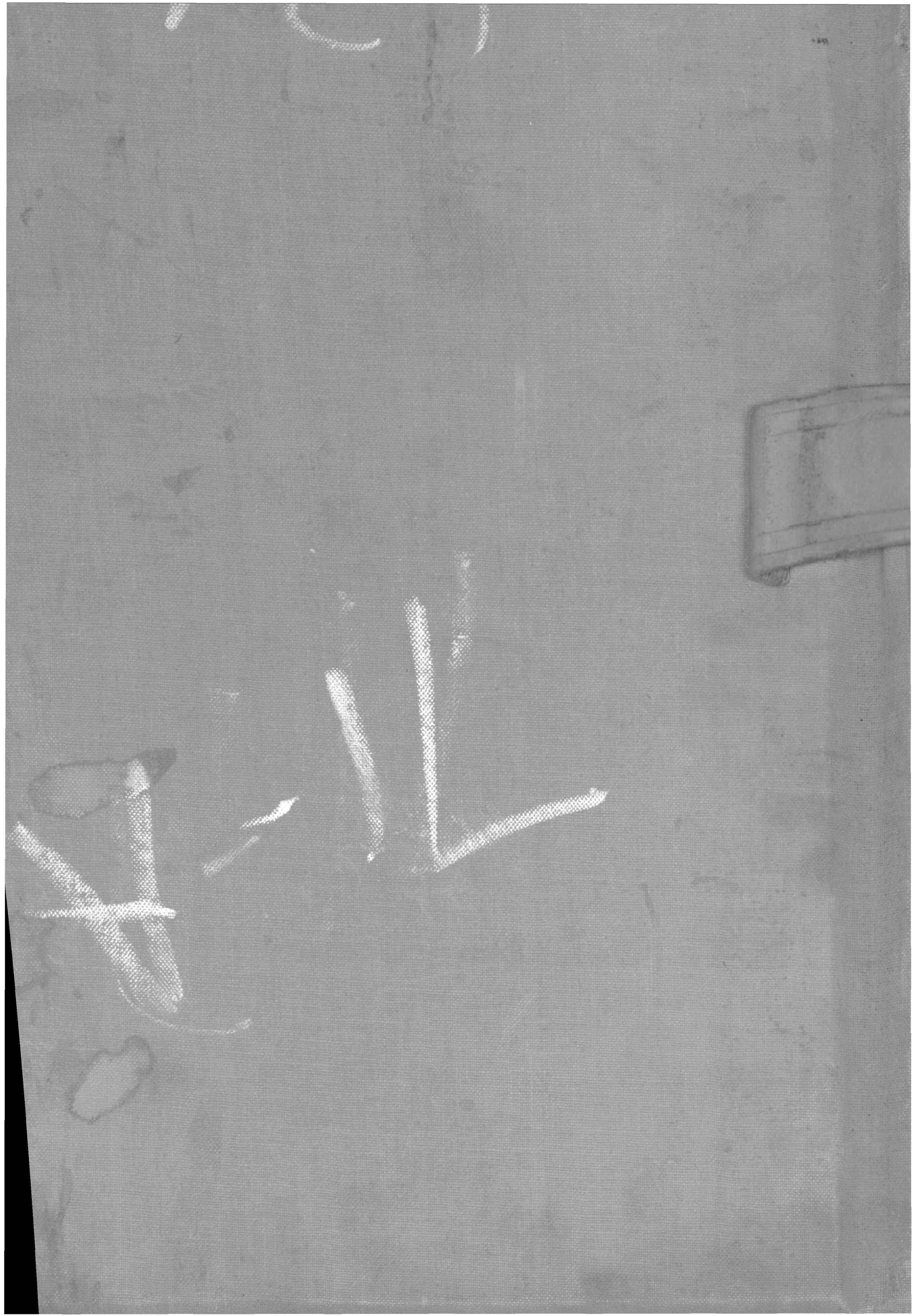

1. Num
2. Date
3. Initia

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.

04/10-9-1942.

71
A

1196 Fort St. George 6 Augst

Enemy's hands. The Villages be plun
and burned, & the grain carried aw
to supply the Enemy's Forts, which will
certainly be the case within twenty
four hours after I march from hence
The Enemy are now plundering and
burning the whole Country on the
North side of the River, I suppose
You will see the fires from the Rock
by the time You receive this Letter
as they seem to be going towards
Seringham. I am

Dear Sir.

