillaud to remain in his Garrison of Trichenopoly it is Agreed to countermand our Orders of the 9th Instant for his coming to Madras, and to direct him to use his utmost Endeavors to put an End to the Disturbance at Madura by promising Mahofoz Cawn that a proper Provision Shall be made for his Support, and as we have wrote to the Nabob on the Subject if he will put the Fort of Madura in Possession of the Company's Seapoys, and come away to Trichenopoly he may expect to hear further from us by the Time of his Arrival there.

Ordered that Mahofoz Cawn leave as many Seapoys in Madura as Capt. Caillaud shall Judge necessary for its Defence and such a Number with Telavanah Moodelly as he shall require, and come away with the rest to Trichenopoly as soon as Mahofoz Cawn shall quit Madura.

The Fortifications having been so far advanced upon the Plan Resolved on in our Consultation of the 5th July last that the West Side of the

Town

Town is esteem'd to be thereby pretty well Secured.
To the Southward there being only a narrow Slip
of Land between the River and the Sea, quite open
and expos'd to the Cannon of three Bastions, it would
be very difficult for an Enemy to carry on approaches
on that Side, To the Northward the Houses of the
Black Town being within less than 4 hundred Yards
of our Walls which are also weak on that Side and
defended with but few Cannon and having no Covert
way for the defence of the Glacis, it is there that according
to the General Judgment the Town is most in danger
from the Attacks of an Enemy.

Ordered therefore that the Engineer
do forthwith lay before the Committee a Plan of such
Works as he thinks will best and most Speedily Secure
the Northward of the Town.

Ordered also that proper Place Places
be prepar'd to contain a further Quantity of Water the
large Tank under the new Bastion which is already
fill'd being found insufficient.

And that Notice be given
to the several Families to lay up sufficient Quantity
for themselves in their own Houses that there may be
no Draft from the Publick Stores on their Account.

The President is desired to acquaint
the Nabob of the War and to make him an Offer of the best
Accommodation

Fort St George 13th Novem.r 1756

Accommodations procurable in Madras if he and his Family chuse to reside here for their Greater Security. To acquaint also the King of Tanjore.

As Governor Bourchier writes the President that he had received a Packet from Europe for Admiral Watson which he purposed to forward by Sea to Bengal. It is probable that will reach him before any Advices that can now be sent from hence and he will doubtless in concert with the Gentn of the Committee at Bengal and Colonel Clive make the best use of the large Force that will be collected there to secure the Company's Settlements and distress the Enemy.

However as it appears to the Committee that the taking of Chandernagore from the French would be of particular Service to the Company's Affairs at this time by involving the French Interests in Bengal in as great a Calamity as our own have lately suffered, it is Agreed to dispatch a Pattamar with Letters to Mr Watson, the Select Committee at Bengal, and Colonel Clive recommending that Enterprize if they think there is a Prospect of Success without much Loss

And as Mr Bourchier in his Letter to the President mentions that he purposed to dispatch the Company's Ships Royal Duke with Troops for Bengal, which Ships we learn by private

Letters

Fort St. George 15th Novem. 1756.

Advices was to be accompanied with the Briza and the Revenge and to carry in all five hundred men, we hope that these added to the Troops which were on board the Ships at Fulta will be Sufficient to be kept for the Defence of Calcutta and that Colonel Clive will be able to bring back with him near as many as he carried away It is Agreed however to leave it to Him to determine according to the Situation of Affairs there what Force to leave, and only to direct him to return hither with such Troops as it shall be resolved to bring with him, as early in the next Year as possible.

The Committee very much hope that Admiral Watson, either by his Overland Packet or by the Ship of War which the Secret Committee in their Letter to the President at Bombay advise was to be dispatchd with this News, will be directed to remain some time longer in India. At Present it is Resolvd to repeat our Request that he will call here in his way from Bengal, and give a Passage on his Majesty's Ships to Colonel Clive and the Troops he is to bring back with him.

As we have a very large Tract of Country to defend it is thought necessary to keep

Fort St. George 13th Novemr. 1756.

keep up the number of Seapoys and Resolved not to make the Reduction agreed on last Committee.

George Pigot

Henry Lawrence

Robert Orme

Wm. Percival

Robt Palk

not

Sent the following Letters to Vice Admiral Watson the Select Committee at Bengal and Robert Clive Esqr. pursuant to the foregoing Resolution.

To Charles Watson Esqr.
Vice Admiral of the Blue and Commander in chief of his Majestys Squadron in India
Sir

We received late last night by the way of Bombay his Majestys Declaration of War against France

France which was inclosd to Mr Bourchier in a Letter from the Secret Committee of the last India Company and was proclaimd on the 17th May in England. Dispatches were receivd at the Same time for you which Mr Bourchier is forwarding to you by Sea with some Land Forces, the Committee in their Letter of the 18th May advise that a Small Ship of War was to sail a few days after for the Malabar Coast with other Dispatches and Orders to touch at Anjengo.

Upon this Alteration of Affairs what the Company recommend to us is to proceed on any Plan that may have been concerted against the French and to take measures for the Security and Protection of their own Settlements. If you Judge the taking of Chandernagore practible without much Loss it would certainly be a Step of great Utility to the Companys Affairs and take off in great measure the bad Effects of the Loss of Calcutta by putting the French in a Situation equally Disadvantageous.

We hope that this Enterprise should you think it proper to be proceeded on, may be effected as well as the Operations for the Reestablishment of the Companys own Settlements so Speedily that Colonel Clive with the Troops he carries with him may return to this Coast early in the next Year. As we suppose that the Troops sent from Bombay added to what were before in Bengal will be sufficient to be left for the Protection

Fort St. George 13th Novemr 1756.

Protection of Calcutta,

We are inclind to hope that the Packet forwarded to You from Bombay or those orderd you by the Ships of War will bring you Directions to remain Some time longer in India, as we have no news of another Squadron ordered this way. But in all cases we must earnestly request of you to call here and to give Colonel Clive and the Troops which may be returnd from Bengal a Passage on his Majesty's Ships

A Vessel is arrivd at Pondichery from the Islands & we have again Reports of a Force collected there which is to appear on this Coast in January but no mention is made in any of the advices from Europe of a French Fleet having Sailed for India. Inclosd is Copy of the Paper of Intelligence Sent us by Mr Bourchier and a Printed Copy of the Declaration of War.

We are with great Respect & Esteem

Sir

Your most Obedt. Hble Servants.

Fort St George
13th Novemr 1756

George Pigot &c Committee

To the Honble Roger Drake Esqr &
&c Gentlemen of the Select Committee
at Bengal.

Gentlemen &

Last night we receivd News

from

from Bombay that War was declar'd against France on the 17th May. We receiv'd at the same time, the copy of a Letter from the Secret Committee of the last India Company to the President at Bombay dated the 12th May wrote in Cypher, and observing also there was a Packet for your President we imagin'd it might contain another copy of the same Letter in cypher and therefore we thought proper to open it Supposing that your Cypher was Lost.

It proved as we expected, we have taken out that Letter in Cypher the Substance of which is only that the War being declared any Projects that may have been form'd against the French are to be carried into Execution and proper Measures taken for the Defense and Protection of their own Settlements

Mr Bouchier writes the President that he is Sending the Royal Duke with Troops to your Assistance, and we learn by private Advices that the Revenge and Orixa were also to be dispatch'd to you and that the Number of men intended to be embark'd was about five hundred

We hope that this Reinforcement added to the men you had before will be Sufficient for the Protection of Calcutta, and therefore we have directed

Fort St. George 13th Novemr 1756

Directed Colonel Clive to return here early in the Year with the Troops he carries with him or as many as can possibly be Spared.

We have Desired Mr Watson if he thinks it practicable to dispossess the French of Chandernagore not doubting but it will be of infinite service in your Affairs, Should you be of this Opinion we desire you will enforce our Recommendation.

We are Gentlemen,

Your most Obed.t Servants.

George Pigot & Committee

Fort St. George
13th Novem.r 1756.

To Robert Clive Esq.r

Sir

We received late last night the news of War with France which was declared the 17th of May, and there is a Letter from the Secret Committee dated the next day directing that any Plan of Operations which may have been formd against the French be immediately proceeded on and all proper Measures taken for the Protection and Security of their own Settlements.

Mr. Bourchier writes the President under date the 16th October that he is Sending the Royal Duke with Troops to Bengal and by some Private Advices we learn that the Revenge & the Cuja were

were to accompany her and that the number of Troops to be embarkd on them was about five hundred.

If the Reduction of Chandernagore can be added to the other Intentions of your Expedition it will be a very acceptable Piece of Service and we have recommended it to Mr. Watson in the same manner But as it will be absolutely necessary that our Troops or the greatest Part of them be returned to us very early in the ensuing Year, we would not have you proceed on any distant Operations against the Nabob of Bengal nor indeed as the War is declared do we think it advisable to attempt the Reestablishment of any other Factories than Calcutta unless the Nabob should be induced to offer the Restitution of the rest of the Company's Settlements together with such Reparation for their Losses as may be accepted.

We are persuaded you will do as much as can be done in so short a time, but whatever may be your Success we think it necessary to direct that you return hither as early as possible with such Troops as can be spar'd and which we hope, as so large a Reinforcement is sent from Bombay will be near as many as you carried with You.

We are Sir
Your most Obed.t Servants.
George Pigot V.r Committee,

Fort St. George
13th November 1756.

Dispatchd

992

Fort St George 13th Novemr 1756.

Dispatch'd also short Letters with Notice of the War to Alexander Wynch Esqr to at Fort St David, Mr James Bouchier chief at Devecota, Mr John Lewin Smith Provisional Chief at Vizagapatam, Mr Foss Wescott Resident at Injeram, Mr John Andrews Resident at Bandermalanka, Captain Polier Commanding at Chingleput, Captain Preston commanding at Arcot and the following Letter to Captain John Caillaud

To Captain Caillaud (No 44)

Sir,

Since the Dispatch of our Letters to you of the 9th we have receivd the Declaration of war against France; It is therefore necessary that you keep to your Garrison and be well on your Guard sending us Intelligence of the Motions of any French Troops your way.

Concerning the Madura Affair you must use your utmost Endeavors to bring it to a Conclusion, that we may not be under a necessity of keeping so large a Force there. We have wrote to the Nabob to persuade him to give Mahofoz Cawn what he demands and you may assure him that I will take care a proper Provision is made for him, and that for the present his best way is to come to you at Trichinopoly - As soon as Mahofoz Cawn leaves Madura you are to appoint such a number of Sepoys as you think necessary to Garrison Madura, and as many to be left with Moodilliar as he shall require,

&c

to be entirely under his own Orders; and order Usoff Cawn to come away with the rest to Trichenopoly, where you shall receive our further Orders

Advise Usoff Cawn not to suffer Moodille to be in any Respect distress'd, and to receive from him only what money he can raise, It cannot be expected that he is to be at the expense of the whole Force now in those Countries

We are Sirs Your most Obedt Servants.

George Pigot & Co Committee.

Fort St George
13th Novemr 1756.

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esqr Governor President
Stringer Lawrence " Henry Powney "
Robert Orme " William Percevall "
" Robert Palk "

Colonel Adlercron being likewise Present

Thursday the 18th

The President lays before the Committee two Plans of Works proposd by the Engineer for the Defense of the North end of the Town, one of them being an Outwork to be built upon the Glacis to cover the present Fortifications, the other being a Plan for thickening and enlarging the Present Curtain and Bastions so as to bear a large additional Number

defens

990

Fort St George 4th Novem. 1756.

Recev'd the following Letter from Colonel Adlercron

To George Pigot Esq.
President & Governor &c. Gentlemen of the Secret Committee

Gentlemen

The reason you were pleas'd to alledge to me yesterday for delaying to proclaim the War against France, was far from being Satisfactory to me, there being no doubt but that the Government at Pondichery are well acquainted with his Britannic Majesty's having declar'd war against their Nation, and if so, they will proceed to Hostilities, whenever they find themselves in a Condition so to do, without paying the least regard whether you have gone thro' the Ceremony of Proclaiming it, or not. Be this as it may, I must desire you would give me your reasons in writing, that I may transmit them by this opportunity to the Secretary of State, in order to be laid before the King my Master, and so clear myself. Should this delay of yours be found fault with by his Majesty. As I am told the Ships is to Sail very shortly, I must beg the favor of your immediate answer, as also of a general Return of the Companys Troops now upon the Coast, which I shall send to the Government at the same time.

I cannot consent to your Soldiers Living employ'd as Labourers, as I dispair will

Men would be displeasd, were they set about any Cooley work; the Surgeon has likewise represented to me, that this would endanger their healths, besides that, from the number of our Sick the duty of our Garrison is too hard to admit of their being so employ'd. As to what Artificers you may have occasion for, I shall direct them to attend you, whenever you are pleasd to call for them. I am Gentlemen,

Your most Obedient
humble Servant,
John Alderoron.

Fort St George
19th Novem.r 1756.

Answer wrote and sent immediately as follows.

To John Alderoron Esq.r
Commander in chief of the Land forces in India

Sir,

We have receivd your letter of this date, the reasons we yesterday had the honor to give you for delaying a few days to make known Publickly his Majesty's Declaration of War against France are, that by the last Letter the President receivd from Fort St David he has reason to believe the French had not the advice of the War, and we Judgd it quite prudent that all the Company's Out Garrisons should be acquainted with it, in order to be as much as possible upon their Guard before so certain a Knowledge of the War should come to

Fort St George 19th Novem, 1756.

to the French as a Publick Proclamation of it here, would give them, in a day or two, we hope upon a Reconsideration these Reasons will have the same Weight with You that they have with us. If not, we dont doubt but they will be Sufficient to clear you of any Blame, as your Readiness to proclaim the War will very evidently appear.

We are quite astonish'd at your Saying you cannot consent that any of the Soldiers should be employ'd in raising the Works of the Fortifications as you so readily offer'd it yesterday, you must be sensible nothing is more common in Europe than for the men to be employ'd even on Private Service and your Refusing this, will put it out of your Power to employ your own People, we hope therefore you will reconsider this also and lend us all the Assistance in your power towards so great an End as compleating the Fortifications at this critical Juncture. We please ourselves with hopes the men will have no objection as they will be daily paid for their Labor, and we think that working a few hours in the Morning and Evening, cannot in the least prejudice their health, but upon any Appearance of such bad Consequence, we shall be the first to desire it may be Discontinued.

health

Comp-anys

A General Return of the Company Troops is making out for you, and We are

Sir

Your most Obed.t Humble Servants

George Pigot, Stringer Lawrence, Henry Penney,
Robert Orme, Wilson Percival, Robt Palk,

Fort St George 20th Novem, 1756.

At a Committee Present,

George Pigot Esq. Governor President

Stringer Lawrence, Henry Powney,

Robert Orme, William Percevall,

, Robert Palk,

Saturday the 20th

Letter to the Secret Committee of the Honble the East India Company dated this day, to go by the Ship Chesterfield Read in the fair Copy and Sign'd Order'd that the Packet to the Secret Committee be clos'd this Evening.

Geo Pigot

Henry Powney

Robert Orme

Wm Percevall

Rob Palk

Fort St. George 22. Novem.r 1756.

Colonel Lawrence embarks on the Chesterfield for Fort St. David.

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esq.r Governor President
Henry Powney, Robert Orme,
William Percevall, Robert Palk,

Friday the 26th

Being Stipulated by the 8.th Article of the Provisional Treaty that whichever of the two Nations shall receive first, Answers from Europe concerning the Truce shall communicate bonâ fide the said Answers to the other Nation, a Debate arose whether the Advices of the War ought or ought not to be transmitted to Mr. De Leyrit——— As the Declaration of War is doubtless to be esteemed a definitive Answer to the Truce, in strict Conformity to the beforementioned Article, Notice ought to be sent to Pondichery, but it is necessary first to weigh the Conveniences and Inconveniency of such a Step. We are as yet uncertain whether Mr. Leyrit has received the news or not, If he has, he thinks it unnecessary to communicate it to us, If he has not, our giving him Publick Notice without being in a Capacity and, in Readiness to enter upon some Action will expose our Weakness and can only Serve to make the Enemy more alert in attacking such Places as lie most open to their Insults,

particularly

Fort St George 26th Novem 1756.

particularly the Company's Northern Settlements It is Agreed therefore not to advise Mr Sayrit of the War and further if Colonel Adlercron should again mention the necessity of Reading the Declaration at the Head of the Troops the President is desird to represent to him that it may be of bad consequence to do it untill we know that the News has reach'd our Northern Factories which being in a very weak State will require Time to provide for the Security of the Company's Effects in Readiness against any Emergency.

