1.
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3.

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.

89/4-9-1942.

M.C. 7e

994 Fort St. George July 1780

26th Wrote the following Letters.

To the Honble Warren Hastings Esq.
Governor General & Council &c &c Fort William

Gentlemen,

To Bengal informing of the Invasion of Hyder

Our last Letter by which we enclose a Duplicate, gave you information of the approach of Hyder Ally with a large Army towards our Territories. We now transmit two Papers of Intelligence just received from the Nabob, by which you will learn that he has actually detached part of his Cavalry into the Carnatic & is preparing to follow with his whole Army.

We are taking measures of assembling our Troops in a proper situation to oppose this attack, and defend the Country in the best manner we are able. But the alarm already occasioned by the report of an Invasion and the Ravages which have been actually committed by Hyder's Horse have drawn the people from their habitations, and put an entire stop to the Tillage of the Ground —

Under these Circumstances it will be impossible for us, to draw

995 Fort St George July 1780

Resources from the Country in any degree
equal to the Expences which this war must
inevitably produce; and if we do not obtain
a speedy supply of money from you, we
see no probability of our being able to act
with Vigor & Effect, proportionate to the Ex-
-igency of our situation

If we can be assured of suffi-
-cient means to carry on the war, we should
propose an immediate and powerful Devision
on the Malabar Coast, where the Possessions
of Hyder are more within the reach of our
Force, and might by the assistance of the
Squadron become an easy Conquest. The
principal Settlement belonging to Hyder
on that Coast is Mangalore to which we
should first point our attention

We are sensible however
that these operations will depend much
upon the State of your Affairs with the
Marattas, at least with respect to
the force to be employed against Hyder,
for it would be highly imprudent in
us to detach any part of the Troops
now remaining with us upon such
distant Service As you have the

entire

entire Direction of the Force on the other side of India, we doubt not your will consider how it may be best applied to the Annoyance of this new Enemy - We have at Tellichery a Detachment of Troops from this Coast, which might be of use & which if you think proper, we will direct to cooperate with the other Troops in any Plan you may adopt, We shall only observe further upon this head that the proper time for commencing any operations on the Malabar Coast, will be in the Month of Septr. or October when the Monsoon will admit of the Squadron going round —

As the Company have never within our Remembrance, experienced so wanton & unprovoked an Attack, as that against which we are now called upon to defend them, we are confident the several Presidencies will unite Heart and Hand to humble and reduce within proper Bounds, the Power which has thus dared to insult them, and we rest assured that your Honorable Board will exert itself in a particular manner on this occasion to support the

997 Fort St George July 1780

Honor & Interests of the Company, and promote the reputation which their Arms have hitherto acquired in the Wars of Hindostan —

We are

Gentlemen,

Your most Obed.t
Humble Servants
John Whitehill &.a

Fort St George
26th July 1780

To Lieut. Colonel Nixon,

Commanding at

Pruchinopoly

Sir,

Capt Davis's Battn
To Col Nixon to march
to Pondicherry

I am directed by the President & Select Committee to desire you will order Capt. Davis's Battn with the 2 field pieces at Pruchinopoly to march with all expedition to Pondicherry, & put himself under the Orders of Colonel Brathwaite —

I am,

Sir

Your most Obed.t Serv.t

Chas. Oakeley
Secry

Fort St George,
26th July 1780,

998 Fort St George July 1780

To Lieut. Colonel James
Comanding the Artillery
at the Mount

Sir,

I am directed by the
Hon.ble the Governor in Council
to desire you will march with the
Artillery to Poona.

Lt Col: James to
march with the
Artillery to Poona.
Private

I am directed by the
Hon.ble the Governor in Council
to desire you will prepare two field pieces with
Ammunition and a proper number of
Men to man them for a Detachment
that will march from Madras to the
Mount to morrow Morning.

I am directed also to
desire you will send to Madras to be
embarked on His Majesty's Ship Sartine
a Detachment from the Artillery
with Lascars sufficient to man 8
field pieces -

After making these Det-
achments from the Artillery, the Pre-
sident and Select Committee, desire
you will march with the rest of the
Artillery intended for the field and the
remainder of the field train to Poonamalee
sending what may then remain of the
Artillery to Madras. I am

Fort St George
26th July 1780.

Sir,
Your most Obed.t Servt
Chas. Cahelery
Secy.

999. Fort St George July 1780

27th. Received the following Lettrs.

Gamble Sir & Sirs.

Enclosed I have the honor to send you copy of a letter I have just this moment rec.d from Cuddalore. the Tappal Man who brought it, says that no letters have come in from the Southward so he supposes the Tappals cut off. I Yesterday morning rec.d a letter from Mr Huddlestone at Nagore and all seemed quiet there. As the People are flocking in from all parts, & as the numbers of Hyder's horse are said to be very great all around, I do not think it prudent without your Order to detach any part of the Force here, as I cannot think the Fort of Cuddalore to be in any immediate danger, I order to send this to you as soon as possible, I have request.ed Captain Ball of his Majesty's Ship Exeter to dispatch a long boat which he has here, and which he is obliging as to do, and think she will be down in fourteen or fifteen hours. Some Men who have come in here declare that they saw the Horse, but

From Col.o Braithwaite with Intelligence from Cuddalore

1000 Fort St George July 1780

that they did not cut or ill treat any body, only surrounded the Cutchery, & carried off some Elephants which were for sale, that they also carried the Dutch Chief to their Camp, but sent him in again - Some report two thousand Horse nearly west of this on the neighbourhood of Tindevennam and four thousand gone to plunder Conjeveram I shall keep a good look out and keep every thing as quiet here as the general consternation in this open place will permit, & have advised the Commanding Officer of his Highness the Nabob's Regiment of Cavalry on the Red Hills I feel a want of field pieces and some artillery men for the Security of these large limits, I have about eighty Europeans sick in the Hospital, and a very large quantity of Powder here which I have before represented

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect Honble Sir Your

Your very Obedient & faithful Servant

Pondichery 24th July 1780. [illegible] John Brathwaite

No 1

Fort St George July 8th 1780

To Colonel John Braithwaite
Commanding in Pondicherry

Sir

Jos: Braithwaite

This morning early we had intelligence that a body of Hyder's horse came down & plundered Port Novo last night and this day at Noon they were encamped not above two miles from that Place between that and Annavetty. the Numbers I have not been able to learn exactly, but by all accounts* they are accompanied by as many Seapoys, all the Country here is in an uproar, & many thousand of the Inhabitants have come into the Fort to day, which I have thought proper so to do likewise — This Fort is in a most defenceless State, the East face entirely open, the river fordable in most parts of it, and only a very incomplete five Companies of Seapoys and of them many so far detached that they cannot be called in till tomorrow. This being the case I have to request you will be so good as to order for our assistance as soon as possible four or six Companies of

* they cannot be less than 1000 if some accounts add

Seapoys

1002 Fort St. George July 1780.

Seapoys to remain here till such time as we can hear from the Select Committee, to whom I have wrote this day and have enclosed a Copy of this my address to you

Cuddalore
23d July 1780.

I am Sir &c.
W. Cuming

P.S. to add to our encouragement we are now well provided with Grain & ammunition

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.
President & Governor &c. Select Committee
at Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have now the honor to transmit you the Intelligence I received this day. The 24th in the morning all the horse of Hyder withdrew from Portonovo & arrived and went towards Bonagary where they have set fire to some Villages & from thence they proceeded to Carangoolyat. 30 Miles westward of Portonovo. Half of the horse proceeded directly to Verdachellum, the other half remained at Carangoolyat till this morning when they left that place, & it is said proceeded also to Verdachellum. I remain with the greatest respect.

From Cuddalore with Intelligence

Honble Sir & Sirs.
Your most Obd. & Hble Servt
William Cuming

Cuddalore
25 July 1780
at 8 P.M.

1003 Fort St George July 4 1780

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Colonel Braithwaite with Intelligence

I was this morning early honored with your Orders of the 24th instant and shall lose no time in exerting myself to pay due obedience to them. I hope I shall be excused if here I say that I would wish that some thing like what I have minded to the Commander in Chief in my letter by Sea took place, as many things regaining from the Country to effect the business as you propose might in that case be more to be depended upon. The Alarm has been very great, & the desertion of Villagers in consequence, but I think it begins to subside, & that I shall be able at all events to effect upon your purpose ju[st]-ly & you may depend upon my exertions. We have about thirty thirds of Arrack here belonging to the Company besides what the Renter may have and I think we shall be able to manage all matters to your wish. The Articles which you mention as belonging to his Highness the Nabob shall be prepared immediately to be disposed of agreeable to your Orders. I beg leave to remind your Honor &c that the small articles of that sort were sent away from hence long

Fort St George 5th July 1780.

long ago, but not so well as I could wish, as we have no men in this place who understand these sort of things well, but I trust the Sardine will answer our expectations in that respect, I have entertained fifty Lascars upon daily pay this day & Coolies as they are wanted. I suppose Mr. Duncan Munro will now join us with his forces, and I shall have employment with him in a few days, I shall use my endeavours towards Mr. Grey's Late department, but I trust some body will be appointed by you for that purpose & an order from His Highness will much facilitate the business, I enclose to you the return of Tents it is headed in a different manner I find from what you expressed, but it is in every other respect be clear as the quality & figures explained just what you desired in your letter of the 26th inst. Lieut. Young tells me he believes there are five Markees, as also eighteen Tents of the new Construction almost new at Cuddalore belonging to the Cavalry, I have applied to Mr. Cuming to send them here desiring him to inform you if he sends them that you

know our whole stock The Regiment of Europeans here would be glad to exchange their Country for European Pouches, I have had many complaints of the Country Barrige boxes & pouches such as that the bored are so small that the Cartridges is obliged to be forced in, so tedious in getting out, and not unfrequently broken and that some of them have nails driven into them, the points of which are in the box & tear the Cartridges. They would be glad to Exchange some firelocks that are with Spring bayonets for others of the like kind. I have allmost rendered the bound hedge every where impassable so that nothing can come suddenly into the limits or we might by surprise to molest our people or Cattle, The Chiefs whom you were so good as to indulge with leave to the Presidency, do not now mean to quit their Corps. Mr Salmon of the Engineer Corps from Tanjore happens to be here & is very assisting, Mr Young of the Cavalry has desired to do Duty with the Infantry. and Ensign Clerk who was on his way to the Subsidy — Seapoys at Ganjam has desired to

join

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join one of our Batt.ns here for the present & I have accepted their Offers. I have appointed Majr. Olenchlin, Mayor, Cunningham, Watkins & Gould Cadets who have been discharged the drill and were doing duty as private to duty as Ensigns till further Orders expressing that they are not to derive any claim of seniority & rank on that account or farther allowance, I have a number of Cadets more who are perfect in their disci-pline whom I could wish to dispose of in the same manner if your Honors approve of it. as some of the Corps want Officers want Officers. I have appointed Ensign Samson to act as my Aid du Camp / having much occasion for such assistance / till your pleasure is known and I shall be obliged to you to confirm him. Some of my Scouts which went to the Southward accompanied the Plunderers of Portonovo two days, but they could not keep up with them longer, they march back with precipitation by the route they came to lodge their plunder with the Army they burned some Villages & their talk was, that as soon as they had lodged their plunder they should return and scour the Country hereabouts I have

1007 Fort St. George July 1780

ff the Cattle towards the Army. They had accounts that Hyder with his main body Artillery and Europeans had come to Covelongum, & that his Son who was there before with the advanced party had advanced to Tremmalee and Chittepet, where much firing has been heard. They spoke of the Party gone towards Madras as 9000 Strong, that there was a party further to the Northward and one to the Southward but they talked of these with such exaggeration that there is no giving any credit to their Stories. I am pretty well convinced that Hyder has not six hundred Europeans in his whole Service, effective at least. These people do not speak as if Hyder himself with the Cannon would advance till the French fleet arrived. as soon as it should appear on the coast he was to come down and meet them here. They said Tippoo Saib had orders to take such Forts as he could, Garrison them, & put grain into them. the numbers at Porto Novo was about 1000 Horse and a few foot clothed which on their return they mounted Camels and Elephants above their loads, both Horse & Foot were well armed and the former well mounted

They

they talked of their plunder as worth three
lacks of Pagodas. from one Dutch man
80,000 Dollars in specie, which they were
so anxious to secure that they marched
30 Miles that day. I have Scouts out to the
westward, some of whom I soon shall
go to their army, by them I hope to be
informed of their real strength. I think
Hyder will not advance with Infantry &
cannon unless the French were to arrive
which cannot well be before the Monsoon
if he did he would not be able to avoid
an action which I believe he is too cau-
tious to risk. Bon Enfant's wife is here she
has recd. a letter from him advising her
to move things from the Gardens, as Hyders
horse will be down here very soon. Mr.
Peveron yesterday gave an entertainment
to all the principal French Gentlemen,
the first I am told since the Capture,
the Frenchmen in general seem quite
easy not disturbed at the thoughts of being
left without Troops, and some of the black
men are carrying their effects to princi-
pal French houses. but there are some
who are very downcast, they think
what we know, that no French fleet

will

Fort St George July 1780

will arrive, and that they shall suf-
-fer in the end for Hyder's present conduct.
Besides the Articles intended for the Arabs
I mean to send some of the same belonging
to M.r Arnaloube. I have plenty of
powder to spare to the Sartine if she
should be ordered to take any, I shall
only add, that I hope M.r Chase will be
continued Brigade Major to this division
And remain with the greatest Respect

Hon.ble Sir & Sirs

Your faithful & Obed.t Serv.t

John Braithwaite

Pondichery
23.d July 1780.

To Colonel Braithwaite
Commanding
Pondichery

Sir,

Two of my Seapoys returned this
morning from Hyders Camps at Shunodurm
Cherry River, which they left on yesterdays
morning & say they had seen encampments
of horses at different villages from Shuno-
-durum Cherry River, which is distant
about 2 miles from Trinomaly to Chittepet,
that they were informed Hyders people
had with them a number of Guns, 6000
Seapoys, & about 100 Europeans many of
them were French, & the Party sent to

To Col: Braithwaite

1010 Fort St George July 1780.

to be commanded by Monsieur Moorneo as near as the sound of the Drums strikes me, those Parties which were detached to Porto Nova & Conjeveram had not joined the main Body the Seapoys say they enquired very particularly if Hyder was with any part of these Troops but was informed not. They saw 8 Horsemen enter a Village about 15 miles from hence and set fire to it, & shortly after saw two other Villages near that in flames, which the Inhabitants had abandoned.

I am

Sir

Your very Obed.t Servant

Arth.r Stewart

Wednesday Be so good to inform me of any acc.ts you morn.g 3 o'clock have rec.d

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.r

Governor and President &.c Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Since yesterday I learn that Hyder's horse have retreated from Chitty Pett towards the Passes through which they entered the Carnatic. Some of their flying parties are still plunder-

From L.t Mackay
A.t Intelligence

1011 Fort St George July 1780

plundering about in the different villages.
but they are reported as of no great conse-
-quence.

This Fort and Garrison are
in very fine order, & I humbly beg leave
to assure you that there is nothing to
be apprehended in this Quarter if Hyder's
whole Army surrounded it.

I am Honble Sir & Sirs
Your very respectful &
Obed.t Servant
Geo. Mackay

Chingleput,
26th July 1780.

To the Honble Sir Thos. Rumbold Bart.
President &c. Members of the Select Committee
Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

We did ourselves the honor
of writing to you the 1st Inst. Duplicate of which
we now enclose you

From Bengal

The Honble Court having
disapproved of fortifying and maintaing
this Place except on a most economical scale,
we are to acquaint you, that the Detach-
-ment of Seapoys & Indent.d Ordnance
requested in our letter of the 26th December
1778, is now become unnecessary - what e

ever

1012 Fort St George July 1780

-ever requisitions, we have made since
them, we earnestly beg You to pay attention
to.

We have the honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs,
Your most Obed.t Servants
Wm. Brogg
Stewart

Fort Marlboro
13th. May 1780.

Edwd. Coles

Dispatched the following Letters-

To Col: John Braithwaite
Commanding at Pondichery

Sir,

The Sartine will sail im-
-mediately for Pondichery with sup field
pieces - ammunition &c. & a suffucient Det-
-achment from the Artillery to man them
also Tents for a Batt.n of Seapoys - We
desire you will on her arrival land
these articles and put on board the Sar-
-tine, the Cannon & Stores of all kinds
at Pondichery - also as much Gun-
powder as the Captain may think
proper to receive. The remainder of
the Gunpowder, we would have you
despatch in the best and most

To Col: Braithwaite
to send the Stores
from Pondichery
by the Sartine

of

Fort St George July 1780

expeditious manner you can, by Boats to Madras

We have ordered the 8th Batt.n of Seapoys with 2 field pieces to join you from Trichinopoly. & upon their arrival, you will be pleased to march with your whole Force to Wandewash but if from any Intelligence of the motions of Hyder's Army you should be of opinion that you cannot reach that place without running too great a risk, you will in that case either move this way or take post, in such manner as you shall judge most conducive to the security of the Troops until you can be relieved.

We are

Sir

Your most Obed.t Servants

John Whitehill &c.

Fort St George
2.d July 1780.

To Major Macdellan.
Commanding at

Sir

Tanjore

To Major Macdellan

Hyder Ally's Army having entered the Carnatic, we think it proper to advise you that you may be upon your guard, & use every precaution necessary for the security of your Garrison

1014 Fort St George July 1780.

We Shall send an Officer
and some Invalid Artillery men to Tanjore
Weare
Sir, Your most Obed.t Servants
John Whitehill &c

Fort St. George
24th July 1780

To the Right Honble Lord Macleod

My Lord,

We have ordered the
Artillery from the Mount and the De-
-tachment that is to go from this Garrison
to march as soon as possible to Pennamalee
to join the 73d Reg.t & on their arrival there
we request your Lordship will move the
whole to a place called Eyacottam, near
Conjeveram, where they will be joined
by a Battn of Europeans from Vellour.
We have the honor to be

To Lord Macleod to march with his Detachment to Eyacottam

My Lord,
Your most Obed.t
humble Servants
John Whitehill &c

Fort St. George
24th July 1780.

To Lieut. Col. Nixon
commanding at
Trichinopoly

Sir,

Hyder Ally's Army having entered

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Fort St George July 1780

To Lt. Dixon
one Company
of Sepoys to be
sent to Tinjee
& another to
Trichy.

entered the Carnatic, we think it proper to advise you that You may be as much as poss-ible upon ayour guard.

We desired in a letter written yesterday from the Secretary that you would order Capt. Davis's Batt. Lt. with 2 Fieldpieces to Pondicherry.

We now desire you will immediately send one Company of Sepoys to Gingee and another to Trichy to remain in those places till further Orders —

We are

Fort St. George.
27th July 1780.

Sir
Your most Ob.t Servants
John Whitehill &c

To Capt. Gibbings
Commanding at
Madura

To Capt Gibbings

Sir,

Hyder Ally's army having entered the Carnatic, we think it proper to advise you that you may be on your guard & use every precaution necessary for the safety of your Garrison & the protection of the Country as far as your Force will permit

We are, Sir,
Your Mo Obed. Servants
John Whitehill &c

Fort St. George.
27th July 1780.

1016 Fort St George July 1780 —

The same to Captain Cuming=
=toun Commanding at Pallamcotta &c=

28th Received the following Letters —

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq
President and Governor &
Fort St George

Honble Sir,

I have had to day no intelligence worth troubling you with, only that the Horse who made the attack on Porto Nova are gone to the Westward. We are exerting ourselves to Defend this Place in the best manner our small means will allow. Half of the Battalion doing duty here is at Nagore, where if I am not misinformed there is little or no property of the Honble Compys to defend. and here there is a great deal, if the whole or any part of the Nagore Seapoys where Ordered here, the would be of the greatest utility. If it was possible to add a few Artillery Men, of which we have only two & them Invalids, it would be of infinite Service. my Duty I think obliges me to give you the above information, submitting it to the decision and approbation of your Honr &c

I remain with the Great Respect Honble Sir

Your most Obed.t Hum.e

Wm Cuming

From Cuddalore requesting some Artillery may be sent.

Cuddalore
26th July 1780

? they

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Fort St George July 1780

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.
President &c. Select Committee
Honble Sir & Sirs,

I had the honor to address you the 23d. at night acquainting You that Teepoo Saib, had entered the Carnatic and by the intelligence that I have received, this day Hyder Alley is on his march by Sevagerpettah & Changamah & to go directly to Pondichery. he has left all his heavy Baggage at Coverypatam, a large body of Horse & Pollygars I expect to hear every moment he has invested Arnboor and that Gur —

I have the honor to be with all due respect —

Honble Sir & Sirs,
Your very Obed. &
Devoted Servant
Ross Lang

From Colonel Lang with Intelligence

Vellowre
25th July 1780.

P.S.

As the Tappall cannot be Depended on I have sent a Copy of this by two of my own Sircars —

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr.
President &c. Select Committee
Honble Sir & Sirs,

I had the honor to

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Fort St George July 1780.

From Colonel Langwerth Intelligence

addrest you twice this Day, inorder to acquaint you that Hyder Ally is on his march for Pondicherry, having left his heavy baggage and Guns at Coveryputam & that I expect every moment to hear that Amboor and Sautt Gur is invested

I have the honor to be with all due respect, Honble Sir & Sirs

Your very Hbl. & Devoted Servant

Rob. Lang.

Velloure
25th. July 1780.

Evening -

Dispatched the following Letters -

To the Honble Wm. Hornby Esq.
President & Gov. &c. Select Committee
at Bombay.