Your most Obed, Servt

— Bilderbeck

Curdapatore
10th Augt 1780.

16th This day Majr Smith and
Johnson deliver in the following Minute

(C In such numbers of the
Inhabitants have deserted the Black Po
for apprehensions of Danger, some means
ought to be devised for encouraging them to return
and for assuring that the Government are
taking every precaution to guard their lives

plunder
away
will.

delivered

Majr Smith &
Johnson propose
that a Commandant
should be appointed
to the Black Town
to encourage the

1191. Fort St George August 1780

Majors Smith & Johnson therefore propose that a Steady & experienced Captain be immediately appointed to the Command of the Black Town, & to discipline the Seapoy already raised, with two Subalterns - when the Battalions are completed, it is probable that it may be found necessary to appoint more Officers that there may be one to command each Face — Captain Wood, we conceive to be an Officer qualified in all respects for this Service —

Majors Smith & Johnson will readily concur with the Commander in any other measures which may tend to prevent the further uneasiness of the Inhabitants & quiet their apprehensions —

16th Augt 1780.

Chas Smith
Sam. Johnson

Received the following Letters —

Noble Sirs,

I arrived in this Road the 8th Inst. with an order from Colonel Nixon to take upon me the command of the Fort and to use my utmost endeavours to put it in as possible expedition for the best defence, to defend it to

From Lieut. Mealey arrived at Guiga. The Rebels are upon the point. The Command

extremity, & by no means to have any dis-
putes with the Nabob's Killadar I was
proceeding to act in obedience to these
Orders, but was informed by the Killadar
that he could not possibly allow me to
interfere with any thing, but the interior
Duty of my own Company, until such
time as he had orders from the Nabob,
every thing is carried on in an irregular &
tumultuous manner by the people, and
should an Enemy appear before the place
you will plainly perceive how difficult
it is for me to Act up to my orders, this I
thought it my Duty to acquaint you of

I remain
Honble Sirs
your most Obed.t Hble Servt.
Colin Macaulay

Gingee
10th Aug.t 1780.

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

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I have the honor to acquaint
You that the Detachment under my Com-
mand encamped at Ramnapatam this
morning — We are two days late, from
Expected, owing to three Rivers which
from Ongole impeded our march.

I am respectfully &c

From Col. Baillie.
arrive at Ramnapatam.

1199 Fort St George August 1780

Camp 15th Augt 1780

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Your most Obed. Servt
Wm Baillie

Dispatched the following Letters

To Col: Ross Lang
Commanding at
Vellore

Sir,

In case You should not have been able to throw the two Companies of Seapoys as before ordered, into Arnee, the President & Select Committee desire you will send them to Wandewash if possible, and that you will order all the Seapoys from Amboor to Vellore excepting two Companies which are to be left for the Defence of Amboor.

I am Sir
Your most Obedt Servt
Chas Oakeley
Secy

Fort St George
16th Augt 1780

To Mr Wm Cuming
Chief &c Council at
Cuddalore

Gentlemen,

We understand from Capt.
Gubbins that there is a great Number of
Intrenching Tools belonging to Govt

1200 Fort St George 1st August 1780

Cuddalore - as there will be a want of these
articles here we desire, after setting apart
such as may be requisite for your use that
You will send the Remainder to Madras
making an Estimate of their Value —

We desire also that you will
forward to Madras by the first Conveyance
You can procure the Surplus Stores &
Gunpowder sent You from Pondichery,
after reserving such part as may be
necessary to complete the quantity You
stand in need of.

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

Fort St George
16th Augt 1780.

To the Right Honble Lord Macleod

My Lord,

We request Your Lordship
will march with all the Troops under
Your Command, Artillery &c to the Mound
So as to encamp there tomorrow night,
We think it proper to acquaint Yr Lordship
that the Troops will not return to Poona-
mala - There will be a Serjeant sent
You from hence who is to remain with
the Company of Seapays now there to
protect the Barracks & new buildings

To Lord Macleod
to march to the
Mound —

1201 Fort St George August 1780

the Deputy Agent wills carry with
him all the Sheep that he has got,
or can be procured from Poonamlee
&c.