Letters from Mr Wynch at Fort St David Read as follow.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr
& the Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Fort St George

Gentlemen,

I now forward you the List of the Spys at the different Settlements with the Moorcanas kept to carry Intelligence, four of the latter I have struck off this month, as I think the remainder will be Sufficient, I have directed the Paymaster to charge the amount in his Books for Secret Service

Conformable to your Orders Mr Hinds directed the Storekeeper to lay in the necessarys mentioned in the Annexed List, at the Bottom of which is put down such part as is already purchas'd Please to favor me with your Directions whether you would have any more laid in I am with Respect Gentlemen

Your Faithful & most hble Servant.

Alex. Wynch

Fort St David
1st Novem 1756

108 v

Fort St George 26 Novm. 1756.

Ordered to be Purchas'd		In Store	
Ghee	150 Dupeys	Lamp Oil	2000 Seer
Lamp Oil	30000 Seer	Cocanut Oil	2000 Do
Cocanut Oil	2000 Do		Cajan Nut
Candles	15 Candy	Ghee	8 - 12 ½
Wax	10 Candy	Candles	3. 10 ½
Biscuit	10 Candy	Biscuit	10 Candy
Wheat	9 Garse	Firewood	Lasqrs 4 from Devecota
Vinegar	20 Casks	Salt Fish	1500 Do
Salt	20 Garse from the Renter	Besides the Salt Beef, Pork & Bread receivd from his Majesty's Squadron.	
Firewood	20 Lack from Devecota		
Salt Fish	100000 from Do		

The Honble Company Dr

	Pags.	Fanos	Rupees	Pags.	Fanos
To 1 Vakeel Rangopuntoloo	3	"			
To 1 Do Coopria	2	18		5	18
To 1 Spy Narsia					
To 12 Hircarras ea at 8 Rupees p Month				1	18
To 1 Spy at Negapatam, his Pay Pags 1. Batty Fs 45 p Mo	2	45			
To 2 Peons attendg him ea Pay Fs 30 Batty Fs 30 p Mo		120		2	13
To 1 Spy at Carical his Pay Pags 2. Batty Fs 45 p Mo	2	45			
To 2 Peons attendg him ea Pay Fs 30 Batty 45 p Mo		120		2	165
To 1 Spy at Chelumbrum his Pay Pags 1 8 Batty Fs 45 p Mo	1	63			
To 1 Peon attendg his Pay Fs 26 Batty Fs 30 p Mo		55		1	118
To 1 Spy at Porinatty & Trivenatore his Pay 2 Pags Batty Fs 30 p Month	2	30			
To 2 Peons attendg him ea Pay Fs 30 Batty Fs 30 p Mo		120			
To 1 Spy at Pondichery his Pay Fs 40 Batty Fs 45 p Mo		85		2	150
To 3 Peons attendg him ea Pay Fs 30 Batty Fs 30 p Mo		180			
					265

From the 1st To 31st October 1756

Rupees 96 13 899

Alex. Wynch

Fort St. George 26th Novem.r 1756

To the Honble George Pigot Esq.rs
President and Governor & the Gentlemen of the Select
Committee at Fort St. George

Gentlemen

I am just favord with your Letter of the 13th Instant, advising me of the Declaration of War with France, & Shall give the necessary Directions that the Garrison be kept in continual Posture of Defence, and you may depend on the earliest Intelligence if any Motions are made by the French from Pondichery.

If any Opportunity offers I must recommend it to you to send three or four of the large Iron Boilers, there being nothing of that kind in this Garrison and which I think will be very requisite in case of a Siege, Some Spirits of Wine and Turpentine for Composition of Fuzees &c. is much wanted, and a few Timbers of a proper Size for Mortar Beds, what else may appear necessary I Shall transmit you an Indent of in a few days.

I am most Respectfully
Gentlemen, Your Faithful and most
Obedient Servant
Alex.r Wynch

Fort St. David
18th November 1756.

Agreed that the Directions which it may be necessary to send from this Board to Fort St. David be

Fort St. George 26th Novem. 1756.

be addressed to Colonel Lawrence and Mr. Wynch jointly and that they be now wrote, to purchase such further Stores and Provisions as Colonel Lawrence shall judge to be absolutely necessary for the Garrison, or as many of them as are procurable there, and to send us a List of the Rest which we will endeavor to supply them with the first Opportunity.

endeavour

The following Letter from Mr. James Bouchier at Devecota, Read

To the Honble George Pigot Esq.
&c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee

Honble Sirs, Sirs

I have been favord with your Letter of the 13th Instant and in very Days shall lay before the President and Council a Plan of this Garrison which will plainly evince to them the State of its Defence.

I shall be glad to be acquainted if War is publickly to be declaid in this Settlement.

Your Honor &c may be persuaded that I shall be as alert as possible in acquainting you with every Step the Enemy may take, and that I am with Respect

Honble Sirs, Sirs

Your most Obedt Hble Servant

Devecotah
22 Novemb. 1756.

Jas Bouchier

Sir

Fort St. George 26th Novemr 1756.

In answer to the foregoing Agreed to write Mr Bourchier that the War is not to be declard publickly.

Letter from Captain Caillaud Read

Virt.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr
President and Governor & Gentlemen
of the Committee at Madras

(No. 41)

Honble Sir & Sirs

I had the honor of addressing you the 2d Instant No 40, nothing has occurred since materia in the Madura Affairs Mahfoz Cawn's Jemidars set out, and promises for his master that every thing shall remain quiet untill your Pleasures on his last Offers are known

Inclosd I have the honor to trans mit the monthly Accounts and Returns for October & to remain with great Respect.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient and Faithful Servant.

John Caillaud.

Trichenopoly
4th Novemr 1756.

As the Letters from Fort St. David Devicota, and Trichenopoly will be in danger of falling into

1000

Fort St. George 26th Novem. 1756

into the hands of the Enemy It is Agreed that the Returns of the Garrison be not sent in the usual manner, only a Monthly List of Alterations; from which compared with the last Returns, the Present State of the Garrisons may be seen.

Letters from Captains Polier Commanding at Changleput and Captain Preston Commanding at Arcot Read, acknowledging the Receipt of the news of the war, the former desiring to be supplied with Six Gun Carriages according to an Indent and a few other Small Stores; the latter some Tar

Ordered that Such of the Gun Carriages as have been made for Changleput and are now here be sent out, with the other Small Stores as far as they can be Spared, and that some Tar be sent to Arcot.

Agreed that Ensign Bonnatyne be Sent to take Charge of the Fort of Carangoly; until his arrival that be under care of Captain Polier who is to direct the Seapoys that are dispersed in different Parts of the Contested Country to retire to the Fort in case they Should be attacked by a Superior Force of the Enemy

And as Captain Polier by his long Residence at Changleput must be well acquainted with the Situation of the Countries, it is Agreed to desire his Opinion what Places will be most convenient

for

it

Fort St. George 26th Novbr 1756

for Posts of Seapoys as well to Secure our own Districts fro[m] to
Insult as to annoy the Enemy.

Letters from the Nabob Read, as entered in

the Book of Country Correspondence N° 330 accompany
ing a Paper of Intelligence from Ponna the Capital of
Balazarow, which mentions that the two English
Gentlemen who were sent there from Bombay have
agreed to give up the Fort of Yeacha Durg (Gheria) to
Balazarow with half the ready money that was taken
N° 332 recommending to Send a Reinforcement to Settle
the Disturbances at Madura and Tinnevelly. N° 333
& 334 advising of the Warlike Preparations making by
the Killedar of Chetteput.

Concerning the Disturbances at
Madura and Tinnevelly the Nabob is already advisd that
it is our Opinion a Way must be found to Satisfy Maho-
fuz Cawn and the Discharg'd Troops; and so the Troubles
be ended by an Accommodation, it being impossible to
Send Reinforcements thither at this time, and it is now
Agreed again to recommend to the Nabob to consider of
some method of providing for Mahofuz Cawn as speedily
as possible Agreed also to write a Letter to the Killedar
of Chetteput advising him of the War, assuring him of our
Readiness to assist him as formerly, that we are glad
to hear his Troops are prepard for action, and desire
to know what is his first Design. We hope by this means
to find out the Intentions of his late Government which are

ornament

at present doubtfull.

Letters from the Inquilly Renter and Tasseldar Read as entered in the Country Correspondence N.o 327 & 328, accompanying a Bill on Gocul Terwaddy for Pagodas thirteen Thousand (13000) due the 11.th December in further part Paym.t of the first or September last of the present Year of Phasely 1166.

Ordered that Report be made to the President and Council of the Receipt of the said Bill that they may give Directions concerning it.

Letter from Usoff Cauon as entered N.o 329 Read inclosing the accounts of the Pay & Batta of the Seapoys &.c under his command unto the 31.st of October.

Resolved to meet to morrow morning at 9 o'block to examine the said Accounts.

A Paper of Intelligence from Salabat Jungs Camp, entered N.o 331 in the Country Correspondence, mentions that the Mogul has set out from Delly on an Expedition to Bengal & that Balazarow intends for the Carnatecke.

Geo.e Pigot
Henry Berney
Robert Orme
Will.m Lindsay
Rob.t Lake

Fort St George 27th Novbr 1756.

Sent the following Letters to Messrs Lawrence & Wynch
Mr James Bouchier & Captain Caillaud pursuant to
the foregoing Resolutions.

To Stringer Lawrence
& Alexander Wynch Esqrs

Gentlemen,

We have receivd Mr Wynch's Letters dated
the 1st & 18th Instant, with the list of Provisions that have been
laid in for the use of the Garrison of Fort St David. Whatever
more Colonel Lawrence shall Judge to be absolutely necessary
must be provided without Loss of time. We have no
Spare Iron Boilers nor such Timbers as Mr Wynch
writes for, these and such other Stores as you may have
occasion for we desire you will purchase as far as they
are procurable with you the rest we will endeavor to
Supply you with by the first Opportunity

As it may now be inconvenient to
Send the Regular Returns we would only have you
transmit monthly a Note of the Alterations that have
happened which by referring to your last Returns will
shew us the State of your Garrison.

We are Gentlemen
Your most Obedient Servants
George Pigot Vce Committee.

Fort St George
27th November 1756.

To Mr James Bouchier
Sir

We have receivd your Letter of the 22

1010

Fort St George 27th Novem. 1756.

As it may now be inconvenient to Send the regular Returns in the usual manner we would only have you transmit monthly a Note of the Alterations that have happen'd which by referring to your last Returns will Show us the State of your Garrison.

The War is not to be declared Publickly

We are Sir Your most Obed.t Servants.

George Pigot &.ca Committee.

Fort St George
27 Novem.r 1756

To Captain Caillaud

(N.o 15)

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 4th with the monthly Papers inclos'd. As it may now be inconvenient to Send your Returns in the usual manner we would only have you transmit monthly a Note of the Alterations that have happen'd which by referring to your last Returns will Show us the State of Your Garrison.

We are Sir Your most Obed.t Servants.

George Pigot &.ca Committee

Fort St George
27 Novem.r 1756.

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esq.r Governor President

Henry Vansittart, Robert Orme,

William Percevall, Robert Palk,

Saturday the 27th

The Accounts of the Troops

Fort St George 25th Novr 1756

under the Commands of Usoff Cawn being laid before the Committee the Expences to the 30th October last are found to amount to Pagodas 10,305.38 and Rupees 311,685.10.60

Out of which Mahofoz Cawn is to pay for the time the Government of Tinnavely was in his hands Rupees 13,000.—

Usoff Cawn Pagodas 10,305.38 & Rupees 298,685.10.60

Receivd by Usoff Cawn from the Countries assigned over to him by Mahofoz Cawn unto the Arrival of Setarapah Moodelle

From the Polligars 10,612.1.60

From the Renter Moodelle 67,954.1 178,566.2.60

Receivd by Usoff Cawn and paid to the Troops

Arrears due from Usoff Cawn to the Troops as by his account Pags 10,305.38 and Rs 120,119.8.—

The Particulars of the Charges being then examind the Batta to the Seapoys is found to exceed the Regulations considerably. The following is the Statement of the difference.

	Each p Day by the Regulations should have	has receivd	Differ
Each Subidar	8	12	4
— Jemidar	4	6	2
— Havildar	2	4	2
— Naigue	2	4	2
— Seapoy	2	3	1
	18	29	11

The Excess therefore upon this Acct is 11 in 29 which makes a Difference upon the whole Account of above fifty thousand /50,000/ Rupees. Agreed that a Statement of it be transmitted to Usoff Cawn with orders to deduct it from the Arrears due, and Captain Caillaud

Fort St George 27th Novemr 1756.

Caillaud be directed to furnish him with a Copy of the Pay and Batta Lists from the Book of Regulations for his future Guidance.

There appearing also in the Account some other unusual charges Ordered that the Commissary go through a more particular Examination of the whole, and Report his Observations to the Committee.

Agreed to recommend to Captain Caillaud to make a further Trial to reduce, or totally to Strike off the Batta of the Trichinopoly Garrison, and to put it on the same Footing as Arcot and Changlepat.

Also to repeat our former Orders that he use his utmost Endeavors to Settle an Accommodation with Mahomed Cawn as Speedily as possible so that Morari Cawn may be recalled and the heavy Expence of those Troops put an End to.

As in the Dangers and Uncertainties of War a Constant Attention will be requisite for the Security & Protection of the Company's Possessions. It is Resolved and made a Standing Order that this Committee meet every Monday and Thursday at nine o Clock in the Morning.

Geo. Pigot
Wm. Lewis
Robert Orme
Wm. Fowke
Rt. Peck

Fort St. George 27 Novem.r 1756

Sent the following Letter to Captain Caillaud pursuant to the foregoing Resolution

To Captain Caillaud (N.o 46.)

Sir

We have had under Examination the accounts of Pay and Batta to the Troops commanded by Mr.r Caiver who has considerably exceeded the Regulations in the Article of Batta to the Seapoys; as you will perceive by the enclos.d Copy of our Letter to him. We desire you will transmit him a Copy of the Pay & Batta Lists from the Book of Regulations for his future Guidance. The Overcharge for the time past we have order'd to be deducted from the Arrears as we shall also any Differences that may be discover'd in the other Articles which are to be further examin'd and a Report to be made to us.

Upon a Review of the vast Expence of these Troops we Judge it more & more necessary to recal them as speedily as possible. We hope you will be able to Settle with Mahomed Cawn so far as to bring him away to Trichenopoly so that Mr.r Caiver may also return with his Seapoys, as yet we have no Answer from the Nabob concerning the Provision to be made for Mahomed Cawn.

We hop.d you would before this have found means to reduce further, if not totally to strike off, the Batta of your Garrison; It is a very heavy Charge and we recommend to you to lessen it as soon as possible. If Provisions are as cheap with you as at Arcot and Chaugleput your Garrison should be put upon the same footing, that is without any Batta excepting only to the Commanding Officer in consideration of the necessity he may be sometimes under of entertaining Strangers.

We are Sir Your most Obed.t humble Serv.ts

Fort St. George
27.th Nov.r 1756

George Pigot &.c Com.n

1014

Fort St. George 29th November 1756.

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esqr Governor President
Henry Vansittart, Robert Orme,
William Percival, Robert Palk,

Monday the 29th

The President acquaints the Committee that by a Letter from Mr. Wynch dated the 25th he is advising that Colonel Lawrence landed at Fort St. David early that Morning and the Ships stood out of the Road again immediately with a favorable Wind.

Letter from the Governor & Council of Tranquebar Read as follows.

To the Honble Governor & Council of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

The Letter wherewith you have honord us written the 25th of the last month, we have well received together with the Copy of the King of Tanshour's Letter to you. By which answer of the King to you we see how he continueth in endeavoring to persuade your Honors that he on his side is in the greatest right, and that on the contrary we on our Side are in the wrong. But the falseness and Untruth of this Point he giveth out appeareth clearly enough by the great and notorious contradictions wherewith he writeth concerning this matter in his diverse Letters to you and to other Persons. The King hath so highly exaggerated the narration of the Naigen's money owing to us, like as if that were the Chief to be united, tho this is far from the main point, the original reason of our Undertakings being quite another viz.t Pirmal Naikens impertinent Dealing and coarse Insolence against the Company's Territory, as we have long ago clearly enough given to understand as well to your Honor as to the King himself, which ought to have taken into consideration, and credit to be given to our true Account, viz.t that not our Demand hath induced us to exact anything.