Gentlemen,

(We are now to advise You that Hyder Ally (whose intentions for sometime past have appeared hostile) has invaded the Carnatic with a considerable force & his Cavalry has already done great mischief by their Ravages.

It were superfluous in this place to state the probable Causes of this Invasion, the only thing that remains for us is, to consider upon the best

To Bombay, informing them that Hyder has Invaded the Carnatic

28

d

1014

Fort St George July 1780

best method of repelling it and punishing the author of so daring an Insult. For our part we can only act here upon the Defensive. The War must be carried into Hyder's Possessions on the Malabar Coast, & we trust your Situation will enable you to act with vigor on that side at least when the Maratta War is at an End. Meanwhile we would propose that some attempt may be made to stir up the Nairs against Hyders Government, which we have always understood to be a very practicable measure In short there is nothing within the Compass of our united Power that ought to be omitted on an occasion which calls so loudly upon all the Presidencies for the most spirited Exertions

We are,

Gentlemen,

Your most Obed.t

humble Servants

John Whitehill &c

Fort St George
28th July 1780

To Sir Edward Hughes K.B

Rear admiral of the Red & Commander in Chief
of His Majestys Ships
in India

Sir

As you have been so good to
have

1020

Fort St George July 1780

Spared us the Sartine to go to Pondichery we request the favor of you to give orders to the Captain to receive two Officers and 70 Artillery men & 60 Lascars with their Tents & Baggage also at his return from Pondichery to receive such Articles as shall be tendered to him by Colonel Braithwaite, & such French Officers & others as he shall be desirous of putting on board

We have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most Obedient

humble Servants

John Whitehill &c

Fort St George,

29th July 1780.

To Colonel John Braithwaite

Commanding at Pondichery

Sir,

Although in our letter of the 27th Instant, we desired you to march as soon as the 5th Batt. should join you but as it is doubtful when that Batt. may be with you, & as it is of material consequence that a Junction should be effected between your troops and those detached from hence, we would have You march as soon as you are ready giving information to Captain D[illegible] with such Instructions as may

To Colonel Braithwaite to march immediately by

Dav

her

Fort St George July 1780.

him to join you or the Army with as much safety & Expedition as possible -

We would have you send the sick in your Hospital to Cuddalore

The Brigade of Guns for the European Batt.n will be sent with the rest of the Artillery from the Mount -

Weare

Sir,

Your most Obed.t Serv.ts

John Whitehill

&c

Fort St George,
28th July 1780.

To W.m W.m Cuming
Chief of
Sirt

Cuddalore.

We have rec.d your several Letters, and much approve of your exertions for the safety of Cuddalore. We have ordered two Companies of Seapoys to be sent to you from Nagore, which we hope with your present Force will effectually secure you against any attempts that may be made by Hyder's Horse.

To be Cuddalore two Companies to be sent from Nagore

Sir,

We are

Fort St George,
29th July 1780,

Your most Obed.t Serv.ts

John Whitehill &c

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Fort St George July 1780

To Mr Richard Church
Resident at Tellicherry

Sir,

We are now to advise you that Hyder Ally has invaded the Carnatic with a large Force, & his Cavalry have already done considerable mischief - you will in consequence of this intelligence be on your guard against any attempts that may be made on your side. We hope your Troubles with the Nairs have ceased and we would recommend to You to try every means in your power to stir them up against Hyder's Govern-ment which we have always understood to be a very practicable measure.

To Tellicherry
Advising of Hyders invading the Carnatic

We are

Sir

Your most Obed. Servts
John Whitehill &c

Fort St George
28th July 1780.

To Mr John Studleston
Resident at Nagore

Sir,

We direct that you re-quire of Capt. Hughes to Detach two Com-panies of Seapoys to Cuddalore

To Nagore to send two Companies of Sepoys to Cuddalore

1023

Fort St. George July. 1780

We do not imagine that you are in any danger from an Incursion of Hyder's horse at present, should any however approach your way we trust that by a proper disposition of the Seapoys that will remain after the above are detached, you will be able to secure the Company's Property.

We are

Sir

Your most Obed.t Serv.ts
John Whitehill &c.a

Fort St. George
28th July 1780

29th

Mess.rs Smith and Johnson having this day delivered in the following Minutes they were ordered to be sent & bound for the Perusal of the Gentlemen of the Committee.

Mr.r Johnson's Minute desiring Col. Baillie Detachment may march to the Presidency

When I consented at Committee on the 26th that Col. Baillie should proceed against Cuddapa, matters did not appear to me so serious as they now do - It was then resolved that another Committee should be summoned on Friday the 28th instant, and had we met I meant to have proposed that Col. Baillie should be immediately ordered to proceed to the Presidency with

Fort St George July 1780

with the utmost expedition; & I now beg
leave to offer this as my Opinion

29th July. 1780. Samuel Johnson

Before I Sign the Letter to Colonel
Baillie I think it incumbent on me to in-
-forme the Committee, that I understand the
Cuddapa Country is situated on the other
side the Pajas far distant from Inacunda
This being the case should Col. Baillie
proceed thither with his Detachment it
will be no easy matter to recall him.
Should his services be required in the Car-
-natic, I therefore offer it as my opinion
and propose that counter Orders be sent
to Col. Baillie, directing him to move
with his Detachment towards the Presi-
-dency with all possible expedition - By
the junction of this Detachment, we
may be enabled to form an Army, Suffi-
-cient in all probability to drive Hyder
Ally out of the Carnatic, or at least to
prevent his taking possession of any of
the Strong Forts which I otherwise
very much fear he will do in spite
of us, as I see no possibility of our pos-
collecting together the Troops that are
scattered in the different Garrisons —

Mr Smith's Minute on the same Subject.

The 29th July 1780 in the Evening

Chas. Smith

Report

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Fort St George July 1780

Upon which the President & Sir Hector Munro deliver in the following Minute –

Joint Minute of the President & Gen.l Munro; &c.l Col.l Baillies Detachment coming to the Presidency

As Colonel Baillie, in our Minds is much better for the present with his Detachment where he is, as he may have it in his power not only to distress the Enemy but thereby oblige Hyder to withdraw some part of his force from the Carnatic, and there may be some doubt if Provisions can be immediately procured for a greater number than what are now under marching Orders, It is our opinions the Letter to Colonel Baillie ought to go without any alteration –

John Whitehill
Hector Munro

29th Received the following Letters

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.
President & Governor &c.a Select Committee
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Mr Cadogan

In compliance with your Orders of the 6th May, I have got the Honble Company's Rice sold as well as

1026 6

Fort St. George July 1780

as I possibly could. I have now the pleasure
of send you the particulars.

I am respectfully
Honble Sir & Sirs,
Your most Obed.t Hum.e Servant
Geo. Cadogan. Dep.ty to Col.
Baillie's Detachment

Inacunda.
23.d July 1780,

Rice sold on account of the Company at
Ongole 15.th July 1780. —

1.st Sort	3 Candy	19 Tuns	26 Mennakee	at 12 ps Candy	47. 49. 69
2.d — D.o	8 - D.o	19 - D.o	14 - D.o —	at 11 D.o	98. 38. 40
3.d - D.o	13 - D.o	10 - D.o	14 - D.o	10 D.o	135. 12. 20
	26.	9	22	W. Pag.d	281. 44. 49

Edward Edmonds

R. B

One Tun & five Mennakee quite rotten
thrown away - Seven Ton six Mannakee
Salt and 438 Gunny bags unserviceable.

Rice & Salt sold on acc.t of the Honble Com-
pany at Inacunda July 15.th 1780. Viz.t

1.st Sort 219 seer at 4 Dubbs p.r seer = 4. 3 fs
2.d D.o 5105 at 3 - D.o. D.o 71. 1
Salt 112 Mannakees at 1 Dubs p.r Man.n = 1. 28

Deduct 62 Coolies for Madras Pag.d 75. 32
4 days bringing the Rice down the Rock 5. 10
70. 22. 1/2
Signed Edward Boisdaune
Comm.g Inacunda 77. 22 Cowries Pd

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Fort St George July 1780

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.
Govr & Select Committee
Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Colonel Dixon
wt Intelligence

I have received
certain Intelligence from Warriapollum
of a Body of Hyders Horse about 4000
having entered that place yesterday
morning about nine of the Clock and
having burned some Villages & committed
other cruelties upon the Country People.

I remain Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most respectful
Faithful humble Servt
Eades Nixon

Trichinopoly Monday
24th July 1780.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
President &c. Members of the Select Committee
Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Nagore with
Intelligence.

I think it necessary to
acquaint You that in consequence of the
Reports brought hither yesterday & today
of the plundering of Porto Novo by a
considerable Body of horse, the Merchants
& Inhabitants of this Town have taken
the Alarm, & are preparing to retire

Fort St George July 1780.

to Negapatam, whether they are sending already their Families and effects. I have in vain endeavoured to convince them of their safety by representing to Mahomed Cossim & others of the principal Inhabitants that these horse are merely plunderers, & will not dare to come where they know there are Company's Troops, particularly as they must cross several rivers before they can reach Tagore. These arguments have had but little effect upon their fears, & upon the next unfavorable Report, whether true or false, they will I doubt not desert the Town.

Tho' I think it improbable the enemy will venture this way, we are going to prepare for their reception, by placing our three Guns at the avenues to the principal streets. Capt Hughes intends to take post at the Mosque, which is the best situation for the protection of the Town. But here I must observe to your Honr & that Capt. Hughes is of opinion that if the Enemy were to come hither in any considerable numbers, it would be impossible to prevent their plundering & burning many parts of the Town, because he could not venture to divide his

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Fort St. George July 1780

his force which exclusive of the Company at Carical, the half company at Rovalore and the different Guards there, consists of not more than 150 Sepoys fit for Duty.

I have had no authentic Intelligence of the Enemy's numbers, nor of their intentions — Your Honor &c having I presumed rec'd. Information on these points from the Chief of Cuddalore can best judge whether or not it be necessary to order us a reinforcement —

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

J. Hudleston

Nagore
25th July 1780.

To the Hon'ble John Whitehill Esq.
President and Governor &c. Select Committee
at
Fort St. George

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,

From Cuddalore have sent Tents to Pondichery &

I have enclosed is the Intelligence I received to Day, which I believe is as authentic as can be receive on times like these —

1030 Fort St George July 1780.

This morning I rec'd a letter from Colonel Braithwaite, requesting all the Tents we could possibly spare from this Garrison, as they were under marching Orders and very deficient in that article. It gave me particular pleasure that I could assist the Service and at 12 this Noon I despatched to Colonel Braithwaite four Marquees, twelve privale & two Bell Tents, which I flatter myself will meet with your Honor's &c approbation. The abovementioned Tents formerly belonged to the European Troop of Cavalry at Trincomalore, as they went by Sea. They are doubtless at Pondicherry ere this. every thing that can be done for the safety of this place will certainly be completed before tomorrow evening, but we much wish that it would be convenient to favour us with a few Artillery Men.

I remain with the greatest Respect

Honble Sir Sirs,

Your most Obedient &
very humble Servant
W.m Cunning

Cuddalore,
27th July 1780
9 P.M.

Intelligence brought by two of our

1031 Fort St George July 1780

our Aircara's from Oleandore Pettah
27th July 1780.

All the horse of Hyder
who lately pillaged Porto Novo are gone
to their main Army, excepting 200 horse-
men, they halted at Oleandore <u>pretty</u> till
yesterday noon, when they were to pro-
-ceed to their Army also.

It is reported that a
party of Hyder's horsemen went towards
Volconda and Ulatoor and pillaged the
Country thereabouts. Another Party also
proceeded to Tirnomalay, pillaged that
Country and killed the Amildar of that
place

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Col: Braithwaite acknowledging rect. of Tents from Cuddalore

I have rec'd from Cuddalore four Marquees complete and twelve private with two bell Tents, which number may therefore be substitute-ed if you think proper from the number on the return I sent you yesterday - as also fifty three bell tents which I find to be in the Stores here. - I hear of nothing new, the alarm of the Country is now much subsided, Some of the People who came in here from Chillum-

1032 Fort St George July 1780

=brum are returned, but I do not get in Bullocks & Sheep so fast as I could wish, but if the Country is a little quiet that Difficulty will cease. I do not hear any thing of any field pieces from Cuddalore or Nagore

I have the honor to be with much respect

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your faith.l & Obed.t Serv.t

John Braithwaite

Pondichery
2.d July 1780

To the Honorable John Whitehill Esq.r

President &.c.a Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs,

By intelligence I have received this day Hyder Ally is at Chan-=gamah where it is said he is to remain till he hears from Seapoo Saib and large Body of horse is assembled between Tri-=valoor & Conjeveram—

From Col.l Long with intelligence

I have the honor to be with all due Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your very Obedient & Devoted Servant

Ross Lang

Vellour
2.d July 1780.

Wrote the following Letters—

1033 Fort St George July 1780 —

To Lieut Col: Baillie
Commanding the Troops in Camp to the
Northward

Sir,

To Colonel Baillie
regarding the
Cuddapa Country.

In our last letter we suggested
to you the Idea of marching against the
principal fort of Cuddapah, and we are
in great hopes you will be able by
active measures to acquire possession
of that whole District, but if from
any Intelligence you may have obtained
concerning the force of the Fort of Sidout
you judge it cannot be taken without
heavy Cannon you will inform us
that we may supply you from hence
& in that case we would recommend
it to you to proceed against Cuman or
act in any other manner you may
judge most eligible for the distress of
the Enemy

Should Lt Douglas at
any time be in want of assistance for
the Protection of the Pentoor Convoy
You will afford him such as you may
think expedient, & as you can spare
from your force —

We

1034 Fort St George July 1780

Weare

Sir,

Fort St George,
29th July 1780

Your most Obed.t Servants
John Whitehill &c.

P.S. We desire you will send the whole of Capt. Smiths Batt.n to Madras / relieving the two companies at Cuzole, with two other companies from your Detachment / provided you can execute the Service, recommended to you, without it, as we much want to Strengthen the Army, going into the Field, but if you cannot possibly Do without that Batt.n, you may keep it with you, as long as shall be absolutely necessary & then send it hither with all expedition.

Wrote 27 Batt.n to Tricom

To Lieut. Douglas

Sir,

We desire you will immediately proceed to your Station in the Guntoor Circar, & dispose of your Seapoys in such manner as you may think best calculated for the Security of that District and should you be in absolute want of Reinforcement you must make application to Lieut. Colonel Baillie who

To Lieut. Douglas to apply to Col. Baillie for assistance if wanted

1035 Fort St George July 1780.

will have directions to supply you with such assistance as he may be able to spare

We are

Sir,

Your most Obed. Servants

John Whitehill &c.

Fort St George
29th July 1780

30th This day came in the following Letter

From Colonel Dupon, Cuttalore taken by the Enemy

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I have this moment heard that a body of Hyder's Troops with four Guns have made an attack upon Cuttalore which continued all yesterday that their main body lyes between Valconda and that place & the firing continued till 9 oClk. Since writing the above I hear that Cuttalore is taken that a guard of the Company's Troops were the principal defence: they however made their escape & have saved their Arms I am impatient for your Orders. I remain

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your most faithfull &
Obedient Servant
E. Nixon

Tirchinopoly
25th July 1780.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.
Governor & President &c. Select Committee
Fort St. George.

Honble

1036 Fort St George July 1780.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

From Captain Edmonds with Intelligence

Since last I did myself the honor to write, the behaviour of Hyder's horse has become very day more alarming, they have plundered villages to the Northward of this as far as Yanteapollem, & I have just received certain Intelligence that yesterday they plundered & burnt the greatest part of the Village of Cundacore, a principal Village in the District of Nellore. and look where I will towards the Vancalagurry Country I see Villages in flames - & the Inhabitants of this Country aswell as the Vancalagurry are fled to the hills with what they could save - I am also informed that Meer Saib Hyder's General is arrived from Cuddapah to Commorn with a Strong Party - I have directed some of the worst places in the Fort wall to be repaired which I hope will meet with your approbation.

I have the honor to be with much respect

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Your most Obedt. humble Servt.

Edward Edmonds

Captain Commanding

Ongole —
25th July 1780.

Honble

1037 Fort St George July 1780.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Major Macallar. Lays in provision for his Garrison

For several days past Reports have prevailed universally in this Country that a body of Hyder's horse had entered the Carnatic and had plundered & burned divers Villages near Arcalore and Wanapatoom. This morning I have received Intelligence that they have taken Outatore, in which there were a few of the Company's Seapoys who have escaped -

On hearing these reports I went to the Rajah who very readily on my representing the propriety of the measure agreed to lay in large Supplies of Provisions - One Lack of Cullums of Paddy with Dall, Ghee, Curry Stuff &c in proportion is already collected - People are employed to bring in 10,000 Sheep, a hundred good draught Oxen for the Service of the Artillery are ordered to be collected, as they may be wanted - The Rajah declared his readiness to supply any thing else in his power, which might be wanted for the publick Service - He at the same time requested me to represent to your Honor &c. the

dependance

Fort St George July 1760

defenceless State of his Country, as he could have no reliance on the Sibbendies for any military purpose / indeed I believe there are very few if any, of these now on Country Duty, who have ever burned pow-der since they have been in the Service) that in a fortnight hence the Season for putting Seed in the ground commences, that a very small body of horse would frighten the Inhabitants & drive away the Cattle this would prevent the sowing the seed consequently there would be no Crops, nor no means of raising money for the public Service —

With only three Battalions here. I should not, if I may be permitted to Offer my opinion, think it advisable to send any large Detachments to any considerable distance from the Garrison, At present the Coleroon is so high that it affords protection to the Tanjore Country but it will be probably be fordable in ten or fourteen days, when there will be nothing to prevent the depradations of Cavalry —

As there are several breaches in the Fause brais wall, at which an Enemy

may

might enter without difficulty, I have taken the liberty to order the Engineer to put them in such a state of defence as to secure us against the effects of any immediate attack and I have directed that a number of Malabar Pyroes, which are in Garrison, shall be pointed so that they may serve for the Stockades. As these Works will be attended with very small expence but they appear so necessary for the safety of the Fort, I hope you will approve of what I have done.

The Tondeman of Vaellore informs me that his Master had intelligence of 9,000 horse having marched towards Madura.

As we have no Artillery Men in Garrison, except a few Invalids I have ordered the Lascars to be instructed in long Gun practice. I beg to assure your Honble that every thing in my power shall be done to put the Fort on as respectable a footing as possible.

I have the honor to be with great Respect.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obedt most Hble Servt

Alex.r Macleod

Tanjore
26th July 1780.

1040 Fort St George July 1780.

Honble Sir and Sirs,

I have nothing new to inform you of - One of our advanced guards this morning came galloping in with news that a large body of Cavalry were advancing to the red hills, but I have had Officers & parties out for five or six miles each way & can see nothing of them, and upon the whole the alarm subsides greatly & many people who fled to the Woods are returning to their villages. The black people have a report that Gingee has been given up but I cannot give any credit to it, I have collected seven hundred Bullocks & a number of Sheep and shall continue to collect as at all events it secures the Cattle whether they should all be wanted or not. I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect

From Colonel Brathwaite with Intelligence

Honble Sir and Sirs,

Your faithful & Obed. Servant

John Brathwaite

Pondicherry.
July 23rd 1780.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.
President &c. Select Committee

Honble Sir and Sirs,

Your commands of the 21st I was not honored with till

From Col. Lang with Intelligence

23rd

1041 Fort St. George July 1780

this Morning. The first Batt.n 1st Regim.t is ready to march the moment it is ordered and I have both Draft & Barrage Bullocks in readiness if wanted.

The account of Hyder Ally being at Changamah is confirmed this morning & a large body of Horse lays between Vellore & Calishpauk. Enclosed is an Indent for Tents &c. which cannot be furnished the Regiment in this Garrison. — I have the honor to be with all due Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your very Obedient &

Devoted Servant

Ross Lang

Vellore
28th July 1780

P.S. Since writing this Letter I am informed that Hyder Ally have moved towards Calliaspauk —

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.r

Governor & President &c.a Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs.

From L.t Mackay with Intelligence

I have received certain Intelligence that the separate body of Hyders Army that was encamped on this side of Wandewash are moving towards this District. The Number is computed at four

thousand. I have lastly to complain of Veraswamy Renter of the Jaghier & Solembed Pillah renter of Chingleput who are now here, they neither will provide a grain of Rice for the provisions of this Garrison, or will they allow one to purchase any from the Country People.

The Paymasters General's head Cumcopully Gopalaya who is a man of great property in this Country & a very faithful Servant of the Honble Company's, sent me word that as he understood I had not a grain of rice in the Fort, I might send for all he had in his own house at Collatoor to the amount of one thousand three hundred Pags. worth & use the whole for the use of the Soldiers and be responsible to him for the money. To this I accordingly agreed and this day sent my people with Carts and Bullocks for the grain. But these Renters upon some pretence of the Ryots owing them money will not allow me to fetch the rice into the Fort, or will they provide the Garrison themselves with any thing they

I will Hasten to act for the best as the time is critical whatever &c

Every other Article is in the greatest order & readiness. I am,

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your respectful hum. Servant

Geo. Mackay

Chingleput

29th July 1780.