We have the honor to

My Lord,

Your Lordships
most Obed.t Hble Servt.
John Mitchill &c

Fort St George.
10th Aug.t 1780.

Johnson's

17 In Consequence of Messrs. Smith & Johnson
Minute of Yesterday the President now reads round the
following Reply.

The Presidents
Reply to Mess.rs Smith
and Johnson's Minute

As the Minute of Messrs. Smith &
Johnson seems to imply that every Method has not
been taken to give Security to the black Town and to
inspire Confidence in the Minds of the People I shall
beg Leave to shew in a few Words what has been done
and what is now doing to answer these necessary
Purposes.

A sufficient Numbers of Guns
have been mounted on the black Town Wall, the
Ditch in some Parts is cleared, and in a few Days by
Means of the People now employed, this necessary Work
will be finished, and such other Measures taken as will
put the Black Town in a respectable State of Defence
There are about 600 Sepoys, inclusive for the Use of the Black
Town, and by the Reports that have been

1202 Fort St George August 17 80

I understand they are already considerably advanced in their Discipline and very capable of doing the Duty that is required of them. Besides this all the Troops belonging to the Garrison are in readiness to march to the Black Town if necessary. It will certainly be proper to have Officers appointed to the new-raised Seapoy Corps for the field. Whatever Officers are appointed for the new Corps must go from this Garrison one of them is now constantly in the Black Town and I mean to send another there immediately.

Upon the whole Nothing has been omitted that I can think of for the Security of the Black Town, I see no reasonable Ground for the Apprehension which seems to have spread among the Inhabitants or how is it possible for us to place them in greater Safety unless we take them into the Fort or withdraw our Army from the Field for the Protection of the black Town.

W Petrie

18th Came in the following Letters

The Honble John Whitehill Esq: Govr Pres.t

Select Committee

Honble Sirs

I had the Honour to acquaint

From Col: Kelly
Chittapett abandoned
sends Capt: Pendergast
with troops to direct

you that I had sent a Detachment of Troops to direct under the Command of Capt.n Pendergast which accordingly arrived there. I am now to acquaint you that

Fo

1203 Fort St George August 1780

the Troops in the Garrison of Chittapet abandoned it in the Night of the 6th Inst and that it is in the Hands of Hyder Ally — His Horse has surrounded Arnee and I make not the least Doubt that it will fall immediately as a large Encampment was formed Yesterday Evening about four Cs from it — There is I am informed only one Company and a half of the Nabobs Sepoys in Arnee Fort is the next Place that Hyder Ally intends to attack, and as I think it will be very difficult for me to get Letters into that Place on Account of this Valley's being narrow and the Communication easily cut off I request you will send such Orders to Capt.n Pendergast as you shall judge necessary — And as I much fear there can be no great Dependence on the Sepoys at this. I request you will send Copy's of any Orders you have for this Place by private Hands.

Least Hurry of Business should make the Honble Committee forget that there is now only two Companies of Sepoys in this Place, I beg leave to remind them of it and to offer it as my Opinion that it will be highly improper to send any Detachment out untill there is a proper Garrison of Sepoys

I have the Honor to be with all due Respect
Honble Sirs
Your very obedient
and devoted Servt
Rob.t Lang

Colonel
Mr. Brereton

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr

204 Fort St. George August 1780

President &c Select Committee

Honble Sirs

I had the Honor to receive yours

Commands of the 9th Date last Night. Your Information

about the Horse having left the Neighbourhood of Arcot has

been wrong, for there have never been less than two thousand

that has kept hovering about and always shewed themselves

every Day in one Part or other and last Night I was informed

that they were Yesterday reinforced and encamped between

Sallapet and Arcot which is the high Road from hence

to Wan-bau-Jan Pettah.

As to marching the European

Battn to form a Junction with the Army I think

that will be attended with great Risk at this Time

Hyder Ally having arrived at Vellore at Noon Yesterday

and I expect every Moment to hear that it has surrendered

to him and he will no Doubt move immediately to Arcot

unless the Detachment I sent there makes him alter

his Intentions, should he go to Arcot I have every

Reason in the World to think that he will meet with

a warm Reception the Spirits of the People are so raised

by the Appearance of the Troops and Capt. Rudergast

assures me that he finds a great Number of Guns well

mounted with Plenty of Ammunition for them.