It is so, that we never have written to the King concerning our Demand of what Pirmal Naiken owed to us, by reason we made but little account of it But can the King without being asham'd deny our having given Notice to him about the Pirmal naikens Insolences & Thievery practiced against us? But what answer have we gotten upon it?

Govern.t

Fort St. George 20th Novemr 1756

Impertinent Letters, which without doubt have been Styled without the Kings knowledge by Monosiappa & Pennal Naiken conspiring together. When therefore the King or Pennal Naikens master would not order Satisfaction to be given to us against this man, the question is where else we should seek it? with the Naiken himself? But where should we attach him except in the Kings Territory? and this hath been like to be Look'd upon, and hath been really Look'd upon as a Crime against the King.

We do represent this to your Honor only on purpose that you may perceive by it, how false are the accounts sent to you about this Affair from the Court of Tanshour. And at the same time we would also not omit to thank your Honors obligedly for the trouble taken and Office employ'd on our behalf in this Affair.

As for the rest we hope to get more season-able time and Opportunity of obtaining against the troublesome Pennal Naiken the Satisfaction so reasonable but as yet denied.

We have the Honor of assuring you, that we are and remain with all Esteem. Honble Sir, Sirs, Your most humble Servants.

H. G. Krog & Fs &c

Tranquebar
6th Novemr 1756

As the Gentlemen at Tranquebar have resolved to wait a more favorable Opportunity of renewing their Demand It is unnecessary for us to take any further Measures on that head.

The Dutch Factory at Tevenepatanne being Situated so near to the walls of Fort St. David that it is universally Judg'd to be a very convenient Lodgment for an Enemy intending to form the Siege of that Place, and there having been also a Tile House erected at the Foot of the Glacis the Committee think it absolutely necessary to remove those Buildings and every other Impediment to the Defence of that Fort, this Resolves to send Orders accordingly to Colonel Laurence & Mr Wynch.

tending

Agreed to write a Letter to the Governor and Council of Negapatam to acquaint them with our foregoing Resolution relating to the Dutch House that the present Situation of our Affairs would not admit of the Delay which would be occasion'd by our waiting for their Approbation but that their

situation

Resolut

1116

Fort St George 29th Novemr 1756

Resident may remain if they think proper at Cuddalore where he shall be furnishd with the best accommodations possible and enjoy the usual Privileges and when the War is over we shall erect Hein^n Houses in the most convenient Place.

For this Purpose Ordered that Colonel Lawrence & Mr Wynch cause an Exact Survey and Plan to be made of the Dutch House before they begen to destroy it &c.

Letter from Balazarow Read as entered № 341 in the Book of Country Correspondence advising that he shall soon march to these Parts & write to us for what may be necessary

As an Alliance with the Head of the Morattas may be of the greatest use in disappointing any Schemes the French may have formd or may form for making any Conquests in India, It is Agreed immediately to write our answer to Balazarow's beforementioned Letter expressing our Satisfaction at the news of his Intentions to come to these Parts and assuring him of our Readiness to Join and Assist him

A Paper of Intelligence from Pondichery mentions that two hundred and fifty Seapoys are to be sent from thence to Wondiwash. The President is desired to write a Letter to the Killedar there to endeavor to preserve him in our Interest and prevent his receiving French Seapoys

Agreed also to desire Colonel Lawrence to write to the Killedar of Wilconda for the same Purpose.

Geo Pigot
Henry Lewis
Robert Orme
Wm Percival
Rob Palk

Fort St. George 29th Novem.r 1756.

Pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions Send the following Letters to Messrs. Lawrence & Wynch at Fort St. David, and to the Governor & Council of Negapatam.

To the Honble Stephen Vernonet Esqr.
President for the Affairs of the Netherlands East India Company on the Coast of Chorromandel, and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Council.
at Negapatam.

Honble Sir, & Sirs,

Upon the News we have lately receivd of the War declard by the King of Great Britain against France on the 17th May last we are under the necessity of taking all proper Measures for the Defence and Security of the Forts and Possessions of the East India Company. The too great Vicinity of your Factory at Sevenepatam to Fort St. David renders it so convenient and so Strong a Lodgement for an Enemy that we find ourselves indispensibly obligd to remove it without Loss of time, and have accordingly Sent Directions to pull down that Building. We have ordered an exact Survey and Plan to be first made of the House, and after the Restablishment of Peace we shall if you approve of it erect another for you in Such Place as Shall be Judgd most convenient. In the mean time we have given orders to provide your President with the best Accomodations that can be procurd in Cuddalore where he may remain if you think Proper and be assurd of the necessary Assistance and Protection and the Enjoyment of your former

Fort St George 29th Novem.r 1756.

Former Privileges.

We doubt not Gentlemen but you will perceive the absolute Necessity of our taking the before mentioned Resolution and excuse our not waiting for your Approbation as the Time will not permit any Delay.

We remain with the utmost Respect

Honble Sirs & Sirs,

Your Friends and most Obed.t humble Servants.

George Pigot P.t Committee.

Fort St George
29th Novem.r 1756

To Stringer Lawrence & Alex.r Wynch Esq.rs

Gentlemen,

Taking into Consideration the Cover which an Enemy might receive from some Buildings Situated too near to the Fortifications of St David we think necessary to direct that you proceed without Loss of time to pull down the Dutch Factory at Tevenepatam, the Tile house which Stands at the Foot of your Glacis and every Building which the Engineer may Judge to be hurtful to the Defences of the Fort

We have acquainted the Governor & Council of Negapatam with our Resolution concerning their Factory and we inclose you our Letter in two Copies one of which you are to forward to Negapatam, the other

Deliv

Fort St. George 29th Novem. 1756.

Deliver to the Dutch Resident to be forwarded by him

In consequence of what we therein

mention, you are to direct the Engineer to take an exact Survey and Plan of the Dutch Factory before you begin to destroy it, and provide in the best manner Possible for their Resident if he chuses to remain in Cuddalore

We desire Colonel Lawrence will

write Letters of Friendship to the Killedars of Ellavanasore & Wolconda and endeavor to preserve them in our Interest. Interest

We are Gentln

Your most Obed.t Servants

George Pigot &.c Committee.

Fort St. George
29th Novem.r 1756

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esq.r Governor President
Henry Powney "
" Robert Orme "
" Robert Palk "
Mr. Percival Indisposed

Thursday
Decem.r the 2.

Letter from Captain Smith a Trichenopoly read advising that Captain Caillaud set out for Madras the 23. November at Noon in consequence of our Orders of the 9th

As our Directions to Capt. Caillaud to return to his Garrison were dispatched the 13th they will probably have met him very early on his Journey.

1020

Fort St George 2. December 1756.

A Paper of Intelligence from Salabat Jungs Camp as Entered No. 315 in the Book of Country Correspondence / Read advising that Mr. Bussy and Mr. Law took their Leave of Salabat Jung the 10th Novemr. and purpos'd to march the next day but whether with the whole or a Part of the Troops was not known.

The Paper mentions further that they told Salabat Jung they were going to visit the Rajah of Vizianagrum & Siccacul Countries and should be back with him in two Months. This however can be only Conjecture and the Committee is inclin'd to believe that this Motion may be making in Consequence of the news of the War with Design either to attack our Northern Settlements, or to make the best of their Way to Pondichery to be in Readiness to enter early upon Action in this Province with united Forces.

Should the former be their Intention any Efforts to relieve those Settlements against so large a Body of the Enemy would be vain; as well as too late, All that can be endeavord at is to Save the Company's Effects, to which Purpose it is Agreed to dispatch Orders to the Chiefs of Vizagapatam, Ingeram, & Bandermalanka to keep Vessels in Readiness at the mouths of their respective Rivers and upon the first News of an Enemy marching towards them to embark their Bales and other Valuable Effects and Send them hither.

Resolved also to write to Admiral Watson Colonel Clive and the Committee at Bengal to acquaint them of this Motion of the Enemy which we are of Opinion renders it necessary to hasten their Return

4

of as many Troops as possible to this Coast, as the chief Strength of the Enemy will doubtless be exerted here.

The Tents made up last year being rendered for the most Part useless by the heavy Rains they were exposed to, Ordered that new Tents be made up for four hundred men and that the Officers in the Company's Service provide themselves with Tents as is universally practised in his Majesty's Service

Letter from the Nabob read as entered in the Country Correspondence No. 343 containing further Intelligence of the Levies of Troops making by the Killedar of Chellepet — The Intention of this Killedar is yet a Mystery but as all our Garrisons are sufficiently provided against any Attempts that he can make we think it unnecessary to take any further Measures until he shall appear to have Designs prejudicial to the Nabob's or Company's Interest

Geo. Pigot
Henry Vansittart
Robert Orme
Rob. Palk

102

Fort St George 2 Decemr 1756.

Pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions sent the following Letters to Admiral Watson, the Bengal Committee, Colonel Clive, and to the Chiefs of Vizagapatam, Ingeram & Bandermalanka

To Charles Watson Esqr

Vice Admiral of the Blue & Commander in Chief of his Majestys Squadron in India

Sir

We dispatched on the 16th November a Duplicate of the Letter we had the honor to write you the 13th and now inclose a Triplicate Copy

We have lately receiving Advice that Mr Busby and Mr Law took their Leave of Salabat Jung the 10th Novemr and that they were to march the next day Whether the whole of their Troops were to move or only a part we have not learnt, or what is their Destination, but we think it very likely a large part of them are recalled and as such an Additional Force would render their Numbers far Superior to ours we now enforce to Colonel Clive our Directions to return immediately and bring as many men with him as Possible.

We have yet received no Advices from Anjengo of the Arrival of the Swinby Gen Ship

We have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient

humble Servants.

Fort St George
2d Decemr 1756

George Pigot &c Committee

To the Honble Roger Drake Esqr
President & Governor & the rest of the Gentlemen of the
Committee at Bengal

Gentlemen

1023

Fort St. George 2. Decem.r 1756

Gentlemen,

We wrote you under date the 13.th Nov.r dispatching a Duplicate the 16.th and now inclose a Tripplicate.

By the Intelligence we have since receivd from Golconda we have reason to believe that the French Troops which were joind to Salabat Jung are before this on their way to Pondichery where Reinforcements are also expected from the Islands. The Posession of all the English Establishments in India will most certainly depend on the Success of the Opposition that can be made against this collected Force of the Enemy. We doubt not therefore but you will do every thing in your Power to hasten Colonel Clives Return and make up his Command as large as Possible detaining no more of the men Sent you from Bombay & from hence than are absolutely necessary for the Defence of Calcutta, that the great Force of the French will undoubtedly be exerted on this Coast, if we are not enabled to oppose them by a Reinforcement of all the Troops lately sent to you, any fatal Events that may happen will be attributed to the want of those Troops We therefore think it our Duty to represent this to you in the Strongest Light.

We are Gentlemen

Your most Obed.t Humble Servants.

George Pigot &.c Committee.

Fort St. George
2.d Decem.r 1756.

To Robert Clive Esq.r

Sir

Incloses Tripplicate of our Letter of the 13.th Novem.r which has already been dispatching in two Copies

We have since receiving News that

Fort St George 2 December 1756.

Mr Bussy and Mr Law took their leave of Salabat Jung the 10th Novbr and were to march it is said the next day whether with the whole or a Part of the Troops, or to what Place, is not mentioned, but we think it most probable their Destination is for Pondichery there to Join the Troops expected from the Islands and make up a formidable Force for Action in this Province. It becomes therefore more necessary for you to hasten your Return and to bring as many Troops as possible with you both of the Madras & Bombay Detachments. We must drop for the Present all Schemes of Action in Bengal and bend our whole Force and Attention against the collected Strength of the Enemy on this Coast.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants.

George Pigot &c Committee

Fort St George
2 Decemr 1756.

To Mr John Lewen Smith
Provisional chief at Vizagapatam
Sir

We have receivd Intelligence of the 16th Novr that the French Troops under Mr Bussy were about to move. We are unacquainted what Rout they may take but it is not improbable they may have Designs against our Northern Settlements. We therefore think it necessary to direct that you keep as many Vessels as are necessary en compleat Readiness at the mouth of the River, that upon the first news of Troops moving towards You, You may embark your Bales and other Valuable Effects and Send them hither.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants.

George Pigot &c Committee

Fort St George
2d Decemr 1756.

The same
To Jos Wescott Esq Resident at Ingeram
& To Mr John Andrews Resident at Bandermatam

At

Fort St George 2 Decem.r 1756.

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esq.r Governor President
Henry Powney " Robert Orme "
" Robert Palk "

Monday the 6th Decem.r

Mr Perceval indisposd

The following Letters from Colonel Lawrence & Mr Wynch Read

To the Honble George Pigot Esq.r
& the Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Fort St George

Gentlemen,

This morning we were favord with your Letter of the 27th

We are concernd it is not in your Power to Spare this Garrison any of the Iron Boilers as in Case of a Siege we shall feel the want of them greatly.

On Colonel Lawrences Arrival, we Looked over the calculate of Provisions which was sent us by on Many Last, & finding the greatest part of them necessary, Mr Wynch laid it before the Council of this Place, & they are Ordered to be purchasd by the Gentlemen According to the different Employs, & Assistants Appointed them to take care & see them deliverd out, when there may be occasion to make use of them

The Hospital at Cuddalore being much out of Repair, & two Squares of Stabling at Tevenepatan on a Survey being found to be as much properer Place (Thus, & its being under the Fort Guns, so that on any Emergency the men can be drawn in, & induces us to Direct

1756

Fort St George 6th Decem, 1756

desire the Engineer to begin and put it in proper Order, as also to demolish the Houses and Level the Ground, between the Fort & the Dutch Factory. We Judging these Steps very necessary to be put directly in Execution, We took the Liberty of Ordering them without waiting for your Orders.

The Difference between the Returns of this Month and last is five men, one Deserter being recovd from Pondichery and 4 Coffreys entertaind.

Every thing is regulating on the best manner for the Defense of this Place, and we hope it will be found properly so in case the Enemy shou'd pay us a Visit.

We are Gentlemen

Your Faithfull & most
Obedient Servants.

Fort St David
30th Novemr 1756

Stringer Lawrence & Alexr Wynch

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr
& the Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Fort St George

Gentlemen,

We have recd your Favor of the 29th Ulto
one of the Letters for the Governor & Council of Negapatam we
Sealed & directly forwarded thether, the other we send by Mr Call
Dutch Chief and to acquaint him therewith, and that he shou'd
begin to morrow upon taking the Plan, and directly after
upon pulling the Factory down, who acquainted him that
he would forward the Letter, but that he could not move with-
out Orders from his Superiors, without a beginning was
made, in which case he shou'd protest, we shall provide
a Proper Lodging for him in Cuddalore, shou'd he chuse to

Tomorrow

remain in these Bounds, All the other Houses which may be of any Detriment to the Fort we shall direct to be levelled, But Colonel Lawrence is of Opinion that the Stabling which are now repairing for the Hospital may stand, as the walls are very thin, & by being built only with Clay, that it may easily be destroy'd even with the Guns from the Fort.

Colonel Lawrence will agreable to your Orders write to the Shelledars of Ulavanasore & Walconda & will endeavor to Cultivate a good Understanding with them & every other Person that can be of use to us.

The note for Private Intelligence of the last month is less than the Preceeding, we do not think proper to send it you as it will Shew the Situation of the different People, and make them liable to be Seized. A few more have lately been taken in as we think it necessary to make their Circuit a little larger.

Cartridge Paper both for Great Guns and Small Arms we must desire you will Supply us with, as also a little Spirits of Wine.

We are most Respectfully

Gentlemen Your most Faithful & most Obedient Servants

Fort St David 2d Decemr 1756

Stringer Lawrence & Mex. Wynch

Ordered that the Cartridge Paper & Spirits of Wine Messrs Lawrence & Wynch write for, be sent by the first Conveyance to Fort St David, and for the better Securing the Provisions they are laying up for the use of that Garrison from Waste and Damage it is Agreed to

Fort St George 6th Decemr 1756.

to direct them & cause a monthly Survey of it to be made and the State of it (to be reported) so that any part of it that may appear to be taking Damage may be Soldered off in time. The Committee approves of their Removing the Hospital from Cuddalore and of their leveling the Ground between the Fort and Tevenapatam

Letter from Mr James Bourchier Chief at Devecotta read as follows

To The Honble George Pigot Esqr

President & Governor &c Committee of Fort St George

Honble Sirs & Sirs,

I have the Pleasure to acknowledge the Receipt of your Favor of the 15th Instt and to enclose for your Inspection the Plan I mention'd in my Letter of the 9th Sept.r the References thereto annexed will more perfectly explain to your Honor &c what part of the Works are already finished also what yet to be done, with the Alterations that will be occasion'd by the discovery of the Ditch that I can possibly express by Letter, wherefore I shall be glad of your Directions as Speedily as Possible how far you purpose they shall be carried into execution, that I may have time to collect a Sufficiency of Artificers & Materials, Its impossible to Judge the number of the one, or Quantity of the other that will be necessary, till I am favor'd with your Determinations relative thereto.