1043. Fort St George July 1780

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
President & Governor &c Select Committee
of Fort St George

d Honble Sir & Gentlemen,

From Sir Edwd Hughes advising of his intention to proceed to Negapatam

tures

When I last had the Honor to meet you in Committee I signified to you my Apprehensions that the French might attempt to land a body of Troops from the Mauritius on this Coast and the Intelligence I have very lately received from England which I have communicated to you strengthens my former apprehensions

As it is of the greatest importance to the safety of the Company's possessions and of the Carnatic to prevent such landing, and to defeat the designs of the Enemy, I shall proceed with his Majesty's Squadron under my Command to the Southward as far as Negore or Negapatam where I shall have a situation with the Squadron to endeavour to intercept any of the Enemy's Ships coming on this Coast for that or any other hostile purpose.

If in the course of this

1044 Fort St George July 1780.

Service I can be of any other use to the
Company's affairs it shall be particularly
attended to —

I am with great regard
Sir and Gentlemen
Your most Obed.
Humble Servant
Edward Hughes

Superb in Madras road
30th July 1780

30th Mr. Smith this day delivered in
the following Minute

Mr. Smith's Min. minute depending to Col. Baillie being ordered to proceed into the Country.

I lament most sincerely that
the majority of the Committee are determined
to persevere in their Resolution of ordering
Col. Baillie's Detachment to proceed onto
the Cuddapah Country, as I am convinced it
will prove a most distructive measure
& that by not recalling that Detachment
the Carnatic may be exposed to the utmost
hazard and danger - Cuddapah & that
Country is of very small importance to
Hyder Ally & he will retake them at his
leisure - as to our not being able to pro-
-cure provisions for Col. Baillies Detach-
-ment, I have no Idea of it - I have
now done my duty - and only desire
my minute of last night & this Day
may be Recorded for my justification

are

cont -

Fort St. George 31st. July 1780.

hereafter, as I do hereby dispent to the measure of the Majority, and hold them responsible for all its consequences

The 30th. July in the Morning — Chas. Smith

This Morning Messrs. Smith and Johnson sent in to the President the following Minute.

Joint Minute of Messrs Smith & Johnson that Genl. Munro should take the Field.

In the present critical and dangerous situation of Affairs, We are of opinion the command of the Forces apt to be should not be delegated, but that General Sir Hector Munro do take the field, in whom the Army must be supposed to have the greatest Confidence, founded on his former Successes —

29th. July. 1780. — Chas. Smith
Sam. Johnson

Monday the 31st. — At a Select Committee Present
The Honble John Whitehill Esqr. Presit.
Sir Hector Munro K. B.
Samuel Johnson

Mr. Smith indisposed —

Minutes of last Committee read & approved —

Read the following Letter from Fort Marlbro —

To

1046 Fort St George 31st July 1780

To the Honble Sir Thos Rumbold Bart. &c
President &c Members of the Select Commee
Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

We have the honor to forward a Duplicate of our address dated 13th May.

From Bencoolen wh an Indent for Stores

By indirect information we learn that five french Ships of War were at Batavia some time ago and intended to attack the Honble Company's Possessions on this Coast as yet we have seen nothing of them or had any confirmation of the intelligence so we are in hopes that it is false, but should it prove otherwise and they be Ships of force, we are of opinion, that we shall not be able, with our small Garrison to withstand their operations if judiciously conducted.

Should your Honor &c Members of the Select Committee learn that an attack has taken place against us we rely on your granting us all the relief & assistance in your power

accompanying is an Indent with which we request your compliance —

We have the honor to be

Honble

1047 Fort St George 31st July 1780

Honble Sir and Sirs,

Your most Obed. Servants
Wm Brooke
H Stewart
John Hutchison
Edward Boles

Fort Marlboro
22d June 1780

Hutcheon

Ordered that the Indent from Fort
Marlboro be complied with as far as
the several Articles can be spared—

to be complied with

Read the following Letter
from the Resident at Nagore

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.
President & Governor &c. Members of
the Select Committee at
Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

from Nagore regarding a Supply of Stores wanted there.

Since I had last the honor
to address you the Inhabitants of the Town
have in some degree recovered from their
fears, but their families & most of their
effects are still at Negapatam, nor will
they I fear remove them from thence, or
carry on their Trade as usual while there
is any prospect of troubles in the Country
I think it a justice due to Mahomed
Cossim to mention to your Honor &c that
he has been very assiduous in his endea-

vours

1048 Fort St George 31st July 1780

endeavours to prevent the Inhabitants from leaving the Town, & has himself set a good example by removing nothing from his Godowns, which are now full of goods - he has also promised to send for his family tomorrow

The Commanding Officer & the Storekeeper having represented to me, that there is a want of several Articles of military Stores Vizt Musquet ammunition, flints, tubes for 6 Pounders &c - I submit to Your Honor &c the authorising me to apply to Colonel Mac-lellan for a supply of those Articles as they cannot now be sent from Sea to Madras.

by.

from

Some People who arrived here to day from Tondy, bring accounts of a body of horse ravaging the Madura & Tin-nevelly Countries - I have sent Hircarahs to enquire into the truth of these Reports -

Mr Van Vlessingen and the other Dutch Gentlemen who lived in the Country are retired to Nezapatam and they are repairing & strengthening the Walls of the Outer Fort with all possible expedition.

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedt hble Servant

John Hudleston

Nagore
27th July 1780,

Read

1049 Fort St George 31st July 1780

Read the following Letter
from the Chief Engineer.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
President & Governor &c. Select Committee
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs.

From Chief Engineer regarding the State of the Fortifications

Under the present Alarm of
approaching hostilities I think it my Duty
to address your on some subjects coming
within my Department.

In the absence of the Fleet,
Service may be particularly required from the
East Line & N.E. & S.E. Angles of the Fort, I
had the strongest hopes that before this time
these, which are the only parts of the Fort
unfinished would have been in a complete
state of defence & they doubtless would have
been so to my wish had near the Quantity
of materials which I had every reason to
expect, been supplied. I think I can venture
to assure your Honor &c. that a month
or six weeks vigorous exertion will still
effect this most desirable End. I mean as
to the supply of money & provisions &
materials. We are now left in default of
some such exertion, without a possibility
of keeping on the Workmen beyond the

Period

Fort St. George 31st July 1760.

period of a week. I hope at this critical time your Honor &c will deem it necessary to demand & inforce the Exertions of the Contractor for Bricks & Chunam. During the course of the Season the Contractor for the Fortifications has worked up all the materials as fast as he could bring them in, & what has already been done you may easily judge that the time I have prescribed will complete the East line of the Fort

In the mean time I have to recommend that orders be issued for the mounting such Guns upon the South front & N.E. & S.E. Angles as I shall point out & that I may be furnished with people to remove the lumber that still remains upon the North Esplanade, the Lascars allotted me for that Service having been withdrawn

I take leave to suggest to your Honor &c that 100 of the Mount Lascars should be ordered for the service of this Garrison as Men capable of the Business. The Several Services for which Lascars are required in Camp besides the one of merely working the Guns may be performed by newly raised Lascars who cannot be adequate to the Service required of such in the Fort. Indeed I hardly enumerate the working Guns, tying

Stockades

1031. Fort St George 31st July 1780.

Stockades, picketing, fascines &c. &c.—
for which purposes, Knowledge, and
Experience are absolutely necessary —

I have endeavoured to secure
the Black town all in my power by com-
-pleting the Stockade at the N. E. angle,
and extending a row of Chevaux de Frize
and an Epaulement of earth from the
Southern extremity of the Wall towards
the Fort, by the Guns of which it is pro-
-tected, The Terre plein of each Bastion
is rammed down, & made as good as the soil,
and its long neglected state will admit—
& the Bamboo hedge is cutting down to an
height proper to the work.

I have the honor to be
Honble Sir and Sirs,
Your most Obedient and
Faithful Hble Servant
Geo. Maule
Major & Chief Engineer.

Fort St George
31st July 1780.

Order thereon

Ordered that such Guns as the
Engineer may think necessary be mount-
-ed upon the South Front and the N.
E. and S. E Angles of the Fort —

The Committee of Works to raise Lascars

Agreed that the Com
-mittee of Works be empowered to raise
as many new Lascars as shall be absolutely

by

Fort St George 31st July 1780.

absolutely necessary for the present.

Read the following Letter from Colonel Baillie to the Governor.

Honble Sir,

I beg leave to represent that without some method is taken beyond my Powers of sending this Detachment with Rice they will be very soon much distressed The incursions of Hyders horse have put a stop to our Supplies from the Southward & the fulness of the Kistnah bars us to the Northward. In hopes of particular directions from the Honble Committee I have by fair promises hitherto detained our draught & Carriage Bullocks - They now grow troublesome & without we shall not have the ability to move - No Madras Topass Yesterday or to day. I am respectfully

Honble Sir,

Your most Hble & Obd. Servt.

Wm Baillie

Inacunda
27th July 1780

From Col. Baillie the Detachment in want of Rice.

Agreed to write to Colonel Baillie directing him in case he should not be able after the receipt of our last letters to subsist his Detachment in the Enemy's Country or from any other Quarter, that he do immediately march this way.

Orders thereon

Taking

taking such Route as may appear most eligible to him.

Mr Johnson in consequence of the above resolution carried by the President & Sir Hector Munro, delivers in the following Minute, to which Mr Smith also subscribes –

Mr Smith & Johnson dissent to the orders given to Col. Baillie

As I observe it is carried by the President's casting vote that Colonel Baillie shall not immediately return to the Presidency, but that he do proceed against some Forts in the Cuddapah Country, I desire that my opinion of Yesterday be recorded, and I now dissent to the measure holding the Majority responsible to the Company for the Consequences –

31st July 1780. Samuel Johnson

The President delivers in the following Minute –

President's Minute is against the General's taking the Field.

The President has the highest confidence in the General's military abilities and Experience, & is fully satisfied of his Zeal and readiness to serve the Company in any manner the Committee may point out, but the President thinks that in the present situation of Affairs it

1035 Fort St George 31st July 1780.

it is highly expedient to have the benefit of Sir Hector Munro's advice to enable the Committee to form their Plans of Operation for without this advantage he is apprehensive they will find themselves much at a loss particularly as there seems to be a want of that unanimity in the Committee so necessary to ensure success to their measures. For these reasons & because the President presumes that Lord Macleod who is entrusted with so distinguishing & honorable a Command in the King's Service is fully competent to the Charge of the Army, he proposes that the General do continue to give his assistance in the Committee and that Lord Macleod be desired to take the Command of the Army & furnished with the necessary Instructions for his guidance.

30th July 1780. John Whitehill.

General's Minute

Sir Hector Munro expresses the sense he entertains of what the President has said concerning him in his Minute. He observes also that he shall be always ready to serve his employers in any manner the Committee may think proper and whenever the Army is assembled. and the Committee are enabled

enabled to judge more clearly of Hyder's intentions, he will proceed and take the Command. In the meantime he thinks he can render more service by staying at Madras and that exclusive of this consideration his health is at present very indifferent.

Lord Macleod to take the command of the army.

Resolved that Lord Macleod be desired to take upon him the Command of the Troops now assembling in the Field and that Instructions be prepared for him to be laid before the Committee.

Major Thos. Fletcher having arrived from England on the London and his rank on the List of the Army being above Lieut. Col. Nixon, he is now appointed a Lieut Colonel to rank between Lieut Col. Baillie and Lieut. Colonel Nixon.

Major Fletcher appd Lt. Colonel

The Commander in Chief recommending that the Troops that are to take the field from hence & from Vellore be assembled at Cyamcollam near Conjeveram — it is resolved that a letter be written to Col. Lang at Vellore to send the European Battalion to that Place & that the Troops do march so as to join them on their arrival —

The European Battn at Vellore to march to Cyamcollam

As

Fort St George 31st July 1760

As the several Garrisons in the Carnatic will be much weakened by the Army's taking the field, it is Resolved that such of the Battalions of Seapoys as remain in Garrison be ordered to augment their Companies 20 Men each.

20 Men to be added to each company of Sepoys in Garrison

Read the following Letters

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I this day received a letter from Captain Bordier dated Warriore Pollum 26th instant he was on his way to anjengo, but says that the Country all round thereabouts is pestered with the Enemy's horse particularly to the Southward so that he cannot proceed. he describes them as very irregular ill mounted horse, says that according to the best accounts there may be 1500 or 2000 thereabouts but that a Battalion of Seapoys would soon clear the Country of them I have dispatched a man to him to communicate to him your Orders for his joining his Corps. Lieut Roberts was here a few days ago in his way to Tiagar and as there was good reason to think the direct road was much infested with

From Colonel Braithwaite with Intelligence

(Cavalry

Fort St George 31st July 1780.

Tiagar.

Cavalry of the enemy, he went from hence to Cuddalore, hoping to get to Tiagar by the way of Warriore Pollam. while he was here I dispatched one of my Scouts, with a letter from him to the Serjeant who Commanded at Tiagar in his absence. this man is returned and has brought two letters for Mr. Roberts which I have opened. the one is from the Serjeant of which I have the honor to enclose you a copy, the other from the Killedar, he mentions the Garrison to be in a good State as to Provision, Ammunition Stores &c. which is confirmed by a return of the Serjeants. the Killedar wishes for a few more Seapoys (they have but for duty eighty) to drive the straggling parties of horse from the neighbourhood, I find they have 200 Spare Arms, & I understood from Lieut. Roberts there would be no difficultty in raising more if His Highness thought proper to augment his force in his frontier Forts many of the straggling parties might be cut off and stripped of their plunder. the Scout I sent came back the direct road from Tiagar but saw no horse, he heard of them, and saw some Villages

straggling

2.

Fort St George 31st July 1780.

Villages burning. in going he fell in with a party of horse who had been at Porto Novo returning with their plunder, they were about 200 and passed on within three miles of Chagar. I have been honored this day with your Orders of the 27th to which I shall pay punctual obedience, I cannot believe that any thing will occur to interrupt the march of so respectable a force as I shall have over & above the number of Battalions of Sepoys you describe. I have His Highness's 1st Regt of Cavalry which I have put in good spirits by the advance of four hundred Rup. to Lieut Powney, the European Battn is grown strong to what it was no less than fifty six men have come out of the hospital since the alarm of the Enemies approach I daily send out small parties of Cavalry & they go farther & farther round, which gives the Country people much countenance and has enabled me to get in sufficient Draught Bullocks for the field pieces coming & the two Brass 12 Pounders here which I am completing with fixed ammunition, & have trained a few Europeans of the Regiment to the Artillery Service so that my Train will be very respectable indeed. I have also got

force

sufficient

1059 Fort St George 31st July 1780

sufficient carriage bullocks a good stock of Sheep, arrack, bisket &c. I have sent to Cud-dalore to desire they will indent for Mili-tary Stores ammunition &c which I shall supply them with. I have received from thence only four Marquees, 12 private and 2 Bell Tents - And I observe that your ho-nors in your letter of the 27th speak of send-ing by the Sartine Tents for one Battalion of Seapoys only.

bisquit

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your faithful and Obedt. Servt.

John Brathwate

Pondichery
July 29th 1780

To Lieut. Geo. Roberts
Pondichery

Sir,

Yours of the 25th Inst. I received at one o'Clock this afternoon and was very glad to hear that you was safe. This morning two Seapoys of ours came from Cud-dalore and brought a letter for you en-closed in one from your Dubash at Madras dated the 23d Inst. in which the Dubash gives no other account than that there were four ships come from Europe to Madras that day. and that Col. Fletcher and Mr Sulivan were come out again -

Since

1060. Fort St. George 31st July 1780.

Since the 21st Inst. We have been both Night and day on our guard as we are informed by the Country people that the Enemy is all round the Country. I have sent out several people for intelligence, I can not learn that there is any Camp round this Country of the Enemy, only some stragling horse burning and plundering the Country. Every method that can be taken is done for the good of the Pettah and the Fort both above and below.

straggling

Signed
Wm. Hardal Sergt.

Tiagar, 27th July seven o'Clock in the Evening,

John Whitehill

Witness Witness
Saml. Johnson

1061. Fort St George July 1760.

31st Dispatched the following Letters —

To Colonel Ross Lang
Commanding at Vellore

Sir.

We desire you will as soon after the Receipt of this Letter as possible direct the European Battalion with two field pieces to march from Vellore to Cyamcollam. It lies on the South side of Palaar River near Conjeveram and is the place on which Gen.l Smith encamped the Army in the last War with Hyder Ally. We have sent that part of the Army which is to go from hence, Pennamalee & the Amount to the same Place where it will join the Battalion from Vellore —

In the march of this Batt.n you will be guided with respect to the Route and time of setting out, by the Intelligence you may receive relative to the movement of Hyder's Force so that the Battalion may proceed in safety to the place of Rendezvous. But in case you should be of opinion the Battalion cannot march without danger of being intercepted by a Superior Force,

To Col: Lang to march the European Battn to Cyamcollam.

Amount

you

1062 Fort St. George July 1780

You will then write immediately to the Commanding Officer of the Troops at Eyam-cottam & keep the Battn. at Vellore until he shall have taken the necessary measures to facilitate the Junction — You will see the necessity of keeping the time of marching and the Route which the Troops are to take as secret as possible

We desire that you will order all the Draught & Carriage bullocks you have provided to be sent with the Battalion.

We shall direct a 100 European Invalids to march as soon as possible from Chingleput to Vellore where they are to do duty. We desire that all the Cadets at Vellore may accompany the Battalion when it marches. We are

Sir,

Your most obedt. Servts.

John Whitehill &c

Fort St. George.
31st. July 1780.

To Lieut George Mackay
Commanding at
Chingleput

Sir,

To Lt. Mackay to send 100 European Invalids to Vellore

We desire that you will send a 100 of the European Invalids from your Garrison to Vellour, taking the precaution

of

of marching them when they are likely to meet with least Interruption from the Enemy

We are

Sir Your most Obed. Servts
John Whitehill &c

Fort St George
31st July 1780

To Mr. Bryan Scotney

Sir,

The President and Select Committee are pleased to direct that you do make up, eight Tumbrils for the six 6 lb Carriages lately ordered.

To the Military Storekeeper

I am Sir, Your most Obed. Servant
Chas. Oakeley Secry

Fort St George
31st July 1780

1st August Recd. the following Letters

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr.
President & Governor &c. Select Committee
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I have the honor to acquaint your Honor &c. that I arrived here yesterday after having been obliged to wait

From Captain Pringle with Intelligence

wait much longer for Bullocks & Coolies than I expected, on account of the disturbances in the Country.

The Villages in my rout from Ongole to this place are almost entirely destroy'd and some of them laid waste by the late Incursions of the horse. I halted a day in Ardingy the Village they began their depredations at, which with two other Villages Purchoor & Innamunna Maloor, were formerly ceded by the Nabob of Cuddapah to Bangar Naindoo the Ongole Rajah, who paid a small annual Tribute for them, which tribute has, I believe, been discontinued since his Highness the Nabob of the Carnatic became possessed of the Ongole Country. But it is not from any claim of this kind that they began their outrages at Ardingy, for they afterwards plundered every other Village indiscriminately that fell in their tract as far down as the Sea Coast.

I have the honor to be

Honble Sir and Sirs,

Your Obed.t hble Servant

John Pringle

Innaundah,
27.th July 1780.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.r

President &c. Select Committee.

Honble

1065 Fort St George August 1780.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

By intelligence I have this day received Hyder Olly was yesterday at Calliskapauk he has taken Polloore and has sent a body of troops against Carnatic Gurr. I have the honor to be with all due respect Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Colonel Lang with Intelligence.

Your very Obedt. &c
Devoted Servt
Ross Lang.

Vellore
30th July 1780,

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr.
Govr. & Prest. &c. Select Committee
Honble Sir & Sirs.

Possessing every honest and faithful wish for the good of the Service I have the honor to be in, I hope the following suggestion will be forgiven me, & considered as a point of duty.

From Lt. Mackay with Intelligence

Seventeen Elephants & 250 horse are concealed in the woods behind Sadras for the purpose (in my humble opinion) of receiving Stores &c. from the Dutch Chief there - or perhaps waiting until some one or two of their Ships with these articles shall arrive - a watchful

Eye

1066 Fort St George August 1780

Eye over the motions of that Settlement would therefore I respectfully conceive be necessary. Nothing new here, Hyder's horse on the other side of Chittapet

I am Honble Sir & Sirs
Your Obedt & Respectful
humble Servant
Geo. Mackay Lieut

Chingleput
30th July 1780,

To Charles Oakeley
Secry to the Select Committee
Sir.

From Lt Colonel Russell

I have just now had the honor to receive your letter of the 28th and shall without loss of time proceed to Pondichery and accompany Colonel Brathwaite's detachment when it marches to join the Army.

I am
Sir.
Your most obedt hble Servt
W Russell

Cuddalore
30th July 1780

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Colonel Brathwaite with Intelligence

All is extremely quiet round about here. a report has been circulated that a french Fleet had appeared off Porto Novo, but I cannot learn that

there

1067. Fort St. George. August 1780.

There has been appearance to countenance such a report. two large Ships appeared off Alamparva the 27th inst. with English colours & standing to the Northward, they were judged to be China Ships from Bombay. I have received a large Indent for Ammunition & Stores for Cuddalore — which I shall comply with to the utmost of my power. we could wish to see Mr. Munro, in every other respect we are as well as you could wish. I intercepted a French letter to day going to Negapatam, as it was going as it were by chance that I thought I might gain some information from it, but the writer mentions the incursions of Hyder with all the vague reports attending them. particularly that he understands that he is now blockading Arcot & Vellore with an Army of 100,000 Men he tells his Correspondent a M. La Touche at Negapatam, that every report of a French Fleet is fabulous that there is no reason to think any will come to India, & laments that they as Merchants must in the End suffer from the steps of Hyder as the troops here will probably move

a

10.68 Fort St. George 1st August 1780.

A country Snow appeared in the offing with only a jury foremast this evening she is at an anchor by this time, if I can engage her I will to carry the Powder, & will request the Captain of the Sartine to take her in tow, there is much more than I think he would chuse to receive on board the frigate and it would run great risk in going in undecked boats of being entirely spoiled.