I must also observe to your Honor &c that there is an absolute necessity to build a Small Bridge over a Gut between the Fort & the Colleroon, leading to the Pass from Porto nova, as in case of attack we should be under a necessity of transporting Cannon to defend it which will be impracticable without a Bridge is erected, and

as the buildding it with wood will render it a continual expence to the Company by being frequently in ward of Repair, & think tho the first may cost a trifle more, if composed of Peers of Brick edged with Stone, in the end will be a Saving to the Company, if it meets your Approval I Shall be glad of your Orders to set about it, there will be another wanting to Coillady, the estimate of the two, Mr. Hume informs me, will amount to 140 or 150 Pagodas.

The inclos'd Paper will at one view Shew your Honor &c.a the State of our Garrison, the number of effective men and what more will be necessary for its defence with an Indent for such Articles as are wanted for the daily use of the Settlement, I fancy on a Strict examination of it, you will find nothing Superfluous inserted, wherefore I flatter myself your Honor &c.a will readily comply with it. The Reinforcement of Seapoys are so immediately necessary for the Security of the Place, that I am perswaded there can hardly be an objection made to it; In former times of troubles there were always five or Six Companies quartered here, wherefore I look upon it as my Duty to apprise you, that the want of them in case of emergency may render me incapable of making the Defence I sincerely would wish to do, So I leave it to your Honor &c.a consideration how requisite the Assistance of this Body of men, may be in the preservation of this Garrison.

In a Letter of the 29.th July when I first took charge of this Settlement, I mentiond to your Honor &c.a the distress we were in for Gun Carriages, and Requested if Possible that you would Supply me with proper Timbers for that Purpose, & that if it met with your Approbation, I could have them made here during the

Monsoon

1080

Fort St George 6th Decemr 1756.

Monsoon, but was not favord with a Reply. I have since been Searching the Woods here for Trees that might answer the same end, and have Succeeded to my wish, I have pitchd on a particular wood which Mr Hume has expos'd to the weather, prov'd by fire, and on Short boyld every method to be convinced of its quality; it neither warps, or Splits, and will in every respect do as well as Teak for that Service and on a Calculation of the expence of a Carriage for a twelve Pounder, find it will amount only to twelve Pagodas the Carriage Compleat, and in like Proportion to the Size of every Cannon we have. If your Honor &c consent to the making them here, I shall be able to furnish the number we have occasion for by the Latter end of February.

I shall be glad of your Directions whether you purpose any kind of Provision shall be laid in Store besides Paddy.

I can't help observing to your Honor &c that the Supply of Stationary I receivd last from Madras is so very Scanty that it will not be near sufficient for the daily expences of the Settlement, I must therefore request you will please to grant me a further Quantity.

I shall be glad to be informd if War is publickly to be declard on this Garrison, And as French Officers and sometimes men on furlow pass thro Limits whether I may apprehend them as Prisoners of War.

I am with Respect

Honble Sir &c

Your most Obedient humble Servant.

James Bouchier

Devecotah
27th Novemr 1756

The

Fort St George 6th Decemr 1756

The Plan of Devecotah with the works proposd being examind it appears to the Committee that the clearing the Ditch and Strengthening the Rampart will Sufficiently Secure that Fort against a Surprize, and enable it to hold out untill we have made such Efforts for its Relief as Circumstances will admit; and this we Judge to be Sufficient for if the Enemy should be so far superior to us in force as to carry on a Siege and overmatch our Troops in the Field at the same time, the Loss of the Out Garrisons is inevitable, On the other hand if they form the Siege of any Place and have not a covering Army, it will always be in our Power to march to the Relief of the Besieged. Agreed therefore to write Mr Bourchier to get the Rampart and Ditch compleated as fast as possible and do nothing more ——— That we cannot Spare him any Reinforcement of Military & Seapoys ——— That we would not have any Bridge built as all Difficulties of Access will be a hindrance to the Enemy. ——— That he may set about the Gunbarriages and send some of the Wood to Madras as it will be a great Saving to the Company if it answers Description ——— That besides his Provision of Paddy he may lay in some Salt and Salt Fish ——— And that he is not to stop any French Officer or Man that may be Passing quietly thro his Limits without our further Directions on that Subject. We would not begen the War with such trifling Molestations

Ordered that such Part of the Stores indented for by Mr Bourchier as can be Spard be sent to Devecotah by the first Opportunity

The following Letter from Captain Caillaud Read. To

1786

Fort St George 6th Decemr 1786.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr
President & Governor & Gentlemen
of the Committee at Madras.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

This morning about ten miles beyond Wolconda, I was honord with your favor of the 13th Inst. and in consequence of my orders, I am now returning to Trichenopoly & I shall to the utmost & best of my Power observe your directions.

Inclosed is an Indent which I intended having the honor to lay before you on my Arrival & humbly recommend it to your Considerations. Every Article is necessary the Powder and Lead Particularly so.

I remain with great Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt & faithfull Servant
John Caillaud.

Wolconda
the 24th Novemr 1786.

Ordered that such Articles of Captain Caillauds Indent as can be spared be sent by the first conveyance to Devicota and that the Convoy the most Secure Means of transporting them from thence to Trichenopoly.

Letter from the Nabob read as entered in the Country Correspondence No 82 advising that the Inhabitants of several Districts being much alarmed by the Preparations made by the Mulletar of Chittlepat he had thought proper to order his Troops to encamp without the City of Arcot in order to quiet the Apprehensions of the People and he desires that a Party

Fort St George 6th Decemr 1756

Party of Military with a Train of Artillery may be sent to Join them.

The Expence of the Troops under the Command of Ussoff Cawn lying near Madura on occasion of the Disturbances raisd by Mahofez Cawn, is so great that we should be very unwilling to incur a further Charge till that ceases. We have already recommended to the Nabob to make some Provision for Mahofez Cawn as the quickest means of obtaining that End, and having receivd no Answer on the Subject it is Agreed now to represent to him in the most strenuous manner the Necessity of his finding some means to quiet the Madura Troubles so that Ussoff Cawn may come here with his Troops, without which we can neither furnish Men nor Money for the Security of the Arcot Districts.

Geo. Pigot
Henry Lawrell
Robert Orme
Robt. Palk

1754

Fort St George 7th Decemr 1756.

Sent the following Letters to Messrs Lawrence & Wynch, Mr James Bourchier & Captain Caillaud pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions.

To Stringer Lawrence & Alexr Wynch Esqrs

Gentlemen

We have receivd your Letters of the 30th Novemr and 2d Instant. We approve of your removing the Hospital from Cuddalore and of your leveling the Ground between the Fort and Tevenapatam. The sooner you set to work upon the Dutch Factory, the better, you will receive the Protest of the Chief and transmit it to us.

Let your Store of Provisions be kept with great care and a monthly Report made to you of its State so that upon the first Appearance of Damage such Part of it may be sold off and replaced with new. The Cartridge Paper & Spirits of Wine shall be sent you by the first Conveyance.

We are

Gentlemen

Your most Obed Servants

George Pigot &c Committee

Fort St George
7 Decemr 1756.

To Mr James Bourchier
Chief at Devecotah

Sr

We have had under Consideration your Letter of the 27th Novemr directed to the President & Council with the Plan of your Fortifications and the Instant accompanying it

Fort St George 7. Decem. 1756.

accompanying

Let the Rampart be strengthened in the manner propos'd and the Ditch which you have discover'd clear'd all round, without destroying any part as we would not have the Contre Guards begun at this time. The Ditch and Rampart compleated will be Sufficient with Vigilance to secure you against a Surprize which is the Care we must chiefly recommend to you, for as we cannot Spare you any more men either Europeans or Seapoys you must chiefly depend upon the Effort which we shall make to relieve you in case the Enemy should resolve to form the Siege of your Place.

We think it will be better not to build a Bridge over the Ditch which lies between the Fort & Colleroon The Difficulty of geting Cannon over it will be a hindrance to the Enemy, and we see no Occasion for a Bridge towards Cuiladdy.

By the first conveyance that offers we shall Supply you with such Stores as we can Spare but as it will be impossible for us to compleat your Indent we desire you will let us know what Articles you are more particularly in want of. You may set about the Gun Carriages necessary for your Garrison and get them compleated as fast as possible. If the Wood proves equal to your Description it will be very useful here, and we desire you will cause a large Quantity to be cut, Saw up a part of it into Proper Plank for Gun Carriages and dry it in readiness to be sent hither by such Opportunities as you may meet with. When you have finish'd a Gun Carriage transmit us a Particular Account of its Cost.

You may lay in a few days Store

of

1756

Fort St George 7. Decem.r 1756

of Salt fish, and some Salt, Send an Indent for such Stationary as you most want and it shall be complied with.

We have already informd you that the War is not to be declared publickly, nor would we have you stop any French Officer or man that may be passing quietly thro' your Bounds until you have our further Orders on this Subject.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

George Pigot &c. Committee.

Fort St George
7th December 1756.

To Captain John Caillaud

[No 47]

Sir

We have received your letter from Wolconda dated the 24th November with the Indent enclosd. such Articles as we Possibly can spare shall be sent by the first Conveyance to Devecotta and you will take measures with the Chief there for transporting them in the most secure manner to Trichenopoly

We understand that Ismail Saib who commands the Company's Sepoys at Tonnevelly is not so alert in assisting the Renter as he ought to be. It is our Intention that those Troops should be employed on such Services as Moodelle shall think necessary. They are there for that Purpose & none other. We desire you will give Orders accordingly to Hoss Cawn.

We must repeat our former Directions that you use your utmost Endeavors to put an End to the Madura Troubles You may assure

Madura

Fort St. George 7th Decemr 1756

Mahosor Cawn that a proper Provision shall be made for him; We have yet no answer from the Nabob on this subject, inclos'd is Copy of a Letter we now write him.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants.

George Pigot &c. Committee

Fort St. George
7th Decemr 1756.

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esqr Governor President
Henry Powney, Robert Orme,
" Robert Palk,

Thursday the 9th

Mr. Perceval Indisposd

Letters from Messrs. Lawrence & Wynch

Read with Copies of a Letter and a Protest deliverd them by the Dutch Chief at Sevenepatam on the Occasion of the destroying their Factory House.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
& the Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Fort St George

Gentlm

Agreable to what we wrote you last night, We shall begun upon the Survey of the Dutch Factory this day, on which we received a Letter from Mr. Trembley the Chief, Copy of which as also our Answer now waits on you

We

1038

Fort St. George ye 4th Decemr 1756

We are Gentn
Your Faithful & very
Obedient Servants

Fort St David
3. Decemr 1756

Stringer Lawrence & Alex. Wynch

Au Fort St David
A Monsieur le Colonel Lawrence & à Monr Wynch
Deputé Gouverneur

Messieurs

Ce fut avec le plus grand etonnement du monde, que j'ai appris de Mons. l'Ingenieur Catt venu hier au soir, de vôtre part pour me communiquer les ordres que le Commandé de Madras vous a donné, dont il donne connoissance au Conseil de Negapatam par sa lettre du 29me 9bre qu'il trouve bon pour la Surete & la defense du Fort St David de s'emparer de cette Factorie pour la raser, et cela sans attendre la reponse du Conseil de Negapatam. Comme Messrs vos Ingenieurs sont occupés à lever le Plan de la dite Loge pour ensuit commencer à en faire rompre les murailles, permettez moi Messrs de vous representer que cette Precipitation à remplir les ordres de vos Superieurs peut avoir des Suites de grand Consequence, et que cette violence de vouloir passer de la Communication de vos Ordres, a l'Execution seroit à peine reflée envers vos Enemies, j'espere Messrs que vous reflechirez la dessus et que les Alliances qui Subsistent entre nos Puissances Respectifs, vous engageront à ne violer le droit des gens, et vous feront surseoir la démolition des murs,

Jusqu'à

Fort St George 9th Decemr 1756.

Jusqu'à ce que j'aye reçu de mes Superieurs des Negapatam
leurs ordres sans lesquels Je ne puis rien faire, Protestant
d'ailleurs en leur noms si bon plaise autre.

Je vous prie Mesieurs vouloir
m'honnorer d'un mot de Reponse et me croire avec toute
L'estime & la Consideration possible

Mesieurs,

Votre très humble et très
Obeissant Serviteur.

J. B. Trembley

Negnepatam
le 3me 10bre 1756.

To J. B. Trembley Esqr.
Resident for the Netherlands East India Company
at Tevenepatam.

Sr

We are just favord with your letter
of this days Date in answer to which we are only to acquaint
you that we have already Communicated to you our Orders
by which you will perceive we are under a necessity
of putting them immediately in Execution as the safety
of the Place depends upon it. We shall give orders for
Providing a House for you at Cuddalore & proper
Assistance to remove any Effects you may have either
of your Company's or your Own.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient
humble Servants
Stringer Lawrence
Alexr Wynch

Fort St David
3d December 1756

Jo

1624

Fort St George 9th Decemr 1756

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr
President & Governor &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee
at Fort St George

Gentlemen

This day a beginning was made on the Pulling down of the Dutch Factory. On which Mr. Frembley the Chief delivered the Inclos'd Protest to our Ingeneer Mr. Call

We are with Respect
Gentlemen
Your Faithful and very
Obedient Servants
Stringer Lawrence & Alex.r Wynch

Fort St David
4th Decemr 1756

Moy soussigné Jean Jacques Victois Frembley Président
à Negapatam pour la noble Compagnie Privilegiée des
Pays Bas à la Côte de Choromandel

Aux
Seigneurs Stringer Lawrence Colonel & Alex.r Wynch
Député Gouverneurs & Messieurs du Conseil du Fort
St. David

Mayant été communiqué le 2. du ce mois au jour de vôtre
part par Mons.r L'Ingenieur Call, une Lettre ouverte pour
Mons.r le Gouverneur & le Conseil de Negapatamp, ecritte
par le Committé de Guerre de Madras en datte du 29.me
de 9.bre pour leur faire part de la Resolution qu'a pris
le Sanpiarer de cette Loge, appartenant au Comte
Lapradé depuis plusieurs années à la Noble
Compagnie

Fort St. George 9.t Decem.r 1756.

Compagnie d'Hollande pour la detruire, sous pretexte de plus grande surete pour la defense du Fort St. David, en cas d'attaque, sans même vouloir attendre la reponse de mes Superieurs, Messieurs du Conseil de Negapatnam y representant la Noble Compagnie Privilegiée de Pays bas à la Côte de Choromandel sous le Gouvernement de la Haute Regence de Batavia.

Je ne puis croire Messieurs de vôtre Equité et Justice que vous voulussiez malgré mes Remonstrances faire quelques choses au Prejudice et Droit de neutres et traitter en Ennemie une Nation amiée et alliée; Mais l'entreprize hardie d'envahir par la force une Possession bien reconnue de toutes les Puissances, et la violence que l'on vient d'user par votre ordre dont il n'y a aucune exemple dans L'Histoire en faisant rompre le mur de cette loge contre tous droits, et coutume usitée entre Puissances qui sont en paix m'oblige de protester de cet attentat fait à la Souveraineté indisputable de la noble Compagnie sur ce Terrein. cette Injustice criante est une Infraction à la Foy des divers Traittés existant entre sa Majesté le Roi de Grande Bretagne et leur Haute Puissance Messeigneurs les Etats Generaux; le Tort considerable que la noble Compagnie recevra par la demolition de sa loge, me force de protester en son nom, envers et contre tous, comme Je le fais par la presente, pour le Maintien de ses droits, et Privileges de tous depens, Dommages et Interêts, reservant en outre les Protestes qui pourroient suivre, ne voulant pas etre responsable pour le moindre inconvenient qui pourroient Resulter de cette mauvaise usurpation

de cette

Fort St. George 4th Decemr. 1756.

laquelle pourt avoir des Suittes facheuses, comme etant contraire aux Alliances cy mentionnées. Fait dans la loge de Ingenopalam ce quatrieme Decembre Mille Sept cent cinquante Six

Signé I. B. Frembley

Leu et Delivré le present Protest le Pavillon arborré à Mons. L'Ingenieur Call en Presence de Temoins Soussignés ce jourd'hui à midi Ce quatrieme Decembre Mille Sept cent Cinquante Six

{Johan Zach Kiernander
{Jean Antoine Frembley

Mr. Wynch in a Private Letter to the President mentioning the Want of one hundred Seapoys Orders that they be sent from hence overland without Arms.

Letter from the Nabob read as Entered No. 352 in the Country Correspondence containing his further Intelligence from Chellepet & accompanied with the Copy of a Letter addressed to him by the Killedar of Polour, expressing his Apprehensions of being attacked by the Chellepet Forces

——— Letter from Serjeant Wilcox commanding the Party of fifteen men which we sent long ago to Chellepet to assist the Killedar in the defence of that Place, advising that the Killedar having prepared his Forces to march against Polour, desired him the Serjeant, to go also with the English Troops, but he refused to do it without Orders from hence

——— A 2nd Letter from Captain Preston Commanding at Arcot containing the same Intelligence of the Designs of the Killedar of Chellepet

Polour

Fort St George 9th Decemr 1750.

Polour has been always Tributary to the Nabob and is therefore entitled to our Protection. The Fort is besides so Situated as to command the Communication between Arcot and Trichenopoly which renders it materially necessary to prevent its falling into the hands of the Killedar of Chitteput who acts without Doubt at the Instigation of the French.

Agreed therefore to direct Captain Preston, in case he should have reason to think the Fort of Polour in any Danger, to take the Securest Method of throwing in a few men for its defence.

Agreed also to represent to the Killedar of Chetteput the ill Consequences which his present Conduct will bring on him, and to write to the Killedar of Polour a Letter encouraging him to defend his Fort bravely, and assuring him of Relief.

As the Killedar of Chettepet upon the Knowledge of our taking part against him might revenge himself upon the small Party posted in his Fort the President is desired to send Private Orders to Serjeant Wilcox to take the first secure Opportunity of coming away with all his men to Arcot or Changleput.

A Paper of Intelligence from Salabat Jung's Camp dated 19th Novemr entered in the Country Correspondence No. 350 gives this further advice of the Motions of the French Troops. That Mr Bussy and Mr Law marched the 16th Novemr with the whole Body except 100 Men and a large Baggage and Train and were advanced on the 19th twenty miles from Hyderabad towards the Dia Coast.

The 6th Instant Received the following

1744

Fort St George 8th December 1756.

following Letter from the President & Council of Bengal
To the Honble George Pigot Esqr President & Governor
& Council of Fort St George

Honble Sir, & Sirs,

The accompanying Duplicate
under date the 7th Ultimo was intended to be forwarded by the
Ship Jame, but that Ship not proceeding or any other Sea
Conveyance bound now to the Choromandel Coast. We
forward the same by Pattamar and are not a little concern'd
that to this date we have not been favoured with any advices
from your Honour &c &c Our Situation becomes very irksome
and since our last the Sickness has continued among our
Military who are daily dying; The Moors likewise being
convinced that the Season is too far advanced for our Proceeding
out of the River (which we before endeavored to make them
believe was our Intention) have begun again to hinder us
in the Procurement of Fresh Provisions, which continues
will greatly add to our Present bad Situation

We are with great Respect

Honble Sir, & Sirs

Your most Obed.t humble Servants

Fulta
13 Oct.r 1756

Roger Drake Junr.
James Killpatrick
Paul Richard Pearkes
P. Amyatt

William Watts
Richard Becher
A. Collet

Private advices mention that his
Majestys Sloop Kings Fisher which sails from hence

1745

Fort St George 9th Decemr 1756.

the 22d September passd by Balasore the 20th October

Ordered that Pattamars be dispatchd with Duplicates of our Letters dated 2. Instant to Admiral Watson, the Committee at Bengal, Colonel Clive and the Northern Settlements, and to acquaint them with the further Intelligence we have receivd as beforementiond, of the Motions of the French Troops from Golconda &c.

Letter from Mr James Bouchier

Chief at Devecotah read as follows.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr
&ca
&c Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Honble Sir, & Sirs,

I have been honord with your Letter of the 27th Ultimo. I shall Strictly observe your directions regarding the Monthly Returns.

I have Intelligence that a Party of French who were posted at Portonovo, consisting of an Officer, 30 Europeans, 10 Topasses, & 50 Seapoys are marched to Chellumbrum — They have also sent a Captain there; It was formerly a Subalterns Command.

I am with Respect Honble Sir, & Sirs,
Your most Obedt Humble Servant
James Bouchier

Devecotah
3d Decemr 1756.

Other Papers of Intelligence receivd from Fort St David confirm what Mr Bouchier mentions of the Reinforcements sent by the French to Chellumbrum

1046

Fort St George 8th Decemr 1756.

and further advice of the Motions of two or three small Parties from Pondicherry to Villenour and from thence to Chinglep close to which Place they have formd a Small Camp.

Letter from Captain Polier read containing the names of four or five Villages Situated between Changleput and Outramalour which he Judges to be the most convenient Posts for Seapoys to guard the Frontiers of our Possessions and reinforce on Occasion the Forts of Carangoly and Changleput ——— As Ensign Bannatyne marchd four or five days ago with two Companies of Seapoys for Carangoly as well to guard the Fort and Frontiers, as to collect what he may be able to collect from the Contested Districts, it is Agreed only to write Captain Polier to assist him to the utmost of his Power in Case of Necessity

Geo Pigot

Henry Lawes

Robt Orme

Robt Palk

Fort St. George 10th Decemr 1756

Sent the following Letter to Messrs Lawrence & Wynch

To Stringer Lawrence
& Alexander Wynch Esqrs

Gentlemen

We have receivd your Letters dated the
3. and 4th Instant, the first inclosing a Letter, the second a Protest
from the Dutch Chief.

Agreable to what is mentiond in
Mr Wynch's Letter to the President we shall send a hundred
Seapoys overland without Arms.

Bangapuntaloo may be secured
in such manner as you shall judge necessary

I Weare Gentn Your most Obedient Servants.

George Pigot &c. Committee

Fort St George
10th Decemr 1756

11th Sent the following Letters to Admiral Watson, the Select
Committee at Bengal and Colonel Clive pursuant to the
Resolutions of last Committee

To Charles Watson Esqr
Vice Admiral of the Blue
& Commander in Chief of his Majestys Squadron in India

Sir

Inclos'd is Duplicate of the Letter we
had the honor to write you the 2. Instant. By the Intelligence
we have since receivd from Golconda we learn that the
whole

1848

Fort St. George 11th Decemr 1756.

whole of the French Force except 100 men marching with Mrs Bussy and Mr Law the 16th November and on the 19th were advanced about twenty miles from Hyderabad towards the Sea Coast. By this account we compute the Number of Men with them must be about one thousand.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient humble Servants

George Pigot &c Committee

Fort St George
11th Decemr 1756

To the Honble Roger Drake Esqr
& the rest of the Gentlemen of the Committee at Bengal

Gentlemen

The Letter from Mr Drake and the Council of Bengal directed to the President and Council of Madras dated the 13th October reached us the 6th Instant. It is with concern we observe the Difficulties you were still exposed to. We hope the arrival of the Kings fisher Sloop shortly after proved some Comfort to you, and that Admiral Watson had a quick Passage with the rest of the Squadron and the Company's Ships

Inclosed is Duplicate of our Letter of the 2 Instant. We hear since that Mr Bussy & Mr Law marching the 16th Novemr with their whole force except one hundred & men left with Salabat Jung. We therefore judge the party in motion to be about one thousand men, and they were advanced twenty Miles from Hyderabad towards the Sea Coast on the 19th Novemr It is needless for us to enforce what we had the honor to write you on this Subject We are Gentlemen

Your most Obed: humble Servants.

George Pigot &c Committee

Fort St George
11th Decemr 1756

To

Fort St George 11th Decemr 1756.

To Robert Clive Esqr

Sir

Since the Dispatch of our Letter of the 2d Instant, of which herewith is a Duplicate, we have received further Advice that Mr Bussy and Mr Law marchd with the whole Body of French except one hundred men left with Salabat Jung

They marchd from Hyderabad the 16th November and on the 19th were advanced about twenty Miles towards the Seacoast We compute their Number to be about one Thousand

We are Sir

Your most Obedt humble Servants

Fort St George
11th Decemr 1756

George Pigot &c Committee

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esq Governor President

Henry Fonnereau Robert Orme Esq

Robert Palk Esq

Monday the 13th

Mr Percival indisposd

The President acquaints the Committee that a Vakeel arriving from the Nabobs Encampment with two Letters relating to the Destination of the Troops he has

Committee

Lately

Fort St. George 13th December 1756.

lately levied. He [the President] thought proper to detain the Letter wrote him in Consequence of the Resolutions of last Committee, untill the Contents of the Letters received from him could be considered.

The Letters from the Killedar of Chellepat being accordingly read, as Letter N° 351 & 355 in the Country Correspondence, Containing assurances of his former Alliance to the Company and of his Readiness to employ all his Troops in whatever Service we may recommend, that for the Present his Design is to take Possession of the Fort of Tolour, the Killedary or Command of which is granted to his Uncle by the Great Mogul, and lastly he desires our Assistance of 50 Men and sundry Military Stores as per list annexed to this Letter.

Although it appears by the purport of the foregoing Letters that the Killedar of Chellepat is not apprehended under any Engagements with the French yet we think it would be better to prevent if possible his proceeding to get on any Enterprize, because the return of his Troops would probably give immediate Occasion to the Opening the War which we had rather should be deferd untill our Forces return from Bengal as well on account of the Smallness of our present Numbers, as in order that the Expence may not so soon be enterd upon. Agreed therefore to recommend to the Killedar of Chellepat not to send his Troops abroad untill ours are ready to Join him, that our Men will arrive from Bengal very shortly and then we shall take the Field with

of

Chellepat

Fort St. George 13th Decemr 1756.

Collected Force; in the mean time, that he had better keep
his Troops in his own Districts for their Security against
the designs of the Enemy, otherwise he may be in danger of a
Sudden Attack from the French Troops which are assembled
near Chingee

The Papers of Intelligence transmitted
from Fort St. David mention that the Number of Men at
Pondicherry on the 7th Instant was six hundred & eighty Euro-
ans and Topasses, and the Number at Chellumbrum
on the 9th Instant fifty Soldiers and three hundred Seapoys.
That on the 9th Instant one hundred Soldiers were sent from
Pondicherry to Villenour and two hundred to Syringam.

A Letter from Captain Caillaud read as
follows

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr
President & Governor &ca Gentlemen
of the Committee at Madras (No. 13)

Honble Sir & Sirs

You will permit me to lay before you
what I have done in Consequence of your orders, towards bring-
the Affairs of Madura to a Conclusion. As to what I intended
having the Honor of Offering to your Consideration at Madr
I must beg your Honor &ca Patience, until I can have more
time, and Leisure from my now other necessary attentions
to put them in a proper form, fit to be presented. Perhaps

1756

Fort St. George 13th Decemr 1756.

it will not either be necessary, Nor the measures which are now pursued, effectual to take the Town we wish.

To make a last effort with Mahafez Cawn and to know for certain what we can trust to from him I have sent Lieutenant Rumbold to him. A Copy of whose Instructions, I have the honor to lay before you the clearest, I cou'd make out and on which I hope you will think I have acquired nothing, but have given any Opportunity of finding out Mahafez Cawns Intentions As to the Conduct I have employ'd, I am sure he has Capacity, & talents besides his knowledge in the Country Language, must be of great Service, and I dare flatter myself the manner in which he will behave, in the course of the Affair will meet with your Approbation. He will there find also to assist him the Dabash Narrain whom on my setting out for Madras I had sent Him a Copy of whose Instructions I now also inclose. I sent him on purpose as a trusty Person, whom I cou'd confide in. That I was certain would assist him to bring the Affair to a Conclusion, if Mahafez Cawn was what he pretended to be. For I cannot help thinking I was little assisted before in my designs, but the trouble under hand kept up by those people who should have helped me most to settle them, when they had repeated advices so to do, as I persuaded on acquainting them it was your Intentions &

Desires.

Not to be a Dupe to Mahafez Cawns Promises, I had given orders to Major Cawn if he found that Mahafez Cawns Troops (instead of intervening as

Instructed

Fort St. George 13th Decemr 1756

promisd and after time was given them for so doing) were joind with Polligars & committing hostilities in the Tinnevelly Country, I had given him orders to march, joind with Moodilly and his Troops to defend the Country. The Night before my departure for Madras he acquainted me that he was obligd to march for that Purpose. For that Mahofor Cawns Troops with Calabo-minaigue, and the Travencore people on their side, were advancing, and putting up the Tornams in all the villages. I answerd his Letter, and told him I approvd of his march, & desird he would proceed against all those he found in the Tinnevelly Country in arms against the Honble Company as Enemys. On my return here three or four Letters from Moodilly confirmd the above accounts, but indeed in such a Stile, as plainly shewd they were much more afraid than hurt, However Mahofor Cawns march on the one side, Mr. Rumbold & Nazrain on the other at Madura, will I hope help much to conclude the affair, For it is possible that Mahofor Cawn might send orders to his Troops and that they would not immediately return, untill they were satisfied that there was some money ready for them on their arrival, When therefore they hear People are come there for that purpose, and possd on the other side with the apprehension of meeting with Mahofor Cawns, and his Army, I have great hopes they will return, and once they do so with Madura in our possession, & Mahofor Cawn here the Polligars will certainly be quiet

I was oblig'd to supply Mahofor Cawn

with Money for his Expences. The method I took was to make Bunkangee advance the money for which I have given him

bills

1756

Fort St. George 13th Decemr 1756.

it will not either be necessary, Nor the measures which are now pursued, effectual to take the Town we wish.

To make a last effort with Mahafoz Cawn and to know for certain what we can trust to from him. I have sent Lieutenant Rumbold to him. A Copy of whose Instructions, I have the honor to lay before you the clearest I could make out and on which I hope you will think I have misgured nothing, but have given any Opportunity of finding out Mahafoz Cawns Intentions. As to the Gentle I have employd, I am sure he has Capacity, & talents besides his knowledge in the Country Language, must be of great Service, and I dare flatter myself the manner in which he will behave, in the course of the Affair will meet with your Approbation. He will have Jemadars to assist him the Dubash Narrain whom on my setting out for Madura I had sent three Copy of whose Instructions I now also inclose. I sent him on purpose as a trusty Person whom I could confide in: that I was certain would assist him to bring the Affair to a Conclusion, if Mahafoz Cawn was what he professended to be. For I cannot help thinking I was little assisted before in any designs, but the trouble under hand kept up by those people who should have helped most to settle them, when they had repeated advices so to do, as I presumed on acquainting them it was your Intentions & Orders.

Not to be a Dupe to Mahafoz Cawns Promises, I had given orders to Hooly Cawn if he found that Mahafoz Cawn kept [illegible] of following us

Fort St. George 13th Decemr 1756

promisd and after time was given them for so doing) were joind with Polligars, & committing hostilities in the Tinnavelly Country, I had given him orders to march, joind with Moodilly and his Troops to defend the Country. The Night before my departure for Madras he acquainted me that he was obligd to march for that Purpose, For that Mahofez Cawns Troops with Kalabominaigue, and the Travencore people on their sides, were advancing, and putting up the Tornams in all the villages. I answerd his Letter, and told him I approvd of his march, and desird he would proceed against all those he found in the Tinnevelly Country in Arms against the Honble Company as Enemys. On my return here three or four Letters from Moodilly confirmd the above account, but indeed in such a Stile, as plainly shewd they were much more affraid than hurt, However Mahofez Cawns march on the one side, Mr. Rumbold & Narrain on the other at Madura, will I hope help much to conclude the affair, For it is possible that Mahofez Cawn might send orders to his Troops, and that they would not immediately return, untill they were satisfied, that there was some money ready for them on their arrival, When therefore they hear People are come there for that purpose, and possd on the other side with the apprehension of meeting with Mahofez Cawns, and his Army, I have great hopes they will return, and once they do so with Madura in our Possession, & Mahofez Cawn here the Polligars will certainly be quiet

I was obligd to supply Mahofez Cawn with Money for his Expences. The method I took was to make Buckangee advance the money for which I have given him bills

165 1/2

Fort St. George 13th Decemr 1756.

bills on Tetrapah Moodelle. I have some doubts whether he will answer them, If not I have promised to give a Draft to Buckunjee on Madras for the sum, which is one Lack & 20000 Rupees.