I have the honor to be with great respect Honble Sir and Sirs,

Your faithful & Obedt. Servant
John Brathwaite

Pondichery
30th July 1780

P.S. Mr. Hudleston writes me that he hears of a body of horse under Isooph Cawn's Son, between Madras & Tondi. —

Madura

Tuesday 1st August.

At a Select Committee Present
The Honble John Whitehill Esqr. Govr. Presr.
Chas. Smith, Sir Hector Munro K.B.
Samuel Johnson

Minutes of last Committee read and approved.

Read the following Letter from Lieut Colonel Nixon. —

To

1069 Fort St George 1st August 1780

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr.
Govr. &c. Select Committee
at Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Before I had the honor to receive your commands of the 24th instn. which shall be punctually obeyed, I had communicated to you in two letters all the Intelligence I had recd. —

From Colonel Nixon has granted the Nabob's Manager 5 Companies of Sepoys to collect Grain

Upon a representation made to me by the Nabob's Mangers here, of the great loss the Country & his affairs must inevitably sustain unless I should grant a Detachment of Sepoys to act in junction with some people they had collected to protect the Country & bring in some grain, & considering the difficulty the Enemy would find in transporting over the rivers any body of Troops capable of annoying them I have acceded to their solicitations and granted them provisionally five Companies, which will make the whole force pretty formidable & capable of the Service required. Should I have acted in this agreeable to your pleasure I shall be happy, being most respectfully

Honble

1070. Fort St George 1st Augt 1780.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most faithful
& Obdt Servant
Eccles Nixon

Trichinopoly
28th July 1780.

Approved

The Committee approve of the appointment given by Lieut. Col Nixon to the Nabob's Manger at Trichinopoly.

Read the following letter from Lord Macleod —

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.
Governor & Prest. & the Select Committee
of Fort St George

Gentlemen,

From Lord Macleod with his opinion regarding the junction of the Army

As you have done me the honor to appoint me to the Command of the Army you propose to send into the field against the most formidable enemy that has ever invaded the Carnatic, I must now take the freedom to express to you without reserve my sentiments on so serious & important an occasion. I have never been present at any deliberations you have had, nor has my voice been called upon concerning your plans of operations otherwise I would have communicated my opinion to you in per-

(son

person, shortness of time now allows me only this mode of informing you of my ideas on the plan you direct me to carry into execution.

You propose that the 73d Reg.t joined by the Artillery from the Mount, a Company of European Grenadiers and one Battalion of Seapoys from Madras shall march to Tyeruttam where they will be joined by the European Batt.n from Vellore & afterwards by three Battalions of Seapoys & a body of Europeans under Colonel Braithwaite from Pondicherry at Wandewash.

I understand that Hyder Ally the Enemy you have to cope with has entered the Carnatic in great force, & that large Detachments of his Cavalry have penetrated as far as Conjeveram which they have destroyed, and as Porto Novo on the Sea coast, which they have plundered, that is they have had, & there is nothing to prevent their still having possession of that very range of Country through which the three Detachments are singly to pass. I must take the liberty to observe to you that the

they

measures

Fort St George 1st August 1780.

measure of forming a junction of your troops from such distances in the face of so formidable an Enemy, neither whose entire force, nor whose Ports you are thoroughly acquainted with, seems to me far too dangerous to be hazarded at this juncture. Hyder is an intelligent Enemy who has most probably conducted his measures from a knowledge of our situation, his motions are rapid and any mistakes on our side may be of the most serious consequence. The Rendezvous you propose might have been most proper before the invasion, but the march of those Detachments by the roads proposed, would at this critical time render them liable to be attacked seperately, & either the object of their junction rendered abortive, or some part of your Army receive such a check as in my opinion it would be imprudent to risk in the first outset of the war.

I deem the Corps assembled at Ponnamalee as the Basis of the strength of the Carnatic, & the protection of this Settlement, in my judgment

-you
proper

1013 Fort St George 1st August 1780

ought

it not to move from the cover of your Fort
& from the neighbourhood of your Magazines
& stores, till it is joined by all the Troops
you can draw together, and enabled to
march in sufficient force to act effectually
in the field against so numerous a body of
Cavalry as are now said to have entered the Country
I will not take upon me to point out in what
manner the distant Corps should be assembled
but they should be directed to march by routes

routes

which your knowledge of the Country point
out the least exposed to be harrassed by
the Enemy, and the junction should be
formed near your Presidency —

A considerable part of your
Forces both Europeans & Sepoys are now
in the Northern Circars, It is a maxim
supported by the ablest masters in the
art of war that when the center of the
State is invaded and in danger the
Troops should be called from the extre-
mities for the defence of the most
material part. If you cannot guard
the whole extent of your Country it
surely does not admit of a doubt
whether a distant province or the
Center of your possessions & the environs

of

1074. Fort St George 1st Augt 1780

of your capital are most worthy to be preserved, Colonel Baillie with his Detach-ment I therefore think should be ordered to march towards the Carnatic without delay. The Nabob has given the strongest assurances that his three Regts of Cavalry shall be paid their arrears, & join the Army, after his solemn promise I cannot doubt his intention, but a body of Cavalry are so essentially necessary* that His Highness may be warmly pressed to loose no time in performing his pro-mise.

* on this occasion that I cannot help requesting

At the same time that I have thought it necessary to inform you thus of my sentiments respecting the junction of the Troops let me assure you that I have no other motive for doing so than zeal for the interest of the Company and the honor of the Nation, I do not wish to multiply difficulties, but a proper regard to my reputation will not per-mit me to adopt a responsibility in the execution of plans which do not coincide with my own judgment I have the honor to be Gentlemen.

d

honour

Your most Obedt & most hble Servt
Macleod

Fort St George,
31st July 1780

Sir

1075 Fort St George 1st Augt 1780

Sir Hector Munro in consequence of the foregoing Letter enters the following Minute —

General's Minute on the above

If the Committee have nothing in view but guarding Madras and the Jaghire, Lord Macleod may be right with respect to the Troops being assembled at or near the Presidency; but as it is not only intended to secure Madras, but if possible to prevent Hyder ally from getting possession of the principal Forts in the Carnatic, I as a Member of the Committee thought then, & do think now, that the Troops might & ought to be assembled rather near the Scene of action, or where in all probability the operations of the Campaign will be carried on, than at or near the Presidency. — What confirms me the more in this, is that from all the information I have had as yet there have but parties of Irregular horse entered the Carnatic, as by the two hircars that came into me last night Hyder is still with his Infantry & Artillery is still at Calispauth, which is near part of his own territories — Whilst

he

Fort St George 1st Augt 1780

he remains in that position his Cavalry cannot prevent the junction of the Army And if the Committee do me the honor to desire me to effect the junction I think I may venture to promise them to perform it. But if owing to various delays in getting bullocks &c &c ready so as that the Troops might remove from their Different Cantonments to the place of rendezvous, Hyder may by that means have time given him to prepare for his intended Operations & be beforehand with us in moving. it may be necessary to alter the rout sent to the Different Commandants for marching the Troops & even this can be done should there be a necessity for it. In regard to Colonel Baillies Detachment if no care is necessary to be taken of the Circars, if Colonel Baillie cannot distress the Enemy I have no objection to his being ordered into the Carnatic with his Detachment but should it be thought that both or either may be of some Consequence, should Hyders Army be so very superior to ours, in that event, when the Troops have assembled they can act upon the

Defensive

route

us

Cantoonments

Fort St George 1st Aug.t 1780

defensive, at the same time prevent Hyder from possessing himself of any of the principal Forts, provided provisions are had for the Troops, And in this last event Colonel Baillie may be ordered up to join the army.

Fort St George,
1st Aug.t 1780

Hector Munro

The President proposed that Sir Hector Munro be now desired to take upon him the Command of the Army assembling in the field, and that the following Instructions be delivered to him —

The President proposes the General to take the Field & that the following Instructions be delivered to him

To Major Gen.l Sir Hector Munro K.B
Commander in Chief of the Honble Company's Forces on the coast of Choromandel.

Sir,

We desire you will proceed to take Command of the Troops assembled at Poonamalee and march with them to Ey-amcottah near Conjeveram where you will make the necessary dispositions for forming a junction with the Troops coming from Vellore Pondichery & Trichinopoly.

To enable You the more effectually to answer this purpose

We

Fort St George 1st Aug.t 1780

defensive, at the same time prevent or
hinder from suspecting himself of any of
the principal Forts, provided provisions
are had for the Troops, And in this last
event Colonel Baillie may be ordered
up to join the Army.

Fort St George,
1st Aug.t 1780

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forming a junction with the Troops coming
from Vellore Pondichery & Trichinopoly.

To enable You the more
effectually to answer this purpose

We

1078. Fort St George 1st Augt 1780

we empower you to issue such Orders as you may find expedient to any Officer Commanding Garrisons or Detachments of Troops in the Carnatic.

We can form no particular plan of Operations for the Army until the Designs of the Enemy become more apparent. Our views are at present confined to the protection & Defence of the Carnatic and the only Instructions we shall now give you are to act in such manner as you may deem most conducive to that End.

When the Army is assembled if from the dispositions which may be then made by the Enemy, you think you can leave the Command, we wish You to come to the Presidency that we may have the benefit of your advice for our future operations & in that case you will deliver over the Command of the Army to the next Senior Officer giving him every necessary information for his guidance. We are the more desirous of your return as we must in a great measure depend on the opinion which You may be enabled to give us of the

Strength

1077 Fort St George 1st Augt 1780

strength of Hyder's Army, with the Train of Artillery attached to it, & likewise of the probability of our Troops being supplied with provisions so that we may form a judgment whether it be most expedient to act upon the Offensive or defensive during the Campaign. In the settling of this point, as several things will occur which may be more fully & more properly discussed at the Board than by letter, we hope you will have it in your power to come to Madras, if it be but for a few days—

We are

Sir

Your most Obedt Hble Servts

John Whitehill

Sen Select Comm

Fort St George,
1st Augt 1780.

Approved by the President and Sir Hector Munro

Mr Smith & Mr Johnson enter the following dissents

Having attentively perused the Letter from Lord Macleod, I must confess that his Ideas coincide very much with mine, & that I think with his Lordship, the junction of the

Mr Smith's dissent to the Army's taking the Field before the Detachments join

1680 Fort St George 1st Augt 1780

& proposing that 2000 Sepoys be raised for the defence of the Black Town; & disapproving of the Generals being allowed ~~remain~~ to the army at his pleasure

the troops expected from different places should be made nearer to the Presidency than Conjeveram. I think with his Lordship that instead of the troops now assembled at Poonamalee, marching to Eyamcollam, they should take their Station at some convenient spot not far distant from Madras, that they may be supported in case of emergency and from whence the general might march as occasion should require to facilitate the junction of Colonel Brathwaite's Detachment & that expected from Vellore, the former is of the utmost importance in the present situation of affairs and every nerve should be strained to effect it, this once accom-plished the junction of the Detachment from Vellore can be no difficult matter as the whole can then move to ensure its success — On the other hand should the Troops at Poonamalee proceed to Eyamcollam & Hyder make a rapid march, in Force, they might be ex-posed to great hazard & danger and the junction of the other Detachments be rendered more difficult & precarious

&

Fort St George 1st Augt 1780

Should any accident happen to any one of these Detachments, it might be attended with the most serious consequences as present I confess I apprehend little danger to the Capitol so cannot approve of his Lordships Idea of taking Post near the Black Town only but until Seapoys are raised for the immediate defence of the Black Town, I must candidly own, that I think it is at risk from so enterprising an Enemy as Hyder Ally, and who may by forced marches come upon us before we are prepared to give him a proper reception - Two Battalions or 2,000 Seapoys once raised & established for the defence of the Black Town will put it in perfect security, and calm the minds of the Inhabi-tants, who are at present in constant alarm & apprehension I trust therefore the Committee will give the necessary Orders for the most speedy & effectual completion of this very desirable object, & that proper Officers be appointed for this purpose - the President mentioned Mr Sydenham the Town Major for this business, &

to

Fort St. George 1st Augt 1780.

to this Officer I am willing to allow every qualification, that can be wished for or desired in an Officer, but in my Judgment he must be some what more than man, if he is able properly to attend to the various Duties of his Station as Fort Major and de Camp to the Governor in such critical and busy times as these, & besides find time to raise & form Battalions of Seapoys. There can be no hesitation as to the propriety of raising these Battalions for the safety & protection of the Black Town, as the Inhabitants have voluntarily offered to bear the expence, & the riches contained within those walls are too great, to be left neglected & exposed when we have so fair an opportunity of effectually securing them.

I think it highly proper that General Sir Hector Munro should take the Field but I cannot approve of giving him a latitude for return-ing to the Presidency at his own discretion. The Committee must be the best Judges when they stand in need of his advice & will

Fort St George 1st Augt 1780

desire his personal attendance at their Deliberations when the Subject under debate cannot be discussed by Letter, but in all other cases I am of opinion that the most proper Station for the Commander in Chief in these times of Danger, is in the Field –

August 1st 1780 Chas Smith

Mr Johnson's Minute on the same Subject coinciding with Mr Smith in opinion

I disapprove of the Instructions proposed to be given to Genl Sir Hector Munro. If I may judge by the premature manner in which they were brought into Committee, they must have been previously agreed on between the Governor & General, on a supposition that no debate could arise on their propriety.

But I am of opinion that we should not leave it in the Genl's option to remain with the Army, or to return to the Presidency, as he may think proper. It is evident that from Camp he can give us every necessary information, relative to the disposition of our Army, & that of the Enemy, with more precision, than if at the Presidency. I cannot foresee any case in which his advice can be of greater

Service

10.24 Fort St George 1st Augt 1780

Service at the Presidency, than his being at the head of the army. It is from our Camp that we must expect the most material intelligence, & therefore the General's residence there must be of the highest importance.

It gives me the deepest concern that difference in opinion should at this critical juncture, be construed into an opposition to the measures of Government or that it tended to retard our operations against Hyder Ally, whose rapid progress require the utmost vigilance & dispatch. I therefore deem it incumbent on me to recapitulate the most material points, in which the President & General have differed from Mr Smith & myself since the 23d. Octr. when the first advices were rec.d of Hyder's having actually invaded the Carnatic.

The President & General insisted that more time would be lost in embarking the Troops at Pondichery on board the Squadron, than by marching them over land, & that the latter could be effected without endangering the Detachment. Had the Opinion given by Mr. Smith & myself, been followed, at the

time

time it was offered, these troops would prob-
-ably have ere this been at the Presidency,
and every apprehension of an Attack on them by
the Enemy removed

The President & General were
first of opinion that Col. Baillies Detach-
-ment should attack Cuddapah, in the Enemy's
Country, & for beyond the passes. Mr Smith &
myself were for its being ordered directly
to Madras, but orders were given to Col.
Baillie in consequence of the Resolution of
the Majority - when the President and
General had made further reflections
on this subject, they thought it might
be better to order Colonel Baillie, that in
case he judged it hazardous to attack
Cuddapah, he should proceed against
some other place, Mr Smith & myself steadi-
-ly adhered to our former opinion - another
Letter was written to Colonel Baillie, in
consequence of this new determination,
but after several days were lost, the
opinion of Mr Smith & myself was
ultimately adopted —

A proper situation for the
Army, at present, has been another
subject of Debate, and I am happy to
find my opinion, on this subject, per-
fectly

perfectly coincides with that of Lord Macleod; as recited in his letter to the Committee on the 31st Ult.o The Reasons assigned for the Army proceeding towards Wandewash, is to form a junction with Colonel Brathwaite's detachment from Pondicherry, this I apprehend might be attended with the risk of an attack on our Black Town, which the weakness of our Garrison, & the great wealth of the Inhabitants might naturally induce an enterprising Enemy to attempt, but at any rate, if they should not succeed they might at least, be able to cut off all communication between this & the Army, or oblige them to retreat from any object they may, at the time, be engaged in - had Colonel Brathwaite's detachment been brought here, by the Squadron, both the hazards I have pointed out, would have been avoided Colonel Baillie might also have been much advanced in his march hither and upon his joining, our Army would have, I should hope, been able to face Hyder, besides providing for the defence of the Black Town - Dispersed as the

Fort St George 4th Augt 1780

the Troops now are, I shall tremble for the main body, when they are at any distance from Madras, until the Junction with Colonel Brathwaite, whose detachment will certainly be in eminent danger, should Hyder be near him. in force, at the time he begins his march from Pondicherry - I think the Nabobs reasons for wishing that our Army should be encamped near Wandewash are too obvious to need recital - it is very natural for him to be alarmed at the danger there is of loosing his favorite Capital Arcot - he is desirous of drawing our Army as near to it as possible, in hopes that the Enemy will be thereby intimidated from attacking it, but surely his partiality, for any particular place should not induce us to make any dispositions which are not apparently calculated for our general security - There are not above 300 European Infantry & a few Cadets at Vellore with about 2600 Seapoys, There are in fact no more than necessary for the defence of that Fort, but if it be hereafter found neces-

(=ary

1688. Fort St George 1st Augt 1780

necessary to draft a part, or the whole of the Europeans to strengthen the Army, I should imagine there ought to be a Battalion of Seapoys left in the Fort.

I hope I have proved that the President & General have thought proper, ultimately to adopt every material Opinion given by Mr Smith & myself, relative to the orders requisite for Colonel Baillie — rather than give up another point, they have been under the necessity of ordering a Compy of Artillery with 6 field Pieces to join Colr Brathwaite, before he begins to march — Time will evince whether they may not also find it necessary to carry into execution all we have further recommended, but whatever may be the event, I shall be happy if our future deliberations can produce a plan of Operations that may speedily terminate a War which I fear, we cannot maintain but under manifest disadvantages —

1st Augt
1780 Samuel Johnson

Agreed to write a letter to Lord Macleod to desire he will proceed to Poonamalee

&

Fort St George 4th Augt 1780

Lord Macleod to march the army to marras

and if the Troops there are in readiness to march them tomorrow moring towards the place of their destination.— informing him at the same time that Sir Hector will join them on the March

Read the following letter from the Officers of His Majestys 73d Regt

To the Honble the Governor and Select Committee Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs.

We have the honor to inform you that the greater part of the Officers of the 73d Regt. have been at a considerable expance in building a large room at Poonamalee for the Mess room— as it is now entirely useless to us by the Regt taking the field we hope you will be pleased to order us to be reimbursed, as it will serve as a Barrack or hospital for 70 or 80 Men.

From the Officers of the 73d Regt &c. requesting to be reimbursed money laid out upon a room.

At the desire of the other Officers

We are with respect

Honble Sir and Sirs

Your very humble Servants

Fort St George

D Baird Capt 73d Regt

John Brodhurst Lieut

109 Fort St George 1st Aug 1780

not complied wt

The Committee cannot comply with the Request made in the above Letter —

Read a draught of a Letter to Colonel Baillie prepared in Consequence of the Resolution of last Committee — after some Debate it was agreed that Lieut Colonel Baillies Detachment should be ordered at all Events, to march this way and the Letter was accordingly altered as follows —

To Lieut. Colonel Baillie
Commanding the Detachment
to the Northward

Sir,

To Colonel Baillie to march towards the Presidency.

The President has laid before us your Letter of the 27th July, by which we are sorry to perceive the distress you were in for Provisions. As you had not then received our Letters acquainting you with the hostilities commenced against us by Hyder, we are in hopes the Orders for your movement contained in that Letter will have enabled you to obtain supplies of provisions in the Enemy's Districts. We now desire you will

write

Fort St George 1st. Augt 1780

with all Expedition move with the Detachment towards this place, keeping such a Route as may be most likely to furnish you with grain. If as we understand that your marching by Bum Bauzi's Bottom and Tripaty may possibly enable you to come up with some of Hyder's Convoys with provisions for his Army or by getting between him & the Passes distress him much we would recommend that Route to you provided you can effect it with safety and the roads admit of your bring forward your Artillery &c—

We are

Sir

Your most Obd. Servants

John Whitehill &c

As Captain Pringle has most probably left the Guides in consequ. of the Orders he has Rec.d to join the Army. You will take charge of & bring them on with your Detachment —

John Whitehill

Charles Smith

Hector Munro

Lieut. Colonel

Fort St George
1st Augt 1780

P S

bringing

1092. Fort St George. August 1780

1st Dispatched the following Letters

To the Right Honble Lord Macleod

My Lord

To Lord Macleod
Tonarch towards
Eyamcottam

We request your Lordship will proceed to Ponamalee this Evening, and in case the Stores &c Should all arrive at that place tonight we would have you begin the march of the Troops early tomorrow Morning towards Cyamcottam, proper Guides will be sent you tonight, We have appointed Sir Hector Munro to take the Command of the Army & form the Junction to be made with the Troops from Pondechery - Vellore & Trichinopoly, and Sir Hector will join ajou on the march tomorrow or the next day.

We have the honor to be

Your Lordship's

Most Obed. hble Servants

John Whitehill &c

Fort St George
1st Augt 1780.

To Lieut. Col. Thos Fletcher

Sir,

To Lt. Col. Fletcher to take the command of the European Batt.

We desire you will proceed with the Troops going into the field, and on the Junction of the European Batt. from

Vellore

1093 Fort St. George August 1780

Vellore, you are to take the Command of that Battalion

We are
Sir
Your most Obedt. Servants
John Whitehill &c.