If the Madura affair is settled, there will also be two Lacks wanting for that, and if I have some reason, to doubt that Moodelle will not answer the other bill I can have little hopes he will, what still more may be wanted, It gives me great uneasiness indeed, tho' I have your orders to draw on you for that sum, that it cannot I fear be managed otherwise, however you will see Mr. Rumbold has directions to try for it

I must beg leave to know that if after all our endeavors, Mahofoz Cawn is found really to be only amusing of us, and intending to keep up the troubles in that Country, How far the order for Hoss Cawns return remains in force.

My Garrison with that of Syringam as to Europeans is nearly on an equality, as to Seapoys I out number them: But if I may credit my Intelligence they have contracted for 800 more of the latter at Tonjour, as also the same number, and a reinforcement of Europeans required from Pondichery. If this be true, this the Security of the Fort is not in the least endangered by an superiority, yet the Country round, a scarcity of wood, & Provisions may be the Consequence of it.

The Tonjore Troops are ready

to

Fort St. George 13th Decemr 1756

to march against Tondiman; But as you were pleasd to direct I have not taken any notice of it. My Vackeel wrote me the other day at Monagee's desire, and have only answerd the Letter in general terms.

I beg you will be pleasd to excuse for a few days my Returns and accounts, as I have been so much employed of late that I could not spare time to make them out.

I remain with great Respect

Honble Sir, Gentn

Your most Obedient & most faithful Servant.

John Caillaud.

Trichenopoly
2d Decemr 1756

The Committee approves of Capt. Caillaud's Deputing Mr. Rumbold with Instructions of putting an End to the Troubles in Madura and Tinnevelly which will be attended at least with the Advantage of procuring us a Knowledge of Mahfoz Cawn's real Intentions; Until we are acquainted with the Success of this Step we can give no further Directions on the Subject

Mahfz Cawn during the Course of his Command in the Tinnevelly Country, having rendered himself disagreable, not only to Mahfoz Cawn but also to Moodilly and to all the Polligars the Committee are of Opinion that the Differences which are on foot cannot

Polygars.

Fort St. George 13th December 1756.

cannot be so easily reconcil'd by his management as they might be by another Commander, and further as Mr Coxe's Military Capacity will be of great Service here when the Troops take the Field it is Resolved to recal him to Madras with his own Company of Seapoys, and that the rest of the Seapoys in the Madura and Tinnevelly Countries be left under the Command of Lieutenant Rumbold if Captain Caillaud judges him capable of managing that Trust Agreed Therefore that those Orders to Mr Coxe be transmitted under cover to Captain Caillaud for him to forward, if he thinks proper with the necessary Instructions to Mr Rumbold.

Letter from Ensign Bannatyne at Carangoly read advising of the Plan he has laid for collecting as much as possible of the Revenues of the Contested Districts which is approved.

Letter from Captain Polier Command-ing at Changleput read, representing that a small addition to the present Number of his Seapoys is necessary for the Service of that Garrison

The Number of Seapoys now remaining here being about two thousands, of which one thousand are furnish'd with good Arms Agreed That

2 Companies be sent to Changleput
2 To Arcot
2 To Coryeveram
2 To Carangoly

8 Companys well arrouted to about one thousand Seapoys

who

Fort St. George 13th Decemr 1756.

who being thus posted will guard the Frontiers of our Posessions and may also on occasion be recalled to Madras at a very short Warning

Letters from the Secretary Renter and Tasealdar read, as entered in the Country Correspondence No 356 & 357 accompanying a Bill on Govind Seevaddy for five thousand (5000) Pagodas due the 6th January next and said to be in full Payment of the first or September Kist of the present year of Dhasely 1166

Ordered that Report be made to the President & Council of the Receipt of the said Bill, that they may give Directions concerning it

Ordered also that the account Current of the said Kist be laid before the Committee to be examined.

George Pigot

Henry Berney

Robert Orme

Rob Palk

1850

Fort St. George 14th Decemr 1756.

Sent the following Letter to Captain Caillaud pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

To Captain John Caillaud (No. 18.)

Sir

We have before us your Letter dated the 2. Instant We approve entirely of your sending Mr. Rumbold with your Instructions for putting an End to the Troubles in Madura and Tinnevelly. If all his Endeavors for that purpose should fail his Journey will at least have this good Effect that we shall arrive at a Knowledge of Mahfoz Cawn's real Intentions and be able to form a final Resolution upon the Measures most proper to be taken. Untill we are acquainted with the Result of Mr. Rumbold's Enquiries and Endeavors we can give you no fresh Directions on this Subject. We send you a Letter to Moodillee pressing him to furnish all the money that may be wanted, which we hope will have a good Effect as it would concern us much to be obligd to advance from the Company's Treasury.

As Mahfoz Cawn seems to be disagreable to the Renters as well as to the Polygars and Mahfoz Cawn we think it would better he was come away and Lieut. Rumbold to take the whole Command if you who are best acquainted with his Talents think him fit for it.

We inclose therefore for Mahfoz Cawn's directing him to march to Madras with his own Company

leaving

Fort St. George 14th Decemr 1756.

leaving the Command to Mr Rumbold; If you judge Mr Rumbold capable of managing all the Affairs which will then depend on him, subject however always to your Directions, you will forward the Letter to Usoff Cawn with proper Instructions to Mr Rumbold; to whom you will take care to transmit at the same time a Copy of the Book of Military Regulations for his Guidance in the Pay and Batta Lists Send also a Translation of those Regulations to Moodille advising him to observe it in the Payment of the Seapoys that remain with him

We hear from Pondichery that a Party of two hundred men marched from thence for Syringam the 9th Instant.

We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants

George Pigot
&c. Committee

Fort St George
14th Decemr 1756.

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esqr Governor President
Henry Powney, Robert Orme,
———, Robert Palk,
Mr Percival indisposed

Thursday
the 16th Decemr

The following Letter from Brijeslaun Caitlano read with Copies of two Letters wrote him by Mr Rumbold from Madura and his Answers

To

1080

Fort St. George 16th Decemr 1756.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr
President & Governor &ca Gentlemen
of the Committee at Madras.

/No 14/

Honble Sir & Sirs

Since my last of the 2d Instant No 13
I have been honord with two Letters No 15 & 16 of the same dates
both the 27th November.

In that last Letter of mine I had
the honor to lay before you all that had been done, in regard to
the affairs of Madura, Since which time I have receivd two
Letters from Mr Rumbold that I now transmit, and my
answer.

I receivd a Letter last night from
Hoff Cawn who informs me he had an encounter with the
Enemy, a Slight Affair, but on which they had retird & I
dare say he will make use of the advantage, and keep close
to them, until he drives them out of the Country. I have
answerd his Letter & most earnestly recommended it to him
finishing of the business, and to proceed with all expedition
on his return. I have also wrote to the Moodelliers, desiring
him to inform me, if with the Troops which he will require
to be left by Hoff Cawn he can now pretend to manage
the Country himself, for I am pretty well convinced that if
it is left to the others discretion to come away, when the
troubles are at an end, they may not be finishd for there
many more like the Country is so happily disposd for ap
Powerful Turn, who has rather the art of making disturbance
than quieting of them. Believe me, Gentlemen, I do not
speak

Fort St. George 16th Decemr. 1756.

Speaks this out of disrespect against the man whom you have thought proper to employ, I am convinced he is a faithful and good Servant, but I am also convinced that his only Talent lies in the military way and that he is fond of Opportunitys to show it, and rather than to avoid them, seeks them, & in short he will do best when not too much left to himself

I must beg you will be pleas'd to consider of this Affair of Madura and Tinnevelly in the first town it can take, and supposing it in that Situation, come me with final directions, for if Troops are oblig'd to come a our keeping the Country is very doubtful, and it seems nece in this Circumstance of time, that they should at least by t Judgments I can form, from your directions that [illegible]

I shall observe the method you d recommended as to the monthly returns, something of the kind must also be done as to the Batta accounts, & mi Payments, as from them also the strength of the Garri be known, I will think of a safe method & form to co them on, & send it for your Approbation.

I beg a will be observed tha expence of Batta in this Garrison, has ever been an Ob my Serious Attention, But I ever thought it improper ing any further reductions, when the Troops at Sey were kept up at the same price (I mean as to Sepoy presume that you will be of the same opinion with m and would think it an improper time to do it, whe I inform'd you in my last Letter that they were rais

Seapoy

Fort St. George 16. Decem.r 1756..

Seapoys there, and still continue to do so, a reduction now I am afraid would occasion great desertion from hence, and also can assure you that the new raisd Seapoys are taken in at 9 Rs. instead of 8 Rup.s p.mo.

As to a Reduction amongst the Military, I might offer the same reason, that the Troops have it at Tyringham; and if I remember right it is more for the men, considerably so for the Officers I am sure. But it is proper to lay before you the prices of all kinds of necessarys here, which if you are pleasd to have compard with what is paid for those Articles on other Garrisons you will be enabled to Judge what is fittest to be done. I beg leave to inform you also that as to the Officers, in that one article of Madeira, when brought up, and all expences paid, the price is Just double of what it costs out of the Honble Companys Cellars, Arrack, Cotton Piguon &c Proportions. I remain with great Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient and most faithful Servant.

John Caillaud

nopoly
mr 1756

Committed to inform you that neither have I heard one word from the Nabob, or of his Intentions for his Brothers, this I am pretty certain of that we may thank him for all the trouble this Affair has given us.

It appearing by Mr Rumbolds Letters that Barhatoola is the chief Obstacle to the Success of his Negociation it is Agreed to endeavour to bring

endeavour

him

him over to our Measures by assuring him by a Letter from the President that a Suitable Provision shall be made for him if he will use his Interest to put an end to the Disturbance and return with Mahofoz Cawn to Madura.

And as the Nabob has not sent any answer to the Letters already wrote him recommending to him to resolve upon the best means of Satisfying Mahofoz Cawn, it is now Agreed to represent to him in the most strenuous Manner the necessity of his appointing without further Loss of time, a Justable Provision both for Mahofoz Cawn and Barkatoola, and to desire that he will acquaint each of them by a Letter under his Seal of the Appointment he has so made transmitting the Letters to Captain Caillaud for him to forward to Madura.

These Measures we may flatter ourselves will enable Mr Saunbold to finish the proposd accommodation unless that Mahofoz Cawn & Barkatoola are in the Determind Resolution to hold the Fort of Madura and reduce the Districts to their own Obedience establishing to themselves an Independant Government If this should appear to be their design the Steps to be taken must depend on the Efforts which our present Force there may be able to make, as it is impossible for us at this time to send away any further Supplies It is accordingly Agreed to give Directions to Captain Caillaud in case he judges the Troops now in Madura and Tinnevelly, with what assistance he may be able to send from Trichenopoly sufficient to

Fort St. George 16th Decemr 1756

to reduce the Fort of Madura then he is to make use of that Force to oppose the Designs of Mahofor Cawn & Barkatoolah, otherwise, in order that the Companys Expence may immediately be put an end to, when no further advantage is to be expected, let Moodille secure Possession of as large a part of the Country as he can, and take into his Pay for that purpose as many of the Seapoys as he pleases, also Cawn with the rest to come away to Trichenopoly

Letter from Messrs Lawrence & Wynch

read as follow

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr
& the Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Madras.

Gentlemen,

We have receivd your Letters of the 7th Inst

The Dutch Factory will in a few days we hope be entirely levelled. The Chief yesterday sent us a message that he had receivd orders from his Superiors at Negapatam, to remain in the House we should give him. That he wanted a Flag Staff to be erected for him at Cuddalore, as also many alterations & conveniences to be made to the House, we desird he would let us know in writing all he required, and have directed the Engineer to make a Calculate of the Expence. The Rent of the House is 12 Pagodas a month. If the Repairs & Alterations comes to any considerable Sum we Submit it to you whether it will be more for the Companys Advantage to purchase it which may be done for about 200 Pagodas.

We shall recommend the utmost

Care

Fort St. George 16. Decem.r 1756.

Care in keeping the Provisions, and order a monthly Return to be laid before us of the State of them.

The works of this Place are in great forwardness, the Pallasades to the West are just closed and the Parapet of the Saluting Battery would have been finish'd if the Rains had not prevented, but as we have now fair weather, it will soon be done, which we apprehend will put us out of danger even should the Force the Enemy talk of, arrive. Mr. Call has always shown the greatest Zeal for promoting the publick Service, & has been indefatigable in his Employ we hope you will think his extraordinary Diligence merits a further Encouragement.

We are with Respect Gentlemen,

Your Faithful & very Obed.t Servants.

Stringer Lawrence & Alex.r Wynch

Fort St. David
12.th Decem.r 1756.

To the Honble George Pigot Esq.r
& the Gentlemen of the Committee at Madras

Gentlemen,

We now forward you a Packet from Trichenopoly.

Mr. Call has been to Survey the Houses that we took for Mr. Trembley the Dutch Resident, and finds the Repairs and Alterations he requires will not cost less than 300 Pag.as We shall wait your orders before they are begun upon. We are informed Mr. Clive offered 750 Pagodas for the House

Answers have been received in friendly

1060

Port St. George 16th Decem: 1756.

Friendly Terms from the Killedars of Wolconda & Elavanasore to the Letters Colonel Lawrence wrote them, the latter has wrote for some Flints, and Gun powder, which we do not thinks proper to send him, so have put him off till the Arrival of our Ships, but as he intimates he has something to Communicate by a trusty Servant, he is desired to send him here, when we shall acquaint you what it is.

As soon as any Vessels with Wheat arrive we must request you will purchase some for the use of this Garrison, and send hither with some Madeira Wine, & the Stores mentioned in the Indent that was sent from hence

We are with Respect Gentn

Your most Obed: humble Servants.

Fort St. David
13th Decemr 1756.

Stringer Lawrence & Alex: Wynch

P.S. The Pondichery Advice Paper now waits on You

Ordered that the House of Cuddalore appointed for the Dutch Resident be rented and repaired taking care that the Repairs do not exceed the Calculate

The following Letter from the Govr and Council of Negapatam Read, in answer to that which we wrote them the 29th Novemr concerning the pulling down the Dutch House at Tevenepatam

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr
President & Govr & Council of Fort St George on the Coast of Choromandel
&c &c for the Right Honble English East India Company

Honble

Port St George 16th Decemr 1756.

Hönble Sir & Sirs,

We understand by your esteem'd Letter of the 29th November last the orders you sent to Tevenepatam for the breaking down our Lodge or Factory there, which being an affair that concerns the Hönble Dutch East India Company you will please to know that it is not in our power to cede that Factory and its Jurisdiction, but that such a Step entirely depends on the High and Noble Governor of India at Batavia, and that therefore we are obligd in the name of the said East India Company, and of the said Governor, by these Presents to Protest against such your Proceeding, because we do not chuse to be answerable for any bad Consequences which may ensue therefrom, but leave it to your Honor &ca to be responsible for them and for the promise you have made, that when a Peace is obtaind, you will build another Lodge or Factory for the said Company. We are obligd to acquaint the High & most Noble Governor of India with what has pass'd in this respect, and to notify to your Honor &ca the answer we may receive. But your Honor &ca might have imparted to us your Intentions, before you gave orders to break down the said Factory. As to the rest, we beg your Honor &ca will be persuaded that we wish nor esteem any thing so much as to continue in perfect Amity, and that in the Interim We are with Respect

Hönble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obed.t Humble Servants

Stephen Vermont 2.de Council

Negapatan Castle
17.th December 1756.

Sto

10601

Fort St. George 16th Decemr 1756.

The President acquaints the Committee that two of the Company's Seapoys who went to Bommeraauze's Districts upon the Promise of his Vackeel that his Debt to the Company should be paid, returnd Lately with an acco.t that Bommeraauze evades payying any money pretending that he has wrote to Madras and expects an answer. His Vakeel being also questiond upon the Nonperformance of the Agreement he made in his Masters name, says that his Master disowns the Agreement and has turnd him out of his Service.

The President is hereupon desird to write another Letter to Bommeraauze threatning him with bad Consequences if he evades any longer to pay his Debt to the Company: and if all these Representations Should be ineffectual, it is Resolvd to take the first Opportunity of Supporting our Demand by Force.