Fort St George
1st Augt. 1780

To Colonel Brathwaite
Commanding the Troops
at Pondichery

Sir,

I am directed by the Honble the President & Select Committee to acquaint you that from Intelligence received of the motions of Hyder, they think it necessary to desire, instead of marching to Wandewash as before ordered, that you will proceed to Chingleput & from thence to Eyamcollam a place within three miles of Conjeveram, where the General, with the other Troops from hence will join you. They desire also that you will send off an Express to the Officer commanding the Battalion from Trichinopoly acquainting him with Your Rout & pressing him to march as expeditiously as possible. You will acknowledge the receipt of this Letter which is sent in duplicate. I am Sir

Yr. most Obedt. Servt.
C. Oakeley Jun.

To Colonel Brathwaite to march towards Eyemcollam

Fort St George
1st Augt. 1780

1094 Fort St George 2d Augt 1780.

Wednesday the 2d

At a Select Committee Present
The Honble John Whitehill Esqr Pres.t Gov.r
Chas Smith. Sir Hector Munro K.B.
Samuel Johnson

Minutes of last Committee
read & approved.

Read the following Letters.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Lt Brathwaite with Intelligence & the examination of a Deserter

Yesterday morning a French Deserter from Hyders Camp arrived at Permacoil. Lieutt Stuart sent him here this morning desiring me to examine him and report to you. Enclosed I send you his examination, & fair copy of his sketch of Hyder's Camp. He was examined by Lieut Chase & Ens. Picklaw afterwards by myself I asked him how Hyder came to be so long in his progress, he says he stopped at some little Forts which surrendered to him, he does not know their names - as also at some Villages trying to collect the Inhabitants he says there are no women in the Camp, Hyder has left Orders at the passes if any attempt to come, to cut them to pieces - he has been now three nights & three days from the Camp evidently at Gingee, but I cannot yet learn

Duplicate.

if

1095 Fort St George 2d Aug.t 1780

if Hyder's approaches this way. his usual hours of marching are from two in the morning till four in the afternoon with no conveyance for sick who get on as they can. the wind has been extremely fair since noon but the Sartine is not in sight. I have the honor to be with the greatest respect.

Your faith.l Hble Servant
John Brathwaite

Pondichery
11th Aug.t (8 P.M.)

Questions put to a deserter from Hyder Ally's Camp.

Ques.n At what place was Hyder's Camp, when you left it.

Ans.r Encamped near a Fort upon a mountain, with a small one below, & I have heard it said 'tis very fatal to Europeans

What day do you suppose that Hyder Ally entered the Carnatic

Nine days past by my calculation, during which time I heard that Trinomalee had surrendered. I do not know the time exactly we came through the pass.

How many miles do you think you marched since you left the Camp

I cannot exactly say, to avoid the Enemy's horse I marched at night, however

 Fort St George 2d August 1780

however I may judge it to be too Corse before I reached Permacoil —

How is the Enemy encamped — In this manner / drawing it on a piece of paper

Has the Enemy any materials for carrying on a Siege

He has eight 18 Lbrs, two small mortars and a great quantity of Ammunition, but on the other side the pass for near four miles there are Carts laden with various sorts of Ammunition.

What Number of Troops do you think he had when you left the Camp.

It was told near Seventy — Thousand Cavalry, but only between eight & ten of those were in Camp, the rest are divided, his Infantry consists of 24 Battalions, the proper number is a thousand Men in each Battn but they are not complete these Battns are mostly commanded by an European with a Serjeant or two of different Nations, he has also a great number of Pikemen & Matchlock Men.

What number of field pieces has Hyder with him & by whom are they served —

About

Fort St George 2d August 1780.

About forty in number; some three, eight & twelve Pounders, there are about forty Europeans with them the rest are all Blacks

Does Hyder expect to be assisted by any European Power.

Reports in Camp say he expects to be reinforced by the French at Pondicherry.

Does he mean to advance should he not get that assistance -

I cannot say.

Was Hyder himself in Camp when you left it.

He was.

Was Hyder's Son also there

No, he was sent some time ago with a body of horse towards Arcot, since which period he sent some ballocks to Camp laden with Muskets

Why then is his Tent pitched as you said before

Because it is always customary should he be present or not

Has Hyder a large Bazar with his army.

No he has not, he is rather badly supplied, but they say there

Fort St George 2d August 1780.

there is some coming

Why did you leave Hyders
Service, what Corps did you belong to.

I was dissatisfied like all
the rest of the Europeans in his Service &
resolved to escape the first Opportunity.
Eight others came away before me that
night, who are gone to different —
places for protection. I belonged to
Sallys Corps

Then it appears the
Europeans are much dissatisfied with
Hyder's Service

They are for the most
part & will readily embrace an Opportu-
nity to leave his Service provided they
were not to serve any more as Soldiers.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr.
Govr. & Pres.t &c. Select Committee

Honble Sirs

My Intelligence
this afternoon from the Camp near Chitta-
pet informs me that about 300 Vagabonds
Europeans with 10 pieces of Cannon have
joined. and that a Tent of Hyder's
which the Moors call the Durbar Tent
is pitched in Form —

From L.t Mackay with Intelligence

A

1099 Fort St George 2d August 1780

It appears to me, they are very apprehensive of some sudden blow, as their out Guards of 100 or 150 each are at least posted twenty miles from their encampment. One of these, is within eight miles of this Fort.

I am Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your very respectful & Obed. Servt.

Geo: Mackay

Chingleput,
1st Augt 1780.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr.
Prest. & Members of the Select Committee
Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Enclosed I transmit you a copy of a letter which I have recd. from the Chief of Cuddalore, Having referred the same to the Commanding Officer here he told me in answer that instead of being of no utility to us, he was of opinion that in the case the Enemy were to come this way the field pieces would be our chief defence for preserving the Town from being destroyed. Entirely concurring in this opinion and having also no authority from your Honor &c for detaching from this Settlement any part of the force stationed for its protection

From Nasore, the application from Cuddalore for field Pieces, not complied with

I

1100 Fort St George 2d August 1780

I have declined complying with the application contained in Mr. Cuming's Letter

I shall shortly adress your Honor &c on the subject of a representation which the commanding Officer intends making to me concerning the establishing a fortified Post for the security of this Town a measure which I conceive your honor &c will think absolutely necessary to give confidence to the Inhabitants, & prevent their deserting the Country upon every trifling alarm. I have the honor to be with the greatest respect

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Nagore
29th July 1780,

Your most Obedt hble Servant
J Hudleston

Mr John Hudleston
Resident at Nagore

Sir,

I have received a letter from Colonel Brathwaite acquainting me that he understands you have some field pieces at Nagore which he imagines cannot be of any utility to you & in that case requests you will forward them to him by Sea to Pondichery, You are the best judge of the propriety of this request, & it depends on You the compliance with it —

I

1101 Fort St George 2d August 1780

I have nothing to add but that from the best Intelligence I can get, all the horse that plundered Porto Novo are gone far to the Westward & I imagine the Com-panys Districts to the Southward very secure at least for the present.

I am Sir,

Cuddalore
27th July 1780 9 P.M.

Yr. very Obedt. Servant
Signed Wm. Cuming

Read Letter from the Nabob dated the 1st instant expressing his apprehensions that Hyder will move to-wards Arcot & requesting that measures may be taken for the Security of that place.

Nabob requests measures may be taken for the Safety of Arcot

Ordered that the following Letter be immediately despatched to Col. Lang at Vellore

To Colonel Ross Lang

Sir,

We have received Your several Letters. As the Nabob writes us that he has recd. certain intelligence that Hyder intends as soon as he is prepared to March against Arcot, we desire You will send two Companies of Seapoys immediately to that place and in

To Col. Lang to send two Companies of Sepoys to Arcot

case

Fort St George 2 Augt 1780

case any further reinforcement should be requisite before the European Battation leaves Vellore, we desire you will furnish such as in your judment may appear proper.

We are

Sir

Your most Obed. Servts

John Whitehill &c

Fort St George,
2d Augt 1780.

As it will be of great importance to have a Detachment of Troops which may move so as to intercept any Convoys of Provisions or Stores that may be coming thro' the Passes for the use of Hyder's Army it is resolved that one be formed at Trichinopoly for this purpose consisting of six Grenadier Companies of Seapoys from Tanjore & the 4 Grenadier companies of Seapoys now at Trichinopoly - also eight Battalion Companies from the Seapoys of that Garrison, provided the two Regiments of the Nabobs Cavalry which are coming from the Tinnevelly Country to Trichinopoly should not arrive there in time, but if they do arrive in time to assist in forming this Detachment then they are to supply the place of the 8 Battation companies -

a Detachment to be formed at Trichinopoly to intercept convoys coming thro' the Passes

Resolved

1103 Fort St George 2 Augt 1780

Resolved that Captain

Capt. Cosby to command the above

Cosby be appointed to Command this Detachment and that Instructions be prepared for him accordingly -

Read a letter from the Nabob dated this day as entered in C C No — 70 advising that his Regiments of Cavalry cannot take the field without receiving their Pay. & that the Collection of the Revenue of those Countries set apart for their pay, is now at a Stand from the Depredations of the Enemy - That he has been endeavouring to treat with Individuals for the Loan of 1 Lack of Pags. but cannot obtain it unless the Company will become Security for the repayment. Requesting therefore that this Security may be given & promising in that case to set apart when the Country is in peace Districts sufficient to discharge the above Sum with the Interest that may be due thereon -

The Nabob request the Company to become Security for the repayment of 1 Lack of Pagodas

The Committee are concerned to observe such arrears due to the Nabobs Cavalry at a time, when their Services are so much wanted, but as it is indispensibly requisite to have a Body of

Fort St George 2 Augt 1780

of Horse to act with the Army, the Committee are of opinion that measures should be at all events immediately taken to satisfy the Nabobs Cavalry for their Arrears, so far at least as may induce them to go into the Field - They do not however approve the mode proposed by the Nabob for raising Money upon this occasion - If the Nabob cannot himself advance it, it were much better for the Company to supply what is necessary by way of Loan to the Nabob, than to become answerable to Individuals for the whole amount of the sum which they might be inclined to advance on this occasion, with Interest &c. This being agreed upon & the President informing the Committee that the Sum which the Nabob deems sufficient at present for satisfying the Cavalry is about 75,000 Pags it is resolved that upon the Nabobs promise of assigning Countries for the payment to advance that Sum to the Commanding Officers of the Nabobs Regiments and that all advances made by the Company on account of the Nabobs Cavalry, be carried to a separate Head in the Superintendants Books entitled

Loan

Resolved to advance the Nabob 75,000 Pags for the payment of his Cavalry.

1105 Fort St George 2d August 1780

"Loan to the Nabob for the payment
of his Cavalry" *

Mr Johnson delivers
in the following Minute

For the reasons set forth in
the Letter from the Supreme Council &
dated the 12th June, which appear to me
very satisfactory, I am of opinion no time
should be lost in writing to the Soubah
in conciliating terms; in taking off Mr
Hollands Suspension, & with furnishing
him with Instructions to acquaint the
Soubah, that we are come to the Resolu-
tion of restoring the Guntoor Circar to
Bazalet Jung in the manner recom-
mended by the Supreme Council
I move therefore that the
Sense of the Committee be now taken
on these important Matters —

Mr Johnsons Mi-
nute recommen-
ding to restore the
Guntoor Circar to
Bazalet Jung.

2d Augt 1780

Samuel Johnson

to be deferd

Agreed that the consideration of Mr
Johnsons Motions be deferred till next
Committee —

John Whitehill

Charles Smith

Hudson Munro

1106 Fort St George 2d Augt 1780

2d Dispatched the following letters

To Mr William Cuming
Chief of Cuddalore

Sir.

To Cuddalore to send the Cavalry Stores &c to the Presidency.

We desire you will send hither by boat the Cavalry Stores & accoutrements deposited at your Settlement

We learn from Colonel Braithwaite that he has supplied you with several articles of Stores from Pondicherry we before advised you of our having ordered two Companies of Seapoys from Nagore to reinforce those now at your Settlement, & if you are in want of any other assistance that we can possibly give, you will be pleased to inform us.

We are
Sir
Your most Obd. Servts
John Whitehill
&c Select Comme.

Fort St George
2d Augt 1780.

To Major Alexr Maclellan
Commanding at Tanjore

Sir,

To Major Macellan
1 Serjeant, 2 Corporals & 2 Matrosses Invalids sent him.

We have received your Letter of the 26th Ult. and much approve of the several

No 7 Fort St George Augt 1780

Several cautionary Steps you have
taken in consequence of the Sudden Inva-
sion of Hyder ally's Troops
altho' we do not imagine
that Hyder will attempt any thing in
the Tanjore Country for the present we
have given directions to Captain Bur-
rows to march the Sibbendy into Tanjore
in case the Enemy should proceed
that way in force
We have sent by his
Majesty's Ship Superb for the Service
of Your Garrison 1 Serjeant 2 Corporals
and 2 Matrosses (Invalids) we approve
of your instructing the Lascars in
artillery practice as by reason of the
Several detachments of Artillery employ'd
in the field we are unable to spare
any more at this time for Garrison
Duty -
In Regard to the Fortifications
any part of that may absolutely want
repair You have our permission, to
set about, observing the utmost
oeconomy in Your Charges
We are Sir
Your most Obed. Servants
John Whitehill
for Select Comm.

Fort St George.
2d Aug. 1780.

1108 Fort St George Aug.t 1780

To Capt. Thos. Burrowes

Sir,

To Captain Burrowes

Although we do not imagine that Hy Dr Ally means to attempt any thing in the Tanjore Country for the present, we think proper to desire, in case his Troops should come in Force to that Country, that you will collect the Sebundy Seapoys & march with them into Tanjore

We Are
Sir
Your most Obed.t Servts
John Whitehill
&c Select Comm.e

Fort St George,
2.d Aug.t 1780.

To Major Geo. Maule
Chief Engineer

Sir, The President & Select Committee are pleased to Order, that you direct

To Major Maule & Wickens & another Engineer to proceed to arcot

Lt. Wickens and another Engineer to proceed to arcot at the same time, delivering the enclosed Letter to Lt. Wickens, for his guidance

I am
Sir
Your most Obed. Servt.
Chas. Oakeley Secry

Fort St George,
2.d Aug.t 1780.

To Mr John Wickens

Sir,

I am directed to desire you

will

1109 Fort St George Augt 1780

will proceed to Arcot and inspect the
State of the Fort with respect to its Defences
and how far you think it Tenable making
Your report to us in consequence as soon
as possible.

I am Sir

Your most Obed. Servant

Fort St George
2d Augt 1780.

Chas. Oakeley Secry

3d Dispatched the following Letter -

To Lieut Colonel Nixon
Commanding at
Trichinopoly

Sir,

To Lt. Nixon to give every assistance to Capt Coxby

We have sent Captain Coxby to Tanjore from whence he will proceed to Trichinopoly, to execute a Service the particulars of which will be communicated to you by the enclosed copy of our Instructions for his Guidance. We desire you will furnish him with the Troops intended to be employed from Your Garrison, & give him every other assistance in your power to enable him to fulfill the object of his proposed Expedition, in which it is necessary that the utmost Secrecy should be

observed

1110 Fort St George August 1780

observed.

We are

Sir

Your most Obedt. Servts

John Whitehill &c

Fort St George,

3d Augt. 1780.

To Lieut Col: Nixon

Commanding at

Trichinopoly

Sir

We desire you will hold the four Grenadier companies of Seapoys at Trichinopoly & eight Battalion Companies, in readiness to march upon a Service which will be explained in another Letter, you will receive from us in a few days

To Do.

We are

Sir

Your most Obedt. Servts

John Whitehill &c.

Fort St George,

3d Augt. 1780.

To Major Alexr. Maclellan

Commanding at

Tanjore

Sir,

We have sent Capt Corby to Tanjore, & we desire that on his arrival you will put under his Command the six Grenadier Companies of Seapoys belonging to the Battalions doing duty there, which are to be employed on

To Major Macellan 6 Grenadier Compn to be held ready.

a

111 Fort St George August 1780

a particular Service for which he has received Instructions from us. The Com-panies will return to Tanjore as soon as the Service is over -

Dear Sir

Your most Obed. Servts
John Whitehill &c

Fort St George
9th Augt 1780

To Major Alex: Macleban
Commd at Tanjore

Sir

We desire you will hold in readiness to march the Six Grenadier Com-panies belonging to the Seapoy Battns at Tanjore - on this Subject you will receive further Orders in a few days

To Major Macellan

We are
Sir,
Your most Obedt Servts
John Whitehill &c

Fort St George,
9th Augt 1780.

To Edward Colsford Esqr
Chief & Council at Masulipatam

Gentlemen,

Hyder Ally Cawn having commenced Hostilities against the Car-natic, we think it necessary to advise

To Translation
advising of the
Invasion of the
Carnatic

Your

1112 Fort St George August 1780

You thereof and to desire you will be upon your guard, drawing your Troops together as much as possible, so that they may be able to act in a body for the defence of the Circars in case they should be attacked, which however we have no particular reason at present to apprehend

We need not inform you that it will be highly acceptable to us in the present Exigency to receive supplies of money from your Settlement, and we trust you will exert your utmost Endeavours to furnish us with this necessary article, as we do not see how we shall otherwise be able to provide for the very heavy expences of the War

We are
Gentlemen
Your most Obedt. Servants
John Whitehill
&c. Select Committee

Fort St George
3o Augt. 1780.
To Mr. Henry Casamajor
Chief & Council at Vizagapatam

Gentlemen,

To Vizagapatam on the same subject

Hyder Ally Cawns having commenced Hostilities against the Carnatic, we think it necessary to advise you thereof

Fort St George Augt. 1780.

thereof and to desire you will be upon your guard, drawing your troops together as much as possible, so that they may be able to act in a Body for the defence of the Circars, in case they should be attacked, which however we have at present no particular reason to apprehend.

We are
Gentlemen,
Your most Obed: Servts
John Whitehill &c.

Fort St. George,
9th Augt. 1780.

The same to the Chief & Council at Ganjam.

To Major Maule
Chief Engineer
Sir,

I am directed by the President & Major Maule and Select Committee to desire you will send Mr. Workens to do duty at Vellore instead of Arcot as before ordered.

I am
Sir
Your most Obed. Servant
Chas. Oakeley Secy

Fort St. George,
9th Augt. 1780.

To Capt: A. J. Augustus Mr. Cosby
Sir,

We desire you will proceed to

1114. Fort St George Augt 1780.

To Capt. Corby to take the command of the Detachment at Trichinopoly.

to Tanjore with all expedition, there to take under your command, six Companies of Seapoy Grenadiers and March with them, to Trichinopoly where you will be joined by four companies of Seapoy Grenadiers belonging to that Garrison.

You are to remain at Trichinopoly until you can know from the Spies you are to send to Hyder's Camp, that he has moved forward with his army from the neighbourhood of the Passes, in which event you will march from Trichinopoly taking with you the 6 Companies of Seapoy Grenadiers from Tanjore, the four Seapoy Grenadier companies from Trichinopoly & eight Battalion companies of Seapoys from that Garrison unless the Nabob's two Regiments of Cavalry with their Infantry and Artillery should arrive at Trichinopoly before you march, in which case you are not to take the eight Battn. companies of Seapoys from that Garrison, but the Nabob's Cavalry and the grenadiers unless it be absolutely necessary —

The

115 Fort St George Augt. 1780

The Service we wish you to perform is as follows

As we understand that Hyder has laid up a Magazine of grain at Attoor and that his Supplies will probably come thro' that pass, you are to march the above Detachment and endeavour to cut off Hyders communication with his provisions & Stores, by seizing them, or rendering them useless to him; by coming up with them on the march before they can get on to Hyder's camp or join the main body of his army.

You are always to take care not to advance too far or so near his Army as not to be able at all events to secure a Retreat.

With respect to your carrying field pieces with you, that must depend upon yourself. If the expedition you will find yourself under the necessity of marching from your intelligence as well as from the Roads thro' which you must pass.

We need not mention to you how much the Success of this

2

1116. Fort St George August 1780

Expedition depends upon the most
inviolable Secrecy —

We are

Sir,

Your most Obed. Servts

John Whitehill &c.

Fort St George.
9th August 1780

To Lieut. Roberts
Commanding
at Tiagar

Sir,

I am directed by the President
and Select Committee to acquaint You
that they some days ago ordered a Com-
pany of Seapoys from Trichinopoly to
Tiagar, which they suppose will be
arrived nearly by the time You receive
this Letter. They desire me likewise to
inform You, that you have permission
to raise as many Lascars as you shall deem
absolutely necessary and these they
hope may be employed if requisite
in working the Guns —

I am
Sir
Your most Obed. Servt

Chas. Oakeley
Secry

To Lt. Roberts to raise Lascars

Fort St George
9th Augt 1780.

6th

Wrote the following Letters

To

1117 Fort St George August 1780.

To Sir Edward Hughes K.B.
Rear Admiral of the Red and Commander
in Chief of His Majestys Ships in
India

Sir.

We had the honor to receive
Your Letter of the 7th Inst. & beg leave to ex-
-press our acknowledgments to you for the
great assistance you have given to Col:
Brathwaite by means of the Squadron
which he himself has also expressed
to us in very strong terms

As there appears much
reason to think from the operations
of Hyder Ally, that he is still in ex-
-pectation of Succours from the French
Islands, Your present Cruize to the
Southward must prove of the utmost
utility and we would take the liberty
to propose if it does not materially
interfere with any plan you may
have formed for the future destina-
-tion of the fleet that the Cruize be
extended to as late a period as possible

We have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obed.t
humble Servants
Tho.s Whitehill

To Sir Edwd Hughes
desiring he will
prolong his Cruize.

Fort St George
6th Augt. 1780.

1118

Fort St George 7th August 1780

To Mr John Studleston
Resident at Nagore

Sir,

In case the two Companies of Seapoys, we directed in our letter of the 28th Ult.o to be sent to Cuddalore, are not yet sent off, for that place, we direct that you require Capt. Hughes to detain one of them in addition to your force at Nagore.

To Nagore to detain 1 Comp.y of Sepoys —

We are

Sir,

Your most Obed.t Serv.ts

John Whitehill &c.

Fort St George.
6th Augt. 1780.

At a Select Committee Present

Monday the 7th.

The Honble John Whitehill Esq.r Pres.t
Chas. Smith, Sir Hector Munro K.B.
Samuel Johnson.

Minutes of last Committee read and approved.

Read the following Letter from the Governor Dep.t & Council —

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.r
President &c. Select Committee.
Fort St George.

Gentlemen,

From Bengal have appointed Mr Holland their Resid.t at Hyderabad

In our letter of this date, which has been already signed

1119.

Fort St George 7th Augt 1780.

I dispatched to your Presidency, you have been informed of the Resolutions we have taken to effect a Settlement of the Dispute subsisting with his Highness Nizam Ally Khan, but by an Official mistake, you have not in the same Letter been informed of the measures we have determined to employ for the accomplishment of this end. We now therefore think it proper to acquaint you that as you have been pleased to remove the only Article which prevented us from continuing Mr John Holland as Public Minister on the part of this Government at the Court of Hyderabad, we have resolved to employ him in this capacity again, & having furnished him with fresh Credentials sent him such Instructions as we thought best calculated to effect the purposes of his Deputation.

We are,

Gentlemen,

Your most Obedt humble Servts

Warren Hastings

Edward Wheler

Fort William,
12th June 1780.

Hereupon Mr Johnson moves that the Minute he delivered in last Committee may be taken into consideration

(and

Fort St George 7th Augt 1780

and Mr Smith seconds the Motion —

Motion

Motion. That Mr John Hollond's Suspension be taken off.

Mr Johnson

Mr Johnson for the Motion

General Munro

Genl Munro. Against it for the reasons he has already given.

Mr Smith

Mr Smith. for it

The President

The President against it

Carried against the motion by the President's casting vote

not carried

Sir Hector Munro delivers the following Minute

Generals Minute about the giving up of the Guntoor Circar

As the giving up the Guntoor Circar after getting possession of it / (that with the approbation of the Supreme Council of Bengal) may be disapproved of by our Employers at home I am of opinion the Governor General & Council's last letter might be fully answered, reasons given why the Guntoor Circar should not be given up, and if ultimately they insist upon it's being given up, they must in every respect be made answerable for the Consequences and I am of opinion if it is given up that Bazalet Jung ought to have it given to him and not to the Nizam as we had it from Bazalet Jung.

first

1121.

Fort St George 7th August 1780

but I am for holding it in our Possession
until we have an answer to our next letter
on the Subject from Bengal

7th Augt

Hector Munro

Read the following Letter from
Lt George Mackay commanding at
Chinglaput

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
Governor & Presidt &c
Select Committee

Honble Sir,

I have the honor of receiving
your Orders thro' your Aid de Camp Capt.
Sydenham respecting grain &c. for the
use of this Garrison. at present I have
near 2000 Cullums in the Fort and I
expect in the course of four days to
have unless any accident happen
10,000 Cullums more, this quantity will
I think be sufficient for the consump-
tion of this place until the rains
set in — As no steps are taken
to secure the grain of the different
Villages from either being carried
away or burned I humbly conceive
it will appear to your Honorable

Sir

From Lt Mackay complaining of the Ravages made by Gors

1122

Fort St. George 7th August 1780

Sir, for the good of the Service that I send for as much of it as I possibly can to prevent its falling into the hands of the Enemy, and to keep it in Store for any Detachment or part of our Troops who — eventually, according the situation of things, may immediately require a Supply, they otherwise would not have.

The Nabobs managers will do nothing of themselves, it therefore becomes a four fold duty upon me to take all the pains I can to prevent a want of rice &c. as it is more than probable we will have occasion for more than the utmost diligence can provide —

The greatest part of the Horse have retired to the grand Army on the Plains of Trinomally —

I can learn nothing of Col. Baillie's Detachment —

I am

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your Obed. & respectful

humble Servant

Geo Mackay

Chingleput,
2d Augt 1780.

Agreed that Lieut. Mackay

Fort St George August 1780

that

necting

report prevailed of Hyder's hostile intention I sent out two trusty Peapoys to gain intel-ligence, who not being returned, can only inform you, of what is said here, respect-his designs on this Country - it is said that Ezid Cawn's Son, at the head of Ten thousand men is ready at Dendigal to enter the Madura & Tinavelly Districts where he expects to meet with many friends on his father's account; we have not however heard or seen any thing that justifies the report, altho' it has been very current for some time. Early last month I seiz'd a man who I imagine to be a Spy & who I still keep a prisoner, I have not been able hitherto, to draw confessions from him, altho' I am title of opinion that I have not been mistaken in him - I am in the meantime doing every thing to the utmost of my judgment for the good of the Service. I have the honor to be with greatest respect

Palamcottah,
4th Augt 1780.

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obed & hble Servt
James Eldingtown

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
Gov. & Pres. &c. &c. Selct Committee of Fort St Geo.

Honble

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Fort St George August 1780

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Col. Baillie wt. Intelligence

The Detachment will begin to march to morrow morning by Cour-chore for the Combinam Districts. the force reported to be there now of Hyder Allys is between three & four thousand horse and a thousand Peons, which garrison the place.

I have the honor to be most respectfully Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obed. Hble Servt.

Wm. Baillie

Camp near Inacunda 4th Augt. 1780.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr.

President & Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Lieut. Roberts with Intelligence

I have this instant received intelligence of Hyder Allys whole army with a large train of artillery being arrived at Munalorepet about 30 miles from hence and clearing the road to this Place, they have taken Trinomalee a small mud Fort called Calicurchy 7 miles to the westward of this place is also in Hyder's possession & the People of that District are gone over to him, I have before made the Honble Board acquainted with the Situation of this Garrison, should the Enemy's Intentions be against this as

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Fort St George, August 1780

it is probable to suppose from the Post they have taken, I shall do all in my power, with the forces I have to defend it.

I have the Honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs,
Your most Obed. humble Servt
George Roberts

Nyagar
4th. augt. 1780
Cholaka m.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I have the honor to acquaint you that I marched with my Battalion & a brigade of 3 Bns complete, from the bank of the Coleroon the 2d. Inst. & arrived here this morning.

From Capt. Davies wt. Intelligence concerning his march

The Officer who commands here belonging to the Nabob informs me that he had intelligence of Hyder's Army being between Trinomaly & Gingee The Road between this & Cuddalore he believes to be clear.

I shall march this night & provided no accident happens shall be at Cuddalore the 8th. where I intend halting a Day, to refresh the Bullocks being much jaded & I fear I shall find a scarcity of straw as all the Villages are destroyed.

I am with the Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs, Your mo. Obt. hble Servt

Vera Apollaon

1128

Fort St George. August 1780.

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Colonel Braithwaite enclosing a letter from Tegar with Intelligence.

As soon as I saw the Admiral in the Offing yesterday morning I wrote to him requesting his assistance in regard to Money, & the conveyance of Powder, he brought the Fleet to an anchor in the road & informed me, His Majestys Ships should receive Powder & Shot, but gave me no hopes of being able to supply me with any money - This Day attended by all the Captains he came on shore, a circumstance which employed most of our Boats & Boat people all the morning, however I cannot regret it as upon a conversation with him he determined to go off again & raise what he could, and I have since had the honor to hear from him, that he will furnish us with five thousand Pagodas, which with what I have before raised will answer our purposes, I have also prevailed upon the Captain of the Sartine to take two hundred more barrels of Powder, so that she takes 450, the rest of the Ships 290, & 212 I have sent to Cuddalore, & 50 to Permacoil, in all sixteen hundred & two barrels but a small portion of our Stock - and I hear nothing of any Vessel from Cuddalore - I have sent parties along the Coast where

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Fort St George Augt 1780

the Enemy's horse had been, but they were gone before my parties arrived & I believe the Coast is clear. - but they surround us in land in larger bodies, so that the people I send out to the westward for intelligence seldom return which I presume to be a main object of the enemies - for I have been & am still of opinion that Tagar and Gingee and this place are his objects to cut off the Southern Countries, I have mentioned this often, & the enclosed Letter I have just received from Lieut. Roberts at Tagar confirms me more & more in my Opinion I hear that there is a probability that Capt Davies will join me this day after to-morrow. If so I hope God willing having embarked such things as can be received & destroyed the Powder, I shall march the next day, but of this I will have the honor to advise you, as I do not know whether the General has left Madras or not, I do not write to him by this conveyance (an Express Tappall) but trust Your Honor will communicate to him such parts of this, as you may think necessary. My sick and Invalids are all gone to Cuddalore. I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect &

1130

Fort St George Augt 1780.

Honble Sir and Sirs

Your faithful & Obed. Servant
John Brathwaite

August
2 Ct. 4 P. M.

Dear Sir,

I have this instant received intelligence of Hyder's whole Army with a large train of Artillery being arrived at Monalorepet about 30 miles from hence & are clearing the road to this place, they have taken Trinomalee & it is reported also a small Fort on a Hill near it called Sallufgar, a small mud Fort called Calicurchy 7 miles to the westward of this place is also in Hyder's possession & the People of that District are gone over to him. I was favored with yours of the 1st Yesterday. & have recd. the returns &c. safe, if you have any particular news, particularly of our Troops taking the field I shall be much obliged to you to favor me with it but I imagine it will require a clever fellow to convey it, as long as I am able to send Letters you shall hear every thing that passes this way.

I am, Dear Sir,
Your most Obed. hble Servt.
George Roberts

Tiagar, Augt. 4
1780. 6 o Clock A.M.

P.S. Parties of horse have been for these some days & are still all round

1131

Fort St George Aug.t 1780.

As carrying off all the Cattle in the Country.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.r
Governor & President &c —

Select Committee —

Honble Sir,

I think it my Duty, tho' there is nothing particular happened since my last, to inform you that the horse have entirely left this part of the country, and that we are in peace & quietness.

I am Honble Sir,
Yr respectfully & with
due Obedience
Geo.l MacKay.

From Lt. Mackay
The Enemy's Horse
leave the Country.

Chungleput
7th Augt 1780
Monday —)

Wrote the following Letter to
Lieut. George Mackay —

To Lieut George Mackay
Commanding at
Chungleput

Sir,

We have rec.d your Letter of the 5th inst. & much approve of your plan, of securing the Grain in the different Villages to prevent its falling into the hands of the Enemy, & do therefore

To Lieut. Mackay
to provide Grain
& Cattle.

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Fort St George Augt 1780

therefore Direct, that you collect as much as possible, with such a number of Cattle and Sheep as you may be able to procure & keep them in the Garrison of Chinglaput.

We are
Sir,
Your most Obed. Servts
John Whitehill
Lieut Colonel Commr

Fort St George
8th Augt 1780

9th Received the following Letters

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq
President Lieut Colonel Committee
Honble Sir & Sirs,

I had the honor to receive

From Colonel Laing with Intelligence — Hyder before Chittapet —

your letter of the 2d last Night. I hope that my Letter of the 2d & 3d will make you think as I do, that there is no occasion to send Sepoys to Arcot at present as I have this morning certain intelligence that Hyder is before Chittapet in which place is three hundred & fifty men belonging to the Nabob and his next attempt its said will be on Gingee — had Hyder pushed to Arcot directly from Changamah I think the consequence would have been

Fort St George Augt. 1780

been bad. so great were the fears of the people - but at present they are in good Spirits - I shall however in consequence of your orders keep a watchful eye on Arcot and give them every assistance that is possible should I think it necessary. I have the honor to be with all due respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your very Obedt and

Devoted Servant

Rose Lang

Vellore
6th Augt 1780

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr.
President & Governor &c. Select Comm.
at Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Agreeable to your commands the 2d Instt. all the Cavalry Stores Accoutrements were despatched from hence last night on a Chelinga for the Presidency, under care of the Camp Colour & another Man formerly belonging to the Troop.

From Cuddalore wt. List of Cavalry Stores sent from thence.

I have the honor to enclose you a list of the above Stores sent. and remain with greatest respect

Honble Sir & Sirs, Your most Obedt. hble Servt.

Cuddalore
6th aug. 1780

Wm Cuppage

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Fort St George Aug.t 1780

A List of Stores belonging to the European troop of Cavalry sent from Cuddalore the 5th. of August 1780.

Saddles	63
Wooden Do.	35
Furniture	55
Baggage padds	92
Holster pipes	33 Pr.
Pistol caps	67 Do.
Curb bits	25
Snaffle Do.	50
Stirrups	91 Do.
Bridles	49
Curbs	60 Do.
Swivels	72
Pistols	65½ Do.
Carbines	61
Swords	82
Do. Scabbards	91
Spurs	46 Do.
Couppers	54
Europe baggage straps	306
Country Do.	61
Europe breast plates	56
Country Do.	17
Stirrup leathers	55 Do.
Colar head Stalls	11
	Surcingles

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Fort St George Aug.t 1780

Sursingles	12	
Girths	70	
Caversons	5	
D heads	1	
Routers with Crappers	5	
Side reins	2	Pr.
Leather Caversons Reins	3	
Sheep Skins	4	
Heel tugs	5	Do
Sword blade	1	
Cartridge Boxes	60	
Leather collar reins	52	
Pieces of webbings	3	
Boots	11	Do
Tin plates	42	
Bandeliers	83	
Sword belts	41	
Reels with lines	2	
Gram cloth	1	
Hair bags	2	
Curry combs	51	
Hour glasses	3	
Green coats	11	
Iron hand cuffs	2	Pr.
Brass french horns	3	
Trumpets	5	
White collars	58	
White hide	1	

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Fort St George Aug.t 1780

Flints	630	
Oil Stints	185	
Lead Musquet balls	900	
Brass gang	1	Broke
Hand Saw	1	
Padlocks	2	
Lamping Irons	2	
Shoe Knife	1	
Glister pipe	1	
Iron bolts	2	
Gag Iron	1	
Bullhooks	2	
Axes	3	
Helmet manes	24	

William Maitland
Storekeeper

John Whitehill Esq.r
President & Governor &c. Select Committee
of Fort St George

From Sir Edw.d Hughes Supplies & Col. Braithwaite wt money

Sir & Gentlemen,

I arrived in this road late in the evening of the 6th inst. & Col. Braithwaite having informed me by Letter, that there was a much greater quantity of Gun powder, Cannon & Shot than the Sartine could possibly carry away

Fort St George Augt 1780.

away. I thought it would be an acceptable Service to receive on board the several Ships of the Squadron as much of these Stores as they could safely and conveniently stow away, & we have been employed yesterday & to day in receiving Gunpowder, Shot, Brass & Iron Ordonance according to the accompanying List, which is all the several Ships could possibly receive, preserving their condition for Service

The Colonel having also by Letter to me expressed much distress from the want of Money, I have, not without some difficulty, collected amongst the Officers of the several Ships of the Squadron a Sum which He says will answer to his present exigences, and nothing more remaining for me to do here, I shall proceed to the Southward as far as Negapatam, looking into the several Ports along the Coast, & I trust You will favor me with such intelligence and information, thro' your Resident at Tanjore as You may think useful & necessary and it will give me the truest

Fort St George Augt 1780 –

pleasure to know that you have disappointed the views & intentions of the Enemy.

I am with great regard
Sir & Gentlemen.
Your most Obed
& Hble Servant
Edwd Hughes

Superb in Pond.y road
the 7th August 1780.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
President &c. Select Committee

From Col. Lang with Intelligence

Honble Sir and Sirs.

I had the honor to address you Yesterday and acquainted You that Hyder Ally was before Chittapet & by the Intelligence I have this day received he opened his batteries against that place Yesterday a morning evening. He has ten heavy Guns with him, part of his army is encamped near Vetta Vellum and part near Gingee. the latter place it is reported is the next he is to attack

I have the honor to be with all due respect
Honble Sir & Sirs.
Your very Obed and
Devoted Servant
Robt Lang

Vellore,
7th Augt 1780.

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Fort St George August 1780

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.
Governor and President &c Select Comm.cy
Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I now dispatch this on board His Majesty's Frigate Sartine, the Capt. of which will (he tells me) sail for Madras this night

From Colonel Brathwaite sends on board the Sartine some French Officers, & making prepa. rations for his march

In consequence of the Governor's advice to send from hence the Artillery French Officers and veterans and such persons as I thought improper to remain in Pondichery at this juncture, I signified by Letter to Messrs. Piveron and Cagniviz and all the Military that it was your orders that they must prepare to embark in twenty four hours on board His Majesty's Ship Sartine in order to go to Madras. My reasons for pitching upon Mr Piveron were, that as attorney General for the French King he might be excited to take a leading part in any attempt to re-establish the French Flag there when I was gone - because there were many reports concerning him, & because he had long since promised to repair to Madras to withdraw

Fort St George August 1760.

with Draw an unjust memorial he had written in to you. & had not been as good as his word. & because from his Situation he might have great influence over the minds of the French Inhabitants & the Natives Intely Subordinate to the French Government. My reasons for pitching upon Mr Cagnier were that he was reported to be a great politician. & that his garden house was every evening a place of general rendezvous for the French, when their discourse naturally turned upon their own Nation & its present prospects in India. & I considered such meetings as likely to animate them imperceptibly to improper conduct and because by Mr Guy's report he had shewn repeated contempt of your authority - by refusing to shew the title - by which he held his Plantation - however upon a long private conversation with these Gentlemen in which I gave them a great deal of advice which they promised to follow, I told them that if they would declare in writing what they so readily declared in discourse, I would take upon me to dispense with their leaving

hurried

Fort St George August 1780.

treatment, in consequence of their persist-
-ing in their Parole.

This argument seems to
have weight with them, not but they want
to stay, and say that even were a french
fleet to come they would never in any
respect act contrary to their Parole and
as to Hyder he might cut them to pieces,
but that they never would serve him -

I have shipped off all the
Guns among which are nine of Mr Amel-
-ocks, for which I shall give him a receipt
on the honble Company's account. I am
sorry to inform you that upon Captain
Nooble's leaving as he passed thro' here
praised the boys twelve Hors very much
I was at great pains in fixing am-
-munition and getting Bullocks for
them, as a Brigade for the European Batt.
but as Capt. Byng with has positively
declared them unfit for immediate
Service I have dismounted & embarked
them & the European Corps will march
without Guns.

I have also shipped off
as much powder & shot as his Majestys
Ships can receive. & have sent other
Stores to the Sartine, till the last
boats

Fort St George August 1780

flatter myself I shall have merit in Your Eyes, that I shall be excused for having given a Receipt for money on the Public account, more particularly when you will see that I have given my own private security for nearly as much more.

I have not yet signified to any one in Pondichery that I have yet received positive Orders to move - of which I shall speak farther in my Letter to the Governor.

There were some Prisoners here under Sentence of a Court Martial the proceedings of which go by this conveyance to the Judge Advocate Genl. As there were six of them tried for desertion to Hyder I thought them very improper incumbrances for this Detachment they are therefore shipt on board the Sartine. Capt. Sydenham has been written to concerning them & I have also advised the General of this measure. with them also I send the French Deserter from Hyder's Army who I am convinced is an impostor - I do not hear any thing yet with certainty of Hyder's main Army but

1746

Fort St George August 1780

-ing to Your humane consideration the Officers Veterans now sent to you. many of them leave very distressed families, & will not be able even to support themselves at Madras unless allowed free quarters & even perhaps some encrease of pay. Particularly point out to you Old Mr Maneçau his age & his distresses would have induced me to have forgot him over. But his long & his meritorious services as an experienced & brave Officer make him too dangerous a man to be left within the reach of Hyders People - who would force him to be useful to them in spite of his unwillingness to act.

I beg leave to call to your mind the particular situation of the women & Children of the Detachment under Col: Browne, who were left here to receive a monthly subsistence, which is actually stopped from the Soldiers at Surat & amounts to about one thousand Pag.s p Month. I shall now refer you to the monthly returns, and shall only add that there is a fair prospect of my moving by the night after tomorrow, & that I shall carry with me 50 Barrels of powder

&

1148

Fort St. George Augt. 1780

The Surrender of Pondicherry to the English
I have never held any Correspondence
whatever either directly or indirectly with
Hyder Ally Cawn himself, or any persons
Europeans or Others in his Service, or
employed by him, nor have I been in
any respect accessary to the present
Disturbances on the Carnatic, by the
Invasion of the said Hyder, as is reported
allied with the Officers & Troops of the
French Nation, & I hereby promise to
persevere in the same conduct. That
is to say, that I will hold no Correspond
=ence either directly or indirectly with
the Enemies of the British Nation now
in India, to the disadvantage of the said
British Nation, but that I will conduct
myself in every respect during my abode
in India in such manner as to give
no Offence to the English Government
either by my conversation, Correspondence
or behaviour, & this I promise of my
own free will & Pleasure as a Duty
incumbent on me in my present Situ-
=ation. In testimony whereof I have here-
=unto signed my Name. Pondicherry.
this seventh day of Augt. 1780

James Landon
French Transl.r

/ Signed / I. Casanove

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Fort St. George Aug.t 1780

Translation

I who have hereunto Signed my Name declare that since the Surrender of Pondicherry to the English, I have held no Correspondence whatever either Directly or Indirectly with Hyder Ally Cawn himself or with any other person either European or other in his Service, or employed by him Nor have I by any other means whatever been accessary to the present Disturbances in the Carnatic, by the Invasion of the said Hyder, as is reported, allied with the Officers & Troops of the French Nation, & Hereby promise to preserve on the same Conduct, That is to say That I will hold no Correspondence either Directly or Indirectly with the Enemies of the British Nation now in India to the disadvantage of the said British Nation. But that I will conduct myself in every respect during my abode in India, so as to give no Offence either by my Conversation Correspondence or Behaviour to the English Government this I promise of my own free will & Pleasure, considering it as a Duty incumbent on me

to

1150 Fort St George Augt. 1780

in my present Situation - In Witness whereof I have signed my Name here-unto. Pondichery, this 7th day of august 1780

Signed Piveron de Morlac
James Laudon
French Transr.