Letter from Balazarow read as entrd No 363 in the Country Correspondence in answer to that which we wrote him expressing our Readiness to Join him on his arrival in these parts He Speaks only in General Terms of the Benefits which will mutually be obtaind by our Alliance.

The Perpetty account Current of the first of September last of the present year of Phasely 1166 is now laid before the Board pursuant to the Orders of last Committee, examind, and passd. Ballance due from the Renter two hundred & forty two & a half Rupees (Rs 242½) and one hundred & fifty Pagodas (150 Ps) for which his Vakeel now delivers a Bill on Court Treasury payable

Fort St. George 16th Decemr 1756.

payable the 3 January.

Ordered that Report be made to the President & Council of the Receipt of the said Bill that they may give Directions concerning it; And that the Accot Current be entered hereafter.

Geo Pigot

Henry Vansittart

Robert Orme

Robt Palk

Fort St. George 16th December 1756.

Dr. The Zeppelly Renter for Account of the first of September last of the Year of Phasely 1166. Cr.

	Rupees	Pagodas	Sans Cash
To Rents due on Account of the said Kist	17500		
Sundrills from Pagodas	30000.—		
Premium 2 p Cent	600.—	30600	— —
To Sorters Fees ½ p Cent			
On Rupees 17500	87½		
On Pagodas 30600	—	153	— —
Rupees	17587½	30753	— —

	Rupees	Pagodas	Sans	Cash
Octr 21 By Bills received	17000	12000	—	—
Novr 26 By Do Do	—	13000	—	—
Decr 13 By Do Do	—	5000	—	—
By Premium paid for the Bills 2 p Ct.				
On Rupees 17000	340	—	—	—
On Pagodas 30000	—	600	—	—
	17340	30600	—	—
Decr 16th By Bills received this day for the Balle				
Rupees 242½				
Premium 2 p Ct 5 —	247½			
Pagodas 150				
Premium 2 p Ct 3	—	153	—	—
Rupees	17587½	30753	—	—

Fort St. George 16th December 1756.

Fort St. George 16th Decemr 1756.

Sent the following Letters to Messrs Wynch and Lawrence & Captain Caillaud pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions

To Stringer Lawrence & Alexander Wynch Esqrs

Gentlemen

We have receivd your Letters dated the 12th & 13th

Let the House for the Dutch Resident be rented and repaird, but the repairs must be done by Contract or some other means us'd to take care that they do not exceed the Calculate of 300 Pagodas.

Ensign Donavan has leave to resign his Commission according to his Request in his Letter to the President.

Acquaint us what Quantity of Madeira Wine you want and it shall be sent by the first Conveyance, Also some Wheat if procurable there.

We are Gentlen Your most Obed.t Hble Servants.

George Pigot & Coms Committee.

Fort St. George
16th Decemr 1756

To Captain John Caillaud [No 19]

Sir,

We wrote to you the 11th and have since received your Letter of the 8th with the Copies of Mr. Rumbold's Advices from Madura and your Answer.

Barkastola

107

Fort St. George 16th Decemr. 1766.

Barthalotta seems to be the greatest of the Difficulties we have to struggle with and as his has some weight in Madura none but fair means can be attempted with him. The President has therefore wrote him a Letter promising that a Suitable Provision shall be made for him if he will use his Endeavors to settle the Disturbance, and redown to Trichenopoly. We have also wrote again to Mahofor Cawn apprising him of our Protection and that it shall be our Care to see him well provided for.

We inclose you these Letters to forward with Copies for your Information. We have wrote the Nabob in the most pressing Manner to confirm these Promises by Letters from himself to Mahofor Cawn and Barthalotta and to send his Letters to you that you may transmit them to Madura. We hope that these Helps to Mr. Rumbold's endeavors will enable him to compleat the Accomodation proposed.

But if all our Attempts to this End should prove Fruitless and it appear that Mahofor Cawn and Barthalotta are united in the Resolution of keeping Possession of the Fort and Subduing the Countries to their own Government in open Defiance to the Nabob and us; In this case you are to consider whether the Force at present there with such help as you can send, consistently with the Safety of Trichenopoly will be able to take the Fort of Madura, and so carry your point by Force. If you Judge them sufficient, let it be attempted. If not, the Company's Expence must immediately be put an end to by acquainting Mooddoo that he may keep Possession of as large a part of the Country as he can, and take onto his

Service

Fort St. George 16th Decemr 1756.

Service for that purpose what number of the Seapoys he can engage to pay who may accordingly have leave to stay with him. The Subidars, Jemidars &c. Officers and Seapoys being first made acquainted that they are from that time to look upon Moodille as their only Paymaster, and that the Company is no wise answerable for their Pay while they are in his Service, but whenever he sees Occasion to discharge them, as many as can produce his Certificate of their good Behavior shall be receivd into the Companys Service again And such as do not chuse to stay with Moodille, or he does not chuse to take, are to march forthwith for Trichinopoly Wooffaum in all cases to come here as before directed

We observe what you say on the Subject of the Reduction of Balla. We mean to recommend it to you as an object of your constant Attention and as all Step to be taken for the Companys Benefit whenever it reasonably can

We are Sir
Your most Obedt. Servants
George Pigot &c. Committee.

Fort St. George
16th Decemr 1756

At a Committee Present
George Pigot Esqr. Governor President
Henry Powney, Robert Orme
Robert Palk.

Tuesday
the 21st Dec.

Mr Percival dispos'd
Letter from Captain Preston com-
=manding

Fort St. George 21st. Decemr. 1756.

at Arcot read advising that the Fort of Polour is so closely surrounded by the Troops of the Killedar of Chellepet that it is not possible to throw in the Succours we directed, or any Succour without marching out a Sufficient Force to oppose the whole of the Chellepet Army——— Letter from the Nabob on the same Subject as entered No. 369 in the Country Correspondence representing the Necessity of the Army's taking the Field to put a Stop to the Enterprizes of the Killedar of Chellepet

According to the Information that has been given us of the Situation of the Fort of Polour there seems but little Danger of it's being taken by the Chellepet Forces without the Assistance of Guns or Europeans. Supposing however that through the ill Behavior of the People within, it should fall, it is to be considered whether the Inconveniences of such an Accident or those of marching out the Army to prevent it are greater. The Killedar of Polour it is true acknowledges the Nabob, but the Tributes he pays are very inconsiderable (from ten to twenty thousand Rupees a Year) and the Company get no Share of it, & if it falls into the Hands of the Killedar of Chellepet he will set up an independent Right to that Fort as he now does to Chellepet, and will pay no Tribute at all, but here the Inconvenience ends as we do not believe he would make use of his Power or Possessions in favor of the French or to our Prejudice. On the other hand to march out such a Party as could securely be sent against the Killedar of Chellepet to prevent his Enterprizes and would give immediate Beginning to a vast Expence, which could not afterwards be stopp'd, as the French upon the first News of our Troops taking the Field would undoubtedly send out

Fort St. George 21st Decemr. 1756.

out theirs to join the Killedar of Chelleput. This would oblige us to detach more men which the present Weakness of our Garrison would very ill admit of, and after all the Success of our Designs would be doubtful as the Chelleput Army join'd with a Body of French would form a considerable Strength; and the Consequence of making the Killedar of Chelleput our Declared Enemy would be the frequent Incursions of his Troops to plunder the Frontiers of the Changleput and Carangoly Districts (which extends near to Chittapet.) The Reasons on both sides having been duly weigh'd, it is Resolved to let the Affair take its Course not interfering on one Side or the other unless the French should join either Party.

Letter from Messrs. Lawrence & Wynch

Read as follows.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Madras

Gentlemen

Last night one of the Hussars came in here from Pondichery, who reports that there is 150 Germans & 600 French there, & that the first of January they are to take the Field. We shall be upon our Guard to watch their motions

Lately we open'd two Casks of the Provisions that were left here by the Admiral and find that both the Beef and Pork is in pretty good Condition, but do not imagine it will keep much longer so, it having been upwards of two Years in this Country; this we mention as in case it might have been your Intention to take it for the

Company

1076.

Fort St. George 21. Decemr. 1756.

Company; and we submit to you whether it would not be proper to take the Opportunity of the Cool season to salt up some for a Garrison Stock

Several of the French Prisoners had leave on the Solicitation of the Gentlemen at Pondichery to go there, whom we are of Opinion ought now to be demanded we therefore desire Your directions regarding them

We are most Respectfully

Gentln Your most Obedient

humble Servants.

Coll. A. David

18th Decemr 1756.

Stringer Lawrence & Alex. Wynch

The Committee cannot but express their Surprize & Concern, that Mr Starke, without committing his Superiors should permit French Prisoners to go under any Pretence to Pondichery. The Receipts which he delivers the President sign'd by those Gentlemen of Pondichery at whose Intercession the Prisoners had Leave to go, being compard with the List of those that are absent, only four out of the ten appear to be mentioned in the said Receipts, It is however Agreed to direct Majr. Lawrence & Wynch to demand the Restitution of all the Ten

Letter from the Nabobas entd. N.373

in the Country Correspondency Read, representing in answer to what we wrote him concerning the Terms demanded by Mahomed Cawn, that by his late Behaviour he has forfeited all Title to favor, or Brotherly Affection, and therefore he is of Opinion the Disturbance at Madura & Tinnevelly cannot be settled by any other Terms, but the Extirpation of its Promoters ——— Letters from Mohd Cawn

and

Troops Polygat.

Company's Nothing Tinnevelly accounts given

Revenues

indented

possession

took

many

Fort St. George 21. Decemr. 1756.

and Tetrapah Moodille No. 370, 371, & 375 advise that the Sha of Mahofoz Cawn joind with those of the Polligars Kalabommin &c having entred Tinnevelly in the night this by ways not poſeſſion of it, whereupon Mofs Cawn marchd with the Sepoys from their Encampment near Madura and hav met Mahofoz Cawn's Troops defeated them and retook Tinne where Mofs Cawn and Moodille both remains by the last Ad Agreed to wait the receipt of the Directions, we have already giv this Subject, and of Mr. Rumbold's Negociations

Letter from Ensign Bannatyne at Carangoly, desiring a small supply of military Stores accordin to an Indent inclos'd, advising that the Amuldar gives him good hopes of the Succeſs of their Endeavors to collect the Reve of the Contested Districts, and that he expects in a very few days to receive one thousand Pagodas in part

Ordered that the Stores inden for by Mr. Bannatyne be sent

Letter from the King of Tanjour as entr'd No. 372 in the Country Correspondence, advising that he has an Army of five thousand Horse and as man Sepoys, and is enlisting more, that he shall soon retake his Countries which Tondaman have poſſeſſ and then be ready to act wherever we may recommend

Ordered

Fort St George 21st Decemr 17.

Ordered that a friendly Letter

be wrote to the King of Tanjour. George Pigot

Stanp Lawrell

Robt Palk

Sent the following Letter to Messrs Wynch & Lawrence

pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions.

To Stringer Lawrence & Alexr Wynch Esqrs

Gentlemen

We have received your Letter dated the

18th Instant, Inclosed are three papers which Mr Clarke

received from Pondicherry as Acknowledgments for some

demand.

shall his.

meat

Fort St. George 21st Decemr 1756.

French Prisoners whom he permitted to go to Pondichery at the Request of the Gentlemen who have signd the said Acknowledgments, but we there see the names of only four of the two mentiond in your Adjutants List. You will however demand all those that are absent on Parôle.

When the Admiral arrives we shall request of him to replace the old Provisions with new, which will be better than Salting for the Company, as the Meat Salted in this Country soon decays

We are Gentn

Your most Obedt Servants

George Pigot &c. Committee

Fort St. George
21. Decemr 1756.

At a Committee Present
George Pigot Esqr Governor President
Henry Powney.
Robert Orme.
Robert Palk.
Mr Percival indisposd

Thursday the 23d

No fresh Letters or Advices having been recvd since our last meeting, the Committee adjourns untill monday next.

Geo. Pigot
Henry Powney
Robert Orme
Rob. Palk

Fort St. George 27th December 1756.

At a Committee Present

George Pigot Esq. Governor President

Henry Powney, Robert Orme,

William Perceval, Robert Palk.

Monday

27th

Letter from Captain Caillaud read

as follows

To the Honble George Pigot Esq

President and Governor &c. Gentlemen of the Committee

at Madras.

(No 15)

Honble Sir & Sirs

I had the honor of addressing you

on the 2d Instant No 14, and at the same time laying before

you two letters, which I had recev'd from Mr Rumbold, giving

you an account how he found affairs relating on his arrival

at Madura. I am sorry to acquaint you that he has been

obliged to return, after having tried all methods in vain, to

bring Affairs to an Accomodation. Barkatoola, and his

Party among the Zemidars, have carried it against us, and

have forced Mahafoz Caun that weak man (who has

neither will nor power of his own) into all their measures.

I will now only take up your attention

with a general Account of what passed in the Course of Mr

Rumbold's negotiations, lay before you how affairs now stand

and

Fort St. George 27th Decemr 1756.

and acquaint you how I have acted in consequence. As to
particulars, I will in a very few days transmit the whole
of the Correspondence between Mr Rumbold and myself: b
what I now write, I hope will be sufficiently clear, and serve
as some guide to your better Judgments what resolution
to take on this turn of Affairs.

It is necessary to acquaint you
that Barkatoola returnd to the Fort immediately on Mr
Rumbolds Arrival, the day after those Letters were wrote,
which I had the honor of transmitting to you, that Gentlem
had an Interview, and a long conversation with Mahofoz
Cawn. In which he omitted nothing to bring him to a
Sense of his folly, and to persuade him to come heartily, and
Sincerely, into the terms of Accommodation which were
offered him. This discourse had the effect desired, and he
left Pilakofar Cawn convinced of what was true Interest, and
resolved to pursue it. Tho' the Interview was in private
between those two Persons (as they thought) yet some
one was conveniently posted who overheard them, for the
following Accident was the immediate consequence of it.

One Seer Cawn a Jemidar, the
most violent of Barkatoolahs party, against any accommodatio
immediately after assembled his Cavalry, beset Mahofoz Cawns
house, and put him Prisoner, sending a message to Mr
Rumbold, to quit the Fort. Mr Rumbold first refused
alledging that he would only receive, and take notice
of such an order, but from Mahofoz Cawn, and the
body of Jemidars, not from any one private Person, or
those

Fort S.t George 27.th Decem.r 1756.

them, The answer to this was brought by twenty or thirty Peons, who fairly told them, If he did not go quietly, they would force him. The Gentleman was obligd to yield, and found his escorte of Seapoys out of the Gate, and took post at Choultry, strongly situated on the other side of the River, resolved to wait there the Issue of the affair. Sometime after Seer Cawn assembled the Renidars, and told them, Mahofoz Cawn had sold them, and the Fort to the English, Bancatelah made his appearance first Council and then it was resolved to leave him on the Fort: Force Mahofaz Cawn out, and oblige him at the head of them to march for the Tinnavelly Country and take Possession of it.

On receipt of this account from Mr. Rumbold, I wrote him word immediately to return, and break off all negotiation with them. However while he was waiting for my directions, Affairs took another turn, which encouraged him again to renew his efforts for an Accommodation.

Resolute as they were in Councel for a march to Tinnavelly; yet when they come to consider of it coolly, the execution of it seemed attended with some Difficulty & danger, besides that they were not at all Unanimous in the prosecution of such violent measures, and apprehensive also of meeting with Hoffy Cawn, whom they knew was ready to receive them, and perhaps might serve them as he had the party before this with partly a threatning letter from Mr. Rumbold had some effect. They returnd to the Fort, and sent Vackeels

Fort St. George 27th Decemr. 1756.

Vakeels to desire that Gentleman may also to return, for that they had new Offers to make.

Mr Rumbold very properly a[t]

the affront he had received, refus'd coming on, unless Sa[t]isfaction was made to him; and the Honble Compan[y]s he insisted therefore that Mahafoz Cawn in Person with all his Zemidars, should come to his Choultry, and th[at] request of him again to come into the Fort, and that on his entrance he was to be Saluted; All this was accordingly agreed to, & performed; and again the Affair was brought on the Carpet.