Wrote following Letters -

To Colonel Ross Lang
Commanding at Vellore
Sir,

To Colonel Lang to march the European Battn. to Conjeveram

As we understand that Hyder's horse are moved from the neighbourhood of Arcot & that Hyder himself is not nearer than Chitapet, and as we wish to form the junction of the army with all Expedition, we desire if you think the European Battn. can march without the risk of being intercepted by a superior force, that you will immediately on receipt of this - march out yourself with the Battn. setting off in the Dusk of the Evening & keeping your intentions as secret as possible - We look upon the following rout to be the most eligible but as you will be the best judge we

leave

1151 (1)

Fort St George Augt 1780

Leave the choice to your Discretion -

Rout

From Vellore to Walagaunangur a forced march of 20 Miles. unless you think you can halt with safety between these two places -

From Walaugaunangur to Cavrepauk 9 Miles. From Cavrepauk to Daimarll Pagoda 10 Miles. From Daimarll Pagoda to Conjeveram Pagoda 10 Miles - here the Detachment will be joined by the troops from hence -

You are to take two field pieces from Vellore complete & as much provision for the use of the Detachment as you possibly can because there will be none at Conjeveram until the Troops from hence arrive there.

You are to march your-self with the Battr as far as Walagaun-naugur, & as soon as you see it on its march from thence to Covrepauk, you are to return to your Garrison -

The Stores you have indented for shall be sent with the Troops from hence, & the Commander in Chief will take care to send them to Vellore when he arrives in that Neighbourhood

1152

Fort St George Augt 1780.

Tents for the Battalion will go with the Troops from hence, & be delivered at Conjeveram —

We are

Sir,

Your most Obed. Servts

John Whitehill &c—

Fort St George
9th Augt 1780.

P.S. The General, with the Army will be at Conjeveram, on the 16th Inst.

To Capt: Chas. Fraser

Sir,

The want of a sufficient number of Tents for the Troops taking the field, being great the President & Select Committee desire you will assist them with the Tents you have made up for your Battalion, for which you will be paid their value, or have them replaced by a new Sett from the Company —

To Captain Fraser to spare the Tents belonging to his Battn

I am

Sir

Your most Obed. Servt

Chas. Oakeley
Secry

Fort St George.
9th Augt 1780.

To Mr William Cuming
Chief & Council at Cuddalore

Gentlemen

1133

Fort St George Aug.t 1780

Gentlemen,

As the Troops are about leaving Pondichery, it will be proper that some person should be there to take care of what things may remain the Flagstaff &c.a we desire you will send an Officer from Cuddalore, if you can spare, or if not, some other person with a few Lascars to continue at Pondichery for that purpose — We are

To Cuddalore, to send a Person to Pondichery.

Gentlemen

Fort St George, 9th Aug.t 1780.

Your most Obed.t Serv.ts
John Whitehill &c.a

10th Received the following Letters

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.r
President &c.a Members of the Select Comm.ee
at Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Mr. Cunning having recommended to me the sending the two companies on a Snow that was at Francegueber, I wrote to engage her for that purpose, but the Commander being a French man, refused to freight her to the Company, I have therefore been obliged to take up two Vessels here which have

From Nagoor are making Redoubts &.a for the defence of the place

1154 8

Fort St George Augt 17 1780

been got ready with all expedition, and the
Companies will embark on them tomorrow
morning - I could not procure Chelingoes
without using force - Capt. Hughes avails
himself of this opportunity to send to Cuddalore
the new arms & Cloathing belonging to the
5 Companies of this Battalion already there

Having consulted with the
Commanding Officer as to the best disposition
of our remaining force against any attempt
of the Enemy to plunder this Town, & also
with regard to the measures it may be
proper to take for the safety of our People,
& the Security of the Company's Cash, &
Stores. he recommended as the best plan
We could adopt, the raising Breastworks
with Traverses across the Streets, where a
Centinel or two will probably intimidate
Horse from approaching, & throwing up
a Redoubt or entrenchments at the Flag
Staff Battery, as a place of Arms which
being close to the River, will protect our
Boats, & from whence we can at any
time make our Retreat good to the Sea,
Should we find it impracticable to main-
-tain the town and be under the necessity
of having recourse to that Alternative,

We

1155

Fort St George August 1780

We have in consequence already begun the work, & hope it will be completed so as to be tenable against horse in three or four days - The expence will be very inconsider-able, & I will take care that there shall not be one fanam laid out more than may be absolutely necessary

I have intelligence from Negapatam that the Governor there has within these few days received a letter from Hyder Ally desiring to know if he will render him such assistance as he may have occasion to ask of him. The Council have met several times to deliber-ate on the subject, but no answer is yet returned - I have also certain information that Mr Van Ostmegen has ordered 200 Europeans from Jaffanapatam and had written to Columbo for 200 or 300 more - he is busy throwing the Sea face of his Fort, erecting a Battery for 6 guns to the Northwest

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obed^t Hble Servt

John Hudleston

Nagore
6th aigust 1780.

strength ening.

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Fort St George August 1780.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr

President & Governor &c.a &c.a &c.a Select Committee

Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Accompanying I have the
honor to present you with a return of
the Stores under my charge for last month,
Colonel Nixon having re-
presented the immediate necessity there
is for some light carriages for foreign guns
and that the Service might suffer for
want of them, I have taken the liberty
to undertake the making up two 2p.r pounder
carriages & two 3 pounder carriages, which
will I flatter myself meet with your ap-
probation and I hope to be favored with
Your Sanction for so Doing.

From Mr. Palk makes up some Gun Carriages

I have the honor to be with
the greatest respect Honble Sir and Sirs,
Your very faithful &
Obed.t Servant
Tho.s Palk
Storekeeper

Trichinopoly.
6th. Aug.t 1780.

To

Fort St George augst 1780

To Charles Pasley Esqr

Sir,

From Captain Fraser. Tents ready to be delivered

I was favored yesterday with your letter desiring me to ajust ajou with the Tents which I had made up for the 74th Batt. They are all ready as are also the gunny bags. & shall be delivered whenever you think proper. I have taken measures to have another Set made up immediately that we may be in readiness to take the field the instant the Select Committee shall be pleased to indulge us with that honor.

I am

Sir

Your most Obed. Servt

C. Fraser

Capt 74th Batt.

Fort St George.

10th Augt 1780.

Wrote the following Letters

To Mr Bryan Scotney

Sir,

To Mr Scotney

I am directed to acquaint you that Capt. Fraser has agreed to give up the tents of his Batt. which are ready whenever sent for, & to desire you will this day, send them to the

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Ft. St. George Augt. 1780

Army at Ponnamalee

Sam

Sir

Your most Obed. Servt.

Chas Oakley

Secry

Fort St George.
10th Augt. 1780.

To Mr. Thos Oakes

Commissary to the Army

Sir,

I am directed to desire you will take charge of the Medicines sent for the use of the Army until the arrival of Mr. Colley Lucas to whom you will deliver them.

To Mr. Oakes to take Charge of the Medicines

I am

Sir

Your most Obedt Servt

Chas Oakley Secry

Fort St. George,
10th Augt 1780.

To

Majrs Smith & Johnson

Minute of Majrs Smith & Johnson to make Redoubts

Deliver in the following joint Minute—

As the carnage made yesterday by the Enemy's horse at St Thomé, Triplicane & several garden houses on Choultry Plain, has greatly terrified the Inhabitants of the Black Town & Villages adjacent, Majrs Smith & Johnson propose for alleviating their apprehensions, to have

Fort St George Aug.t 1780.

Have Small Redoubts thrown up, in such Situations as shall best serve to protect the bounds of Choultry-plain & the Inhabitants of the neighbouring Villages

As Omercul Omrah has a number of horse Men unemployed at Triplicane, it is submitted, to the consideration of the Committee, whether application should not be made to him, for Stationing Vedettes from thence, at such distances as shall best serve for the purposes of Alarm-Posts —

Chas Smith
Samuel Johnson

10th Augt 1780.

Sir Hector Munro has sent the following Minute in reply to the above.

I have not time to sit down to answer Minutes. but as Mr. Smith & Mr. Johnson have been pleased to set forth in a Minute of this Date — That in order to quiet the minds of the Inhabitants of the Black Town & of the Villages near Madras as well as to defend Choultry plain Gardens They would propose building Small Redoubts in such Situations as shall be judged best for protecting the Bounds

General Munro's Minute in reply.

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Fort St. George Augt. 1780

As I differ in opinion with those Gentle-
men, I will now beg leave, in a few words
to give my reasons why I do so —

1st. Because it would require a number of
large Redoubts, and not small Ones to
answer the purposes of these Gentlemen, &
would at the same time, require a
number of Men to Defend them, who
are not at present to be found for that
Service

2 Throwing up such temporary
works would cost some money, & some
labour, without answering any good pur-
pose for the reasons I have already given

I will take the liberty of —
telling the Gentlemen what will answer
much better, And that is Imbodying a
Militia of horse & foot as soon as possible
and completing the two Battalions of
Seapoys now raising for the protection of
the Black Town, without Delay and Stop-
ing up the cross Roads —

The Ameer sends out Videts
every Night in consequence of an applica-
tion from the Governor & myself several
days ago, but it is impossible for him to
do so throughout the Day, having but

but —

1761
V. 32.

Fort St George August 1780.

Cut a body Guard of Cavalry -

Hector Munro

Fort St George
11th Augt 1780.

Majrs Smith and Johnson sent in the following joint minute -

Minute of Majrs Smith & Johnson - recommending that Stores should be sent to Masulipatam

Majrs Smith and Johnson are of opinion, That whatever Stores are wanted at Masulipatam can properly be spared, should be immediately sent thither by the Duke of Portland, who may at the same time be directed to carry any Stores that may be wanted for Vizagapatam - Some Artillery men should also be sent to Masulipatam -

11th Augt 1780.

Charles Smith
Samuel Johnson

Recieved the following Letters -

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr President and Governor &c Members of the Select Committee of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Vizagapatam concerning Sheveram Pauze & his Family.

We have had the honor of receiving your Letter of the 20th Inst. Your commands relative to the Instructions of the Fort of Policondah shall be forthwith carried into execution and Sheveram Rauze will be ordered to repair

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Fort St George August 1780.

repair hitherto reside with his family at the Chiefship — We beg leave to observe that the females of the family here, have hitherto received five Rupees ⅌ Diem for their subsistence, paid by the Paymaster & charged to the head of northern Circars. On the arrival of Sheveram Rauze it is probable he will apply for a larger Allowance, as he will of course be attended by several Relations & dependents. Should he do so we request Your Orders how to act, & to know in what manner, & on whose account, the family is to be in future subsisted.

We are respectfully

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obedient
hble Servants
Jas. H. J. Casamajor
Henry Crawford
Nath. Barlow
Chas. Maxtone

Vizagapatam,
2d August 1780,

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr.
Governor & President &c Select Committee

Honble Sir and Sirs,

I was last night honored with Your Orders, and Instructions of 27th ult.o which to the best of my ability shall be

From Captain Eidingtown

faithfully

1163

Fort St George August. 1780

Faithfully obey'd

I have the honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Respectful &
Obedunt Servant
James Eidungtoun

Salamcotah
Augt. 4th. Augt. 1780.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr.
Governor & President, &c. &c. &c. Select Committee
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Lieut Col. Baillie
has just communicated to me a post-
script of a Letter wherein you mention
that you had dispatched your orders
for me to join the Army, which Orders
I have not had the honor to receive
but shall upon the strength of the in-
formation given me lose no time in getting
to the Southward; leaving my company
of Guides under Col. Baillies command.
Thinking that you would
forgive me for quitting the inglorious
employment of a Surveyor to tender what
Service I could in a more military line,
I have accompanied Col. Baillie thus
far on his Expedition & intended to have
remained under his command until
I knew your pleasure respecting my

From Captain Pringle

1164

Fort St. George August 1780.

Situation

I have the honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obed.t Servt
John Pringle

Courcheer.
5.th Aug.t 1780.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.r
President & the Select Committee
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

This Morning Ensigns Higginbottom and McAuley with two Companies of the 19.th Batt.n arrived here one to the reinforcement of this Garrison & the other proceeds on this night to Gingee. Hyder Ally with his Camp consisting of as I am informed of about 15,000 horse about the same number of foot & 5 or 6,000 Pike and Matchlock men with about 30 Guns is still encamped at Tirumalee which he has taken as also Pollour Callisiauk, Tulliy Gurr & a small Fort about 7 miles Westward of this Place called Calliccurchy the Inhabitants of which District have put themselves under his protection and also a number of the adjacent Country have fled there for refuge. Detachments of the Enemy's Horse have burnt almost all the Villages and drove off all the Cattle within 30 or 40 miles of this Place - Two days since

From Lieut. Roberts with Intelligence
Ens.n Higginbottom & McAuley arrive with 2 Comp.s of Sepoys

Fort St George August 1780

since about 1000 horse made their appear-
ance close to this place & small parties of
them took off a vast number of Cattle that
had taken refuge round this Hill, in spite
of all I could do to prevent them, we have
since had no appearance of horse, but there
are still small Detachments scattered all
over the Country, a Detachment from
the Enemy's main Camp are at present
besieging Baswutnellour a small Hill
Fort about 20 Miles to the N.W. of this
Place where there has been a constant fire
these two days past. I find a report still
prevails in the Enemy's Camp of Hyder's
having an intention of attacking this Place
but has made no motion yet towards it.
he is clearing a road I am informed
towards Gingee, has also sent a Detach-
ment of 3 or 4,000 horse toward Pondichery
to watch the motions of the Troops there, a
Detachment of about 6000 Horse that were
two days ago at Manalore pet have joined
the main Body at Trinomalee. Having
not sufficient Lascars, as I before informed
the Honble Board, for working the Guns
in this Garrison I have taken the liberty
of entertaining 12 for that purpose
which I hope Gentlemen will meet
with your approbation.

I

1166
4/3

Fort St George Augt 1780.

I have the honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs,
Your most Obedt hble Servt
Geo: Roberts

Tiagar
6th Augt 1780.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
President & Governor, & the Select Committee
of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs.

I have this moment
had the honor to receive your commands
of the 3d inst. whereby it appears that
you have not received the monthly returns
for July. And I now feel as if I had com-
mitted a mistake, in granting a Detach-
ment of Seapoys to the Nabob's manager's
here, for the purpose of protecting the
Country and bringing grain. The two
grenadier Companies of the 19th Batt.
composed a part of this Detachment.
I shall however call them in with all
convenient speed, in case the letter I
which I am to receive from your Honor
do not make it appear that the
Detachment you have been pleased to
order to be in readiness shall not march
towards the place they are now at,
which is near to Carroor. I remain
with respect,

Honble

from Lt Colonel
Stuart

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Fort St George. August 1780

Trichinopoly
7th Augt 1780

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your most faithful &
Obedient Servant
Eccles Nixon.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr

Govr & President &c Select Committee of
Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Colonel Baillie

I am just favored with
your letter of the 1st Inst — Shall early in
the morning proceed towards Madras —
agreeable to the tenor thereof and with all
the expedition the Detachment is ca-
-pable of I have the Honor to be
with perfect respect

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most hble & Obed. Servt
Wm Baillie

Camp at Courchee
5th Augt 1780. 7 o'Clock P. M.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr

Governor & President &c Select Committee
Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Do

The Detachment
reached its present ground this morning
& will tomorrow proceed for Ramna-
-patam & Nellore — We have not yet
seen the Enemy or heard aught of moment

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Fort St. George Augt. 1780

Since my letter of the 5th from Cuchere.
I have the honor to be most
respectfully.

Honble Sir & Sirs.
Your most humble &
Obedt. Servant
Wm Baillie

Camp at a Village
4 Miles N. N. W. of
Angole 8th Augt 1780.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr.
President and Select Committee
Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs.

From Captain Allcock regarding Tents for his Battalion

In the month of January
1779 when the first Battalion of the 1st Regt
marched from this Garrison on the Expedi-
tion to Make. They being much distressed
for Tents, at the request of the Commanding
Officer Lieut. Col. Brown. I let him have
Nine Seapoy Tents complete belonging to
my Battalion, for which I have his receipt
and promissary Note to replace the same
within two Months with new - I have
since made repeated applications. but
finding no probability of a satisfactory
reply. & a prospect of Service, I am under
necessity of applying to your Honor &c. for
an Order, to have the same replaced or
payment to be made, that I may make

(up)

Fort St. George Aug.t 1780

up the same, my Grenadiers being under Orders of march, I have begun two Tents for their immediate use. which I hope will be finish'd in time, if not, they must march without Tents.

The present time, when an increase of troops may become an object of some consider-ation to the honble Board. gives me an op-portunity of laying before it, a Plan that has often occured to me, as an improvement in the Seapoy Establishment how far I may have judged right in that point, this Honble Board will determine, my view is the good of the Service —

In most if I believe every Battalion, there are forty men, who are supposed to bear arms more than really do. 20 Comp.-colourmen. 10 Washermen and 10 writers. the first are absolutely necessary. the second are also, if the latter cannot be dispended with, — as the Rolls & every Detail of Duty, & accounts must be kept by a person capable of writing the Malabar or Gentoo Language & the Mavilbars and Naiques, whose immediate province it is, are — mostly of the Moor, Marattoe & Rajahpoot Casts who have no knowledge thereof. —

People being entertained in these employs, or in place of those now

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Fort St. George Augt. 1780.

holding them, will be a considerable increase without an addition of Officers of any degree — & a saving may be made to arise by not allowing them either Cloathing or half-mounting, for which they have no occasion.

I have the honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs,
Your Respectful and
very Obed.t Servant
Hugh Rob.t Alcock
Capt. 13.th Carnatic Batt.n Seapoys

Tanjore
8th Aug.t 1780,

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Captain Davis with the 13.th Battalion of Seapoys under his command arrived yesterday at Cuddalore, from whence he immediately advised me of his arrival, but at the same time added that it was not possible for him in compliance with my orders to march again as to day, his bullocks being exceedingly bad and quite jaded, and no likelyhood of his getting fresh ones there but that he would march so as to be early here tomorrow as the River about four miles from hence on his road, is so deep that I do not believe it possible for his Bullocks to draw his guns & Tumbrils over and that he must take them to pieces, I have ordered my Picket consist-

ing

from Colonel Braithwaite
Capt.n Davies arrives at Cuddalore

1781

Fort St George Augt 1780

consisting of thirty Europeans and five companies of Sipoys with a Brigade of three pounders to march from hence at day break to cover his passage to the river, and shall send Artificers from hence to give him every assistance. I cannot get any certain intelligence of Hyder from Tiagar the 4th instant I was informed he was at Mana-=lore pettah and was clearing the road to Tiagar. While Letters from Vellore of the same date say that he had taken Tri-=nomale and was before Chittapet, it is certain that the Country both to the Northward & Southward appear suddenly to be much clearer of Cavalry than they have been, which looks as if he was assemb-=ling some where in the Centre of the Carnatic. I have got off all my Powder to eight hundred Barrells which I hope will be off by two o'Clock tomorrow after-=noon as boats are arrived from Cuddalore but no shipping has appeared as expected so that there will still be many Articles unprovided for, as to any Shot which re-=main I will cause them to be throwen in-=to the Sea. If no Conveyance offers to the last. I see nothing to prevent my march-=ing the day after tomorrow (the 11.) but of this I will advise the General tomorrow

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Fort St George Aug.t 1780

with such other information as may occur
a Seapoy of the 4.th Batt.n of Seapoys arrived here
this day saying that He was one of a guard in
a boat bring my money to us, but that the
Wind being bad he quitted the boat yesterday
morning at Sadras by order of the Havildar
to come forward & give me the notice. The
Sartine sailed last night for Madras, but
I have not yet got from the Store Keeper,
the return of the Articles she carries, a
List of the French prisoners on her was dis-
patched last night to Major Sydenham by the Brigade Major. The admiral
sailed about noon & has made a tolerable
stretch to the Southward; since his departure
since his departure the French thinking
our Stay will be very short grow very
importunate I have the honor to be with
the greatest respect,

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Your faithful and
Obedient Servant
John Braithwaite

August 9.th 1780.
P.M.

Wrote the following Letter to
Lieut Colonel Baillie -

To Lieut Col: Baillie.
Commanding the Detachment
to the Northward -

To Colonel Baillie
to know the route
he means to take

Sir,

I am directed by the President &

1178

Fort St George August 1780.