I must inform you Gentlemen that the Prudence made use of by these People, for not keeping to their first Agreements, was, that the Provision for Mahafoz Cawn was not sufficiently secured by promi[se] or your Letter on that Subject, but that he must have [a] d the Honble Company's Chop, as also must Barkaloola for Protection. To return however to Mr. Rumbold, [the] Preliminaries were settled between him, and one of the [Ca]s of the Faction, the man who seemed to him of most sense, and best could be induc'd to hear reason, As to Mahafoz Cawn d[e]s a folly addressing of him, who was prisoner, and oblig'd to [do] That as they pleased. The Divisions which reigned in the Councils (for still some were inclined to accommodate matt[ers] gave Mr. Rumbold an Opportunity, by delaying Affairs to foment the broils; and at the same time he had sent Mahafoz Cawn directions to move again towards Madura; Hi[s] reasonably from that; that what with those, who are for

more moderate measures, and the fears of others, on the approach again of an Army, he might perhaps get a party strong enough for Mahofoz Cawn, that would override Barhatoolahs.

In the mean time the Cavalry which Hoossain Cawn had beaten, returned, and along with them, the Polygar Nabi Cawn Colah on his arrival he immediately Horses them twenty five thousand Chuckrams, for the present Subsistence of the Cavalry, if they would break off all treaty with us, and send Mr Rumbold away.

Mr Rumbold heard of this proposal & went to Mahofoz Cawn, who as usual fell a crying, & broke his chop that he might not be forced to use it against his will. Mr Rumbold desired him once more to assemble the Seniors and Barhatoolah to whom he addressed himself in the strongest terms he could: with assurances that all he promised on the name of the Company should be faithfully kept on our side: That care should be taken for Mahofoz Cawns Maintenance. That Barhatoolah should have Protection, and the Sepoys arrears Discharged. After a great deal of Canvassing, the following Resolution was come to; That there should be a cessation of Arms, until an answer was received from Madras, about a Provision for the Nabobs Brother, & Barhatoolahs Protection, in the manner they required it; if it was thought proper. Mr Rumbold drew up the Articles for the cessation, which he Signed, and Sealed, and they on their Part were to Sign and Seal a Counterpart of it. Mr Rumbold intending after this was done, to go to Tonnavelly, see how matters

Fort St. George 27th Decemr. 1756

matters stood there, and endeavor to secure some Polligars
our Interest, in case of the worst, he had taken the precaution
to have a Passport given him from the People of Madura
for his Security, and was also to have an Escorte of 20 horse
Not Six hours after all this was
agreed on, but it was all overturned. Nabi Cawn Cotah
offering once more, if they would come to no Agreement to
find one thousand Chuckrams a Day for the Subsistence of
the Cavalry. This did the Business; A message was sent to M.
Rumbold, to be on his guard, for all the roads were Stopped &
and that his Protection was of little Security. M.r. Rumbo
very prudently did not attempt to go to Tinnevelly, for it
was only on that road they feared his going most, & might
have stopd him, he therefore took the Opportunity of a moon
Shine for setting out, arrived safe at Nalom, and three day
afterwards reachd this Place. This, Gentlemen, is a general
account of M.r Rumbolds transactions at Madura,
The Situation of Affairs is thus the
they are resolved to come to no Accomodation by fair means,
All the Cavalry are now assembled at Madura, Alliances
are making with Mayanah, and the Nalom Polygars;
And the Packcels of most of those in the Tinnavelly Country
are with them, representing them that they do not mean to
and leave their masters exposed to Hyder Cawn, and his
Army, they therefore are preparing, and urging their
return, on the Tinnavelly Country.
All that appeard to me could be do
in this exigency, and what I undertook at your withstanding
your

Fort St George 27th December 1756.

your preceding Directions for Mr Call, I receiving Intelligence was to send him orders to stay in the Tinnavelly Country, and make the best disposition he could with his Forces for its Defence? Until your further pleasures were known. I have wrote also to Mr Bellie to try his Interest now with the Polligars, and to make what Alliances he can against those Rajahs who are preparing again to enter his Country.

It will appear to your Gentlemen I believe from what I have represented, that as all hopes of an accomodation are at an end, by fair means, if Mr Call is recalled, the Country is certainly lost to the Honble Company. I am in some doubt indeed that if the Polygars enter heartily in the cause with Mahfoz Cawn whether the Nabobs, Mr Bellie, and all the force they can collect are, or will think themselves strong enough, to make head against them, But that depends a good deal I hope upon Mr Bellie's Interest in the Country, and we shall soon be informed how strong he is there?

Pardon me if what I am now going further to say, might look too like pretending to advise, or giving my opinion, when my real Intentions are no more than sitting down, and offering with Submission to your better Judgments, every thing that occurs to me on an affair, which has employed for so long a time my thoughts & Consideration, and of which so much has been left thro' your favors to my management, and Directions.

The Circumstances of times considered, make our greatest difficulty in this Affair, and whether

whether at this critical Juncture you may think it either pro-
or prudent, to make an effort, and save the Country. If that is
be approved of, to effect it this might be done. The same sum
which was agreed to be given to pay off the Arrears of Mahr
Cavary Cavalry, should be applied at the Court of Tanjore, f
a body of horse to join our Forces in the Tinnavelly Countr
More might also be added to them, a European Piece of 100
men from this Place, and I will have presumption enoug
in such case, to wish I could command them. Not for the
military Part that might be required, but that still hav
an eye to make an Accommodation, that would put
Mahfoz Cawn & Barhatoolah in our power. Some Jun
no Opportunity to effect it, as it certainly would be the
best means to quiet the Country at once.

This proposal Some how or
appearance of Severity as it. But the Alternative of Jun
being extraordinary is not done, urges me to it, for if our
force already there, cannot make head against them & there
remains but abandoning the Country, or making conces
on our side, and those I fear for the whole; for not a pe
would then content them.

The Division of Country made
amongst these Worthies, is, Mahfoz Cawn to have Tinn
velly, & Barhatoolah Madura. Would Mahfoz Cawn
confine himself to the Madura District alone, and
Barhatoolah content himself to be a Vassal under hi
& We might considering the times, Agree to that, but what
security

Fort St. George 27th December 1756.

Security have we of their leaving the Tirunavelly Country quiet, after we have recalled our Troops; and that an Opportunity offers for attacking us with Success in those Parts.

After all this, if the necessity of the times, oblige us to recal Ussoff Cawn, it remains, but the best bargain we can make with Makofoze Cawn for an entire Concession; and if we have not some shew of force, that still will keep him in Awe, and make him think he had best comply with our Demands. we but too well know how little we can trust to his Promises, at least Ussoff Cawn might stay until he had given Bills on Exchange as Security for a Yearly Sum to the Honble Company.

I have certainly stated things too far in the worst light, that I have supposed Ussoff Cawns & Moodillees Forces alone not Sufficient to keep the Country against them. Perhaps it may prove otherwise, and by the former's good management in the Military way, and the others Interest in the Country, they may maintain themselves. But certainly, if we are obligid to recal Ussoff Cawn, the Country is lost.

There is a good understanding at present between your Renter and Ussoff Cawn. Jemal Saib is also, what he ought to be. before I was honord with your last Letter, I had upon the first Intelligence of diference between him and Moodillee, sent him orders agreeable to your last directions. Moodillee hath accepted the last bills drawn on him, of one Lack, and twenty thousand Rupees for Ussoff Cawns expence; 70000 of which are paid, the rest will

Ft. St. George 27th December 1756.

[illegible] be in a short time. So my apprehensions of an immediate
[illegible]pence on the Honble Companys affairs and
I do not hear that the Nabob has done
the least thing in consequence of your representation to him
about his brother. There does not pass a letter this way from
him to Madura. The Jam told a Correspondence is carried
on by another Channel, from one Meyssin Mahomet Cawn
formerly Duan to Mahofoz Cawn, turned out of his b[illegible]
and now he resides at Arcot. If the Nabob wishing to see
troubles at an end, sure he would not be so long in giving
his Brother a provision: But certainly he has had a
hand in raising of them. Some expressions dropp'd from
Mahofoz Cawn before Mr Rumbold confirm me in
this still more. He complains his Brother alone has
ruin'd him, by leading him into all this, and then forsak
of him.

It is time I should conclude this
already (perhaps) too long letter, and once more beg y[illegible]
Indulgence, & favorable construction of the latter part,
which proceeds from a Zeal, which tho' I will always
endeavor to keep in the bounds of Respect that is due
from Honble Sirs, Your most Obedient &
faithfull Servant.

John Caillaud

Fuchenapoly
17th Decemr 1756.

P. S. The inclos'd copy of a Letter from Mahofoz Cawn, I received
writing the above received, it cannot long be undetermined
which way they are to move, as to Mahofoz Cawn's expectation
tions, they certainly will have no more effect, than as the
others see it is their Interest to promote them.

John

Fort St. George 27 Dec 1799

From Mahafez Cawn to Captain Cuthbert

It is impossible for me to describe to you the uneasiness, and trouble which Nabi Cawn & his Party create me. They want money. They have forced me out of the Fort, and promised on my going into the Tinnavelly Country. Here I have refused, and alledged to them that the Country belonged to the Honble Company, with whom I was determined to remain in Amity, & Hold them to divert their bad Intentions, that as the Polygars & Colleries, had made great encroachments on the Madura Country, they might employ their Force in retaking what those People unjustly detain. I again repeat to you my promise, that nothing shall induce me to disturb the Tranquility of the Tinnavelly Country.

It being evident from the foregoing Letter, that Mahafez Cawn with Banhatoo Lady, and the body of the Sepoys at Madura, are determined to have no Proposals of Accommodation to employ Force, they assembled in making a Conquest of the Tinnavelly Country, the Committee therefore have under Consideration, what means can be best to be used, in the present Circumstances of Affairs to oppose their Designs, and secure to the Company as far as is in our power the Possession of that valuable District.

The present State of our Garrison will by no means admit of our detaching any

Troops

Fort St George 27th January 1750

Troops from hence, nor can Captain Caillaud's Proposal of applying to the Tanjour Court for an Assistance of a Body of Horse be prosecuted without a great expence, and subjecting ourselves besides to the Inconvenience of a reciprocal Application from the King for our Assistance to put him in Possession of those Districts which he claims from Tondiman, or on some other Service, which may create fresh Disturbances, and raise new Enemies to the Company.

Considering indeed the different Parties and opposite Interests and Inclinations which appear by Mr Rumbold's Information to have taken place among the Subidars and even between Mahofez Cawn and Barkatoolah, it seems not improbable that a small European force, joined under Captain Caillaud's Command to the Seapoys already along with Hoff Cawn and Moodelle, might succeed in disappointing their Attempts.

But as the State of Affairs on the Districts may have changed before our Directions can reach Captain Caillaud It is Resolved to leave it in his Discretion to march with one hundred Military and a Suitable Train from Tuticorin to join Hoff Cawn and Moodelle and take the Command of the whole united Force at the head of which to use his endeavours either to frustrate by Force or prevent by Treaty the Attempts of Mahofez Cawn and all others Invaders of the Country

Ordered

Fort S. George 17th December 17..

Ordered That Captain Joseph
be left in the command of Fort Image by Captain Co
absence, that Circular Letters be wrote to all the Polligars of
the Madura and Tinnevelly Countries to acquit Captain Smith
that Ross Canon be directed to remain under his Command,
and that the Rendor Tehsildar Moodelly be advised of our
Resolutions, and ordered to Strengthen himself by Forming
new alliances and enlisting more Troops

Letter from Messrs. Lawrence &
Wynch read as follows.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
President & Governor &c. Gentlemen of the Select Committee

Gentlemen

We are favord with your Letter of the
16th December.

We have directed the Ingineer as soon
as he can spare workmen to begin upon repairing the
Dutch Residents House, & to take care that the expence thereof
does not exceed the Calculation We are obligd to take this method
not being able to get any Person that will contract for Jobbs
of this kind — Lorenzo Bonavaux has been acquainted he has been
to negotiate Commissions — Four Pipes of Madeira wine will
be wanted, Several of the Gentlemen not having received
their Quota for the Doctor for the use of the Sick in the
Hospital

Most of the Sepoys mentioned
in

Fort St George 27th December 1756

your Letter of the 10th Instant are arrived to whom we have
Customary Batta for the time they were on the road, I
Lieutenant having wrote here that they did not receive
their Pay

We now forward you a Plan of the
Dutch Factory, a Copy of which is also kept here

This morning we were at the
House and have directed the most Battery next the
the defence of it to be remade, which will be
small expence, and may be effected
from the Monies arrested here

The Person
Letter mentioned to Colonel Lo
Ivy, and delivered the recom
nothing to us but Mr
with them let you

Fort St George 27th Dec

Marranoony being read and Jones Repentance
Body of Troops to be paid by the Company
to invest the French Districts The Comm.
by any means for the Companys Interest
such a scheme and therefore proposing th
Lawrence Wynch purposing to send him
indefinitive Terms

Letter from the
endorsed No 382 in the Book of Country Corres
that the Killedar of Vellore attacking the Choul
Men out of the Pettah or Country
were beat from Arcot but not Storm
by a Relation of the Killedars
of 16 being taken

Fort St. George 22d Decem.r 1756.

Sent the following Letters to Messrs. Lawrence & Wynch & Captain John Caillaud, pursuant to Resolutions of last Committee.

To Stringer Lawrence & Alex.r Wynch Esqrs.

Gentlemen

We have receivd your Letter of the 22d December, the answer you purpos'd to return to the Nabobs of Ellavanore is very proper, as his Schemes are such as can by no means be engag'd in.

We approve of your setting about the Repairs which you think necessary at the Powder house & Battery and we Doubt not you will get them executed with as little Expence as possible.

We are Gentlemen Your most Obedient servants

George Pigot &.ca Committee

Frott. Fort St. George
28 th Decem.r 1756.

(No 50)

To Captain John Caillaud

Sir

We have receiving your Letter of the 17th of this month

from the circumstantial account

Herein recorded of the Treatment Mr Rumbold received &

Detaining of the Corresp.t Cowries of the Funds &

Jewels and of Mahomed Cauns Letter Obtain wherein

he his Desire, we are plainly that the Compan

The Sincerity Cawdoy with depend on

that can be made against the Efforts

Fort St George 28th Decemr 1756

We are sensible that a Party of Sanjoan Horse join'd to your Army would act with Spirit and conform to your Orders would be very useful, but the expence of those Troops is enormous, and the King would besides undoubtedly insist on some Conditions to be Stipulated for his advantage such as your obliging the Marching Countries from Tondeman or some other Expedition which might create fresh Disturbances To avoid these Inconveniences as well as the Expence we are very desirous of proceeding if possible without the assistance of Sanjour Troops, and when we consider the Dominions and Seperate Interests of Mahafoz Cawn Barkatoolah and the several Soubadars we are not without hopes that one hundred men with a suitable Train joined under a Cawn Command to Hoff Cawn and Mordle might be able to disappoint their Schemes. But as Circumstances may have changed since the date of your Letter or before the arrival of this, you will be the best Judge.

If you think that with the Force beforementioned you shall be able to make such an Expedition as will be for the Companys Interest and get Mahafoz Cawn and Barkatoolah into your Power, or free the Country from them; Then you will march as soon as you can by Cam, and endeavour to accomplish our ends either by accommodation or force doing to your Judgement of the Abilities of the Force under your Command, and the Situation in which you may find Affairs

We shall use twenty Sircars [illegible] with the Presidents chops of the Cawnt

Fort St. George 28th. Decem

incloſ'd Translation. They are in Blank cover the
them to such Peligars as you may have occasion to
Incloſ'd are likewise Letters to Moſſ. Caron & Moodeliee
Copies for your Perusal.

We recommend to your p
Attention the preventing Maharaja Canon's People
collecting the Grain off the Ground or receiving
in any other manner. If they can be disappointed
in money we
soon disperse them

from Distres

It will be neceſsa
Orders to Captain Smith with whom you will
Command of Trichenopoly to be particularly
cautious during your absence.

We are latisfy'd that
will be wanting on your Part towards the Speed
of these troubles, and wishing you Succeſs

We are Sir, Your most Obedient

George Pigot, Henry Powney, R
William Perceval, Robert Pal

Fort St George
the 28th Decem: 1756

At a Committee Prese

George Pigot Esq. Governor Pres
Henry Powney, Robert Orm
William Perceval, Robert Pa

Read this day
the 30th

Fort S. George 30th Decemr 1756

No Post Letters or advices having been received since last meeting, the Committee adjourns until Monday next.

George Pigot

Robert Orme

Wm Percival

Sepdrau...

Transcribd by John Douglas.

and

Examined with [illegible]