President & Select Committee to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th 7 miles N. N. W. of Pygole and to desire you will communicate to them the particular Rout you take and the principal places thro' which you are to pass, as circumstances may require their writing to you again before you come near Madras.

I am.

Sir

Your most Obed.t Servant

Chas. Oakeley Secry

Fort St George.
11th August 1780.

12th Received the following Letters.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr.

President & Governor & the Select Comm.e

of Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

In order to give you an idea of the great utility of the Detachment, which I lately sent out to the westward of this place, I take the liberty of enclosing the manager's Letter home on that subject, for your perusal. I also enclose you two returns, which will shew you the necessity there is for ordering some tents to be sent for the

from Colonel Wilson - Incloses the Detachment's out. Incloses Letters shewing their Utility —

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U.15

Fort St George Augt 1780

I remain with respect
Honble Sir & Sirs.
Your most faithful &
Obedt Servant
Eccles Nixon

Trichinopoly
8th Augt 1780.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Tomorrow morning at day break my first division will march from this cantonment and at four in the after-noon the second, when this place will be entirely evacuated. I have got away all the Powder and most of the valuable Stores - all the Guns and a great many Shot, the rest I am now throwing into the Sea beyond the Surf. as also such things as might be more particularly useful to an Enemy. I hope to march the 12th from the read hills I have the honor to be with the greatest respect

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your faithful & Obedt Servt
John Brathwaite

From Colonel Brathwaite evacuates Pondichery

Pondichery
11th August 1780.
9 P.M.

10

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
Governor and President &c &c Select Committee

Honble

1780. Fort St George 7 August 1780.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

From Lieut Mackay

Your orders of the 6th instant I have been honored with. I assure you that all that is possible to be done in the collection of the Grain, Sheep and Cattle, shall be done, and I flatter myself in a manner that will meet with your's Honble Sirs. and also the approbation of the Honble Members of the Select Committee. There are no horse near this at present. They have returned to the main encampment Trinomally plains.

I am with respect
Honble Sir & Sirs.
Your most Obd. Hble Servt.
Geo. Mackay

Chingleput
10th August 1780.

13th. Received the following letters

Honble Sir & Sirs.

From Captain Brerdergast arrives at Arcot with his Detachment from Vellore

Agreable to orders I received from Col. Laing I marched from Vellore yesterday Evening with a Detachment consisting of two companies of Europeans and two Companies of Sepoys complete for Arcot where I arrived

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Fort St. George August 1780.

without the least obstruction.

As I have received no particular Instructions from Colonel Lang but to assist in the defence of the place should it be attacked. Beg to know if I am to take the Command of the Fort and Nabobs Troops upon me.

I have the honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs.
Your most obed. humble Servt.
Thos. Prendergast

Arcot
8th Augt. 1780.

The Honble John Whitehill Esq.
President &c. Select Committee
Honble Sir & Sirs.

In consequence of re=peated applications from the Nabobs ma=nager at Arcot last night & this morn=ing. I shall send this Evening a Detach=ment of one hundred Europeans and two companies of Seapoys under the Command of Capt. Prendergast to that Place. I find that the people are relapsed into their former fears, so that by sending this Detachment it will ease their minds & give the Nabobs Seapoys a confidence in themselves. They are good people and

From Colonel Lang sends a Detachment to Arcot.

have a depend-

1777 F

Fort St George August 8th 80

dependance on.

I have the honor to be
with all due respect Honble Sir & Sirs
Your very Obedient &
Devoted Servant
Rojs Lang.

Vellore ——,
9th August 1780.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

From Captain Brendergast

This morning the Rajah sent to acquaint me that Hyder had taken Chittapet yesterday and that he imagined he was on his march to Arnée.

I have the honor to be
Sir & Sirs
Your most Obed.t Servt.
T Brendergast
Comm.g a Detach.t of the 1st Batt.n
7th Regt

Arcot
10th Augt 1780.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.r
President & the Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Lt Roberts with Intelligence

I have received this instan intelligence of the Fort of Ramatnellore which I before mentioned to the Honble Board being besieged by the Enemy being given up to them yesterday the Killedar

1178 Fort St George August 1780.

Garrison. The above information is from a horseman of the Nabob's who was one of about a hundred that was shut up there by the Enemy, & pushed his way thro' them after the surrender of the Place There is no force of consequence of the Enemy's near this place at present. but still parties of straggling horse all over the Country & Hyder Ally with his Army has left Trinomalee and is proceeded on towards Chittapet as I am informed. having left only a small force at the former place, — I have the honor to be

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obedient
Hble Servant
Geo: Roberts

Tiagar augt.
10th 1780. at 1 P.M.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Since writing the accompanying Letter, I am informed by the same person, that the Troops who have taken the beforementioned Fort, have orders to besiege this Place also that they will be here in two days, that he

from D—

1179

Fort S. George August 1780.

had the above account from one of the principal Men in camp. The force consiststh of 4000 Seapoys 3000 Peons 1000 Horse. 40 Europeans 16 large guns 2000 Promaly men and 200 Lascars -

Geo. Roberts.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

I have to assure you that if you do not very soon send Protection to Pondichery, the Inhabitants will be gradually armed. I have reason to think the Nawr or Polygar is a great rascal - he never would come to me or any of your — commanding Officers - and this afternoon as soon as the last guard of mine was come away he went in great State to Mr Pivieron - and he proposed to arm a number of his own people, old french Seapays. he should be sent to Madras - I have the honor to be with great respect

From Colonel Brathwaite

The Polygar proposes to Mr. Piveron to arm his People.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Your faithful & Hbl. Servt

John Brathwaite

Camp on the Red Hills aug 11th

1780 Fort St George August 1780

To Capt. Robert Gibbings
Commanding at
Madura.

Sir,

To Captain Gibbings to replace the Detachment sent from his Battalion

We desire exclusive of the augmentation already ordered to your Battalion that you will endeavour as fast as possible to complete the Deficiency occasioned by the Detachment serving with the Troops at Tillicherry. You will be pleased also to put the Fort in the best State of defence that circumstances will admit of and for this purpose you are at liberty to make such temporary repairs &c as may be absolutely necessary.

We are

Sir

Your most Obed. Servts

Fort St George.
13th August 1780

John Whitehill &c

14th Received the following Letters —

To The Honble John Whitehill Esq —
President and Governor &c Council
at Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Caddalore regarding the Fortifications & mounting a

We shall now take the liberty to represent to you the measures we have found it necessary to pursue to render the Fort as secure as possible

11.82 Fort St George Augt. 1780

ourselves they will meet with the approbation of Your Honor &c —

Having very few Lascars in Garrison & no Artillery, we raised 20 new Lascars & have entertained about 30 Topazzes for the Artillery on batty only, & hope Your Honor &c will approve therefof, as well as our having armed 20 or 30 Old Seapoys that were out of Service & allowed them a Fanam & 4a Cash each a Day — The Pensioners Black Officers and Seapoys in Garrison we have likewise armed, but have not made them any additional allowance —

We are in so much distress for money that we have been under the Necessity of granting bills on Your Honor &c for the Sum of 3000 Pags — Tho' even this supply was only sufficient for the payment of the Seapoys & Lascars on the 1st Augt the Commissioned Officers and the Civil List not having yet received any —

We therefore request You will be pleased to send us a fresh supply as soon as possible —

We

1184 Fort St George 14th Aug.t 1780

1500 Sheep ready - and am

Honble Sir.

Your most respectfully

Chingleput
13th August 1780.

Geo: Mackay —

At a Select Committee Present

Monday
14th —

The Honble John Whitehill Esq.r Gov.t Pres.t
Chas.t Smith. Sir Hector Munro KB
Sam.l Johnson

Minutes of last Committee
read and approved —

The Commander in
Chief delivers in the following Letter —

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.re
Governor & President Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From General Munro concerning Bullocks for the use of the Army

It is now above a fortnight
since I recommended to you the plan I had
formed and judged the best and most ex-
peditious for the rendezvous of the Army
from the different cantonments, — I also
laid before you the consequences I expected
from marching from Conjeveram the
place of Rendezvous, to cover Vellore &

1780. Fort St George 14th Augt 1780

of bullocks, is that the Country People have drove them into the Pollams to avoid the Enemy's Horse.

As the greatest part of the Troops are now in motion it is impossible to effect the proposed junction immediately for want of bullocks as above, & as it would be highly improper, as well as imprudent to halt the Troops, who are now marching it is necessary that Orders be sent without delay to the Officers commanding each Detachment to proceed to the Mount or Poonamalee where the whole must remain until a sufficient number of bullocks can be had for the purpose of carrying at least eight days Grain for the Army —

I have the honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt
hble Servant
H: Munro.

Fort St George
14th Augt 1780

In consequence of the foregoing Representation a Letter

1788 Fort St George August 1780.

14th Dispatched the following Letters

To the Officer Commanding the Europeans at Conjeveram

Sir,

In case Colonel Lang shall have sent the European Battalion to Conjeveram, I am directed to desire you will leave that place as soon as possible & march to Poonamalee where you will find Tents &c for the Battn. If you want bisket & arrack you will dispatch a Letter to Lord Macleod at Poonamalee who has directions to Supply you

To the Officer at Conjeveram, to march to Poonamalee

I am Sir,
Your most Obed Servt.
Chas. Oakley
Secry

Fort St George
14th Augt. 1780.

To Colonel Ross Lang
Commanding at Vellore

Sir,

I am directed by the President & Select Committee to desire you will endeavour with all possible Dispatch to throw two Companies & Sepoys into Arnee — and

To Colonel Lang to send 2 Companies of Sepoys to Arnee

1190 Fort St George August 1780

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
Governor & President &c. Select Committee
Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

The Detachment encamped
from Colonel to day on the North bank of the Ingalear
Baillie a small river nine miles Southward of
Ongole In consequence of a heavy
fall of rain it is become impassable &
we must with impatience its fall to
proceed.

I am most respectfully
Honble Sir & Sirs.
Yr. most hble & Obed.t Servt
Wm Baillie

Camp 10th
August 1780.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq

Honble Sir

From Vizagapatam with Intelligence of the Morattahs assembling at Cuttack —

No doubt as you are well informed that there is a large body of Morattahs assembled at Cuttack, reports are now propagated all over this Province, that their intentions are hostile against the Jehapour & Chicacole Countries & Circars in general — whether this intelligence be true, or false, it may not be improper

1192

Fort St George Aug.t 1780

worship at Jaggernaut, but it is well known that a number of the Curiapum Peons, report says 200) armed with fire locks are gone after him, and in small divisions that they might be unobserved - as Curiapum belongs to the Rajah, Sittaram Rauze must be acquainted with the above circumstances -

I am with much respect

Honble Sir

Your most Obedient

humble Servant

Ja.s Hy Casamajor

Vizagapatam.
5th. August 1780.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.r &c.
President & Governor &c. Select Comm.e
of Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sir

From Col. Wilson with Intelligence

As I cannot give you a better account of the State of Affairs in this part of the Country than that contained in the two accompanying Letters which I have the honor to enclose for your perusal, I take the liberty of sending them to you & acquaint you at the same time

1193

Fort St. John Aug.6 1780.

of the necessity there is for the Detach-
=ments remaining out, I that I have
presumed to take upon myself to
permit it to remain a few days longer,
well knowing that it can join me in
two days notice, which I hope will
satisfy to your satisfaction the purport
of Your Orders dated the 3d Instant.

I have the honor to be
Respectfully
Honble Sir & Sirs,
Your most faithful &
Obed: Servant
Eccles Nixon.

Forchimo Poty.
the 11th Augt 1780.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
President &c Select Committee

Mem.
Read this Letter after the two preceding ones to Eccles Nixon

From Captain Barrows

Honble Sir & Sirs,

On my arrival here Yester
=day afternoon, I was favored with
Your Orders of the 2d Inst. which shall
be punctually complied with -

I have the honor to be with
the greatest respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Yr. most Obed: Hble Servt

Lea. Barrows near
Major 12 Aug

1194 Fort St George Augt 1780

To Colonel Nixon Dated 11th Augt 1780.

I have recd. your several Letters, recalling Capt. Bitclif, with five Companies of Sepoys as ordered by the Governor and Council I shall myself come with the horse and Company's Seapoys, for I came here trusting to your people, the Circar Troops are continually raising clamours for their arrears of pay, but they dare not say much while the Company's people are with them - It is not in the power of any Man to meet a formidable Enemy, when he is staroing with hunger - I shall therefore leave two companies of the Circar's Seapoys at Cornellumguddy and give orders to the Amil of this place to give them their pay - and come afterwards to Tri-chinopoly - A thousand Peons from Nimgull have set fire to Yellore Tottum & Mously and destroyed some Cullums of Paddy - This will happen at Cornelum, when the Company's Seapoys come away - You desire me to collect bullocks, & bring all the Grain that can be got together -

1195 Fort St George August 1780

If you will send me bullocks from the Fort, they shall be returned with grain, but not one bullock is to be found in the Villages - The Ryots are all fled - some came here under the protection of the Troops, The Village of Vincent, appears well peopled just now, but as soon as the troops leave it all the people will take to flight, & the whole Country to the Gates of Trichinopoly will become a Desert —

Dear Sir,

I am favoured with your Letter of the 9th Inst. for which I thank You. I shall march to Curtalam Tomorrow Evening on my way to join You. Yaffier Saib will not remain here but declares he is determined to march with me to Trichinopoly, for he says he cannot trust himself with the Nabob's troops, they having two Years pay due to them, & is afraid of being made a prisoner by them, in case he should leave them. This Jemadar

Fort St George August 1780

hurried away in this manner & that I was sure you would approve of my conduct — They chearfully signed the enclosed Declarations & I have permitted them to remain, & I believe this alert on them has produced very good effects, I had other reasons also for permitting them to stay, which I shall have the honor of communicating in my Letter to the Governor — all the Military who were in a situation to render Service I have sent as you will see by the enclosed List, — They complain much the Officers as if they had been suspected of breaking their paroles — I assure them no such thing is suspected, but as the Company is bound to transmit them to Europe & we may suddenly leave this place, it is necessary that they should be at Madras, that the Company may have it in their power to fulfil their engagements, & besides should we be constrained suddenly to leave it & the Enemy were to come into it, it would be a shocking thing for you to think that brave Gentlemen of honor might be reduced to suffer the most inhumane

treatment

1143

Fort St George Augt 17. 80.

Boats were sent back, the Captain declaring that he could not receive a single thing more. I am now loading some Chilingas with powder to send to Cuddalore - I hope other conveyances may arrive or I shall have much to destroy -

I will not trouble Sir & Sirs with a detail of the difficulties I have had to encounter - they will occur to you - If in some things I may have deviated from the regular mode prescribed for carrying on business, I trust you will rather commend them than blame me for my exertions to put the Troops under my command in motion & of course to furnish them with what was necessary; as also to disencumber myself of Powder & Stores in the securest manner, & if it shall be found in the End that I have done this in as Expeditious a manner as the circumstance would admit & without violating the Capitulation by using either force or menaces to any Inhabitant of Pondichery, or possessing myself of an atom of their property, or an hour of their labour

1165

Fort St George Aug.t 1780

his horse are every where very intent upon driving Sheep & Cattle to the westward & the destruction of villages & provisions in some places they treat the Inhabitants with humanity. in others with great cruelty. so that it appears as if they acted with no positive general order touching them.

It would be unpardonable in me not to take this earliest opportunity to inform you of the great assistance I have received from Vear Admiral Sir Edw.d Hughes, & all the Commanders of His Majesty's Ships, nay every individual in the Fleet. they have shewed that anxiety for promoting the public Service on this occasion which is the admiration of all the Inhabitants of Pondicherry, who have been little used to see such conduct in their Marine. & have done every thing in so polite & hearty a manner that I have not words to express my Obligations to them. The Admiral only waits for a wind, intending to continue his course to the Southward as soon as he can

I cannot Honble Sir & Sirs conclude this Letter in

supplies into the little frontier forts. I have already furnished Cuddalore with powder and stores and Permacoil with 50 barrels of powder

1147

Fort St. George Aug.t 1780

and I hope to carry to meet the General a great number of Spare Bullocks, both draught & Carriage, but with respect to provisions, as all here is the private Store of the Inhabitants, I fear I can not do more than furnish myself for my march.

I have the honor to be with respect

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your faithful and Obedient Servant

John Brathwaite

Pondichery.
8th Aug.t 1780, P.S.

Mr. Munro informs me that he cannot send Returns by this Ship. — I have paid the Woman belonging to Colonel Browne's Detachment for July

J.B.

Translation

We who have hereunto signed my Name declare on my honor, that I have never in any instance intentionally shewn any contempt of the Honble Governor and Committee of Madras, or for their Orders, or entertained any doubt of the authority of the English Government over Pondich.y as was specified in the last Capitulation. I also declare upon my honor, that since

the

1181 Fort St George Augt 1780

supply of money against a surprize by any small body
of Horse, it having been in a most de-
fenceless condition at the time of the attack
on Porto Novo.

The East face of the Fort
in particular being entirely open. We ordered
a ditch to be dug, & a mud wall raised
along the whole face, this is very near
completed & with a few Guns at proper
distances will keep out a large body of Cavalry

Our Commandant having
represented to us that a small out Work
ought to be erected before Bramins Gate
(the other Gateways having been filled up)
to prevent the Effect of a Shot a petard on
the said Gate, we directed it to be executed

The curtain wall being
in want of some trifling repairs we
have now put it in a proper condition.
There is a Stockade across the River at
each end of the Fort, along the South face,
are all we have hitherto been able to effect
or indeed that appear to be necessary to
secure the place against Cavalry and
as they have been conducted with as

1183

Fort St George Aug.t 1.st 1780

We are respectfully

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obed.t

humble. Servants

Cuddalore,
12.th Aug.t 1780,

Wm Cuming
I Daniell
Wm. Maitland
E.d W.m Tallofield

To The Honble John Whitehill Esq.r
Governor President &c. &c.
Select Committee

Honble Sir.

I have had the honor
of receiving your Letter of the 12.th inst the
Bran that was to shew me the Nabob's
From Lieut. Col. Macleay bullocks is not yet appeared -

I have only upon that
subject to add that with or without any
assistance from the Nabob, Colonel
Braithwaites Detachment will be pro-
=vided with 300 bullocks loaded with rice the instant they encamp near
this place, my collections are pretty
successful - tho' all Paddy, which I
am obliged to beat into Rice I have

Fort St George 4th Augt 1780

Arcot, I at the same time to watch the motions of the Enemy, to prevent if possible his possing himself of the principal Forts in the Carnatic, and should the force I would have in the field be found sufficient to attack him, it was my intention to do it, as soon as I could possibly bring him to action.

I foresaw the difficulties which would occur, was the whole army to march from Madras, as well as the delay it would occasion, They are still the same, I now beg leave to acquaint You, that notwithstanding all the Efforts of the Governor & myself, Notwithstanding repeated assurances of the Nabob and the Nabobs Dewan, we have not as yet been able to muster up above 200 Bullocks of 800 which are absolutely necessary to carry Provisions for the Troops that were to march from Pondicherry. —

The Reasons assigned at the Durbar for not being able, imme-

1187 Fort St. George 14th August 1780

is now prepared, and ordered to be sent to the Nabob as entered in Country Correspondence No 76

John Whitehill

Charles Smith

Hector Munro

Saml. Johnson

Fort St George 9th August 1780.

and order two Companies of Seapoys from Arnboor to Vellour in their room.

As you have sent so large a part of your Garrison to Arcot the President & Select Committee would have you keep the remainder of the Europeans at Vellour till further Order. —

I am
Sir.
Your most Obed.t Servt.
Chas Oakeley
Secry

Fort St George
14th Augst 1780

To Colonel Brathwaite

Sir.

I am directed by the President and Select Committee to desire you will send two Companies of Seapoys with all expedition to Wandewash, furnishing them with musket ammunition for the use of that Garrison —

I am
Sir.
Your most Obed.t Servt.
Chas Oakeley
Secry

To Colonel Brathwaite to send 2 Companies Seapoys, to Wandewash.

Fort St George
15th Augst 1780.

This day the following Letters were received.

1191

Fort St George Sept 1780

That this place be put in some little State of defence, the present walls are in such ruinous condition that the Castle belonging to the Town pass over it in all parts, to make it at all defensible, a Stockade is the only expedient to be adopted, and as that can be done at such a trifling expence as cannot be of any consequence, it will be set about without delay.

2 There is a circumstance come to my knowledge, that serves just to create a suspicion altho' at any other period, it ought to be treated with neglect. One Duntaboor Venkatiz Kistnah Rauz a Sirdar in the Service of the Vizeanagrum Family who Commanded at Curipum a central Fort near two Passes leading out of this District towards the Marattoe Possessions has lately left the Command of Curipum in charge of a near relation. He is gone to Cuttack, where he has a brother in a high military command & lost among the Maharattoes, he gave out that he was going to

1193 Fort St George August 1780.

If you will send me bullocks from the Fort, they shall be returned with grain, but not one bullock is to be found in the Villages - The Ryots are all fled - some came here under the protection of the Troops, The Village of Wineut, appears well peopled just now, but as soon as the troops leave it all the people will take to flight, & the whole Country to the Gates of Trichinopoly will become a Desert —

Dear Sir,

I am favoured with your Letter of the 9th Inst. for which I thank you. I shall march to Curtalam tomorrow Evening on my way to join You. Yaffier Saib will not remain here but declares he is determined to march with me to Trichinopoly for he says he cannot trust himself with the Nabob's troops, they having two Years pay due to them, He is afraid of being made a prisoner by them in case we should leave him. This fear