When your Orders of the 9th came away

it was impossible ~~[illegible]~~ my Letter could have

reached you to acquaint you I had sent a Detachment

to Arcot I hope the Step will be approved as I assure

you it was necessary — My Letter of Yesterday I hope

reached

will convince you that it will be impossible to order the Europeans out of this untill Sepoys can be thrown in here to leave this Garrison with two Companies only (which is all that is now here) will be running a great Risque unless the Army was very near, however whatever your Commands may be I will execute them to the best of my Judgement and I hope the Honble the Committee will approve of my not moving the Europeans from hence as Hyder Ally is now situated untill I receive their further Orders, I have the Honor to be with all due Respect

Honble Sirs

Your most obed.t and devoted Servant

Ross Lang.

Velore
12th Augt 1780

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

Honble Sirs

In Obedience to your Commands I have sent a Person to Pondicherry to take Care of the Hospital Stafford and such Things as might be left on the Beach. He have directed M.r Guy who is on Service at Pondicherry to charge himself with this Business likewise

A great Quantity of Gun Powder and Stores have been received from Col. Bomtwaite which according to his Desire we shall send to the Presidency by the first proper Conveyance that

from Cuddalore
and M.r Guy to
Pondicherry -

1206 Fort St George August 1800

Offers after detaining a few of the Horses which our Commandant has represented to be necessary for the Defence of the Garrison. — We have the Honor to be

Honble Sirs

Your most obed.t Hble Servts

William Cuming

P Daniel

William Maitland

Ed.d Fallofield

Cuddalore
15.th Aug.t 1800

Dispatched the following Letters

To Colonel Ross Lang

Commanding at Velore

Sir

As there are at Velore two 24 Prs two 18 Prs in Garrison Carriages and one Brass 18 Pr. on a Field Carriage I am directed to desire you will have them ready with 300 Rounds of Ammunition for each Gun and a sufficient Number of Bullocks for them all — The Bullocks you may get from Arcot in case they cannot be provided at Velore, You must supply the Want of Timbers for the Garrison Carriages in the best Manner you are able — The Select Committee approve of your detaining the Europeans for the Reasons you have given and likewise of your sending a Part of them to Arcot. —

I am
Sir
Your most obed.t Servant
Charles Oakeley

Fort St George
17.th Aug.t 1800

To Col Lang.
to get the 24 & 18 Prs ready & to provide Bullocks

1201 Fort St. George August 1780

To Ensign Colin Macaulay

Sir

I am directed to enclose you the
Nabobs Order to the Killedars of Ginjee to deliver over
the Command of that Place to you

I am
Sir
Your most obed.t Serv.t
Charles Oakeley

Fort St George
7 -

Ens.n Macaulay
from Trichinopoly
to the Killedar
of Ginjee to deliver
over the Command

August
1780

10 Came on the following Letter

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

Gentlemen

From Vr. Masters
arrives at the Mount

According to your command
I the 16.th Inst. I marched the Troops from Poonamma
last Night about eight o'Clock and arrived here about
6 this Morning where the Troops are now encamped.

Camp at the Mount
18.th Sept.r 1780

I have the Honor to be
Gentlemen
Your most obed.t Servant
Macleay

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

From Col.o Baillie
enters Travancore
his Route

Honble Sirs/Sirs

Having brought the Detach

1208 Fort St. George August 1780

thus far it becomes necessary I acquaint you with my Intention of marching for the Presidency by Nain Pett and Arkama Pett instead of your Route mentioned in your Letter of the 1st Instant my Reasons are as follows Tippaty & Burnraunje's Pollam gives no Prospect of meeting with any of Hyder Ally's Convoys because his People if they at all pass by the former must afterwards pass thro' the Pollatta and Damalepeerie Ghauts and Land near Vellore even this seems not probable when he has so many and better Roads clear of our Garrisons, Further the Pollam Road per fifteen or twenty Miles is so steep narrow and stony it would take considerable Time to conduct the Field Pieces by it. as I know from Experience founded on the March of our Army in 1765 after the Southern from Arcot to Vencatty Curry.

I shall tomorrow for Rice but proceed early the next Morning

I am respectfully

Honble Sir &c.

Your most humble
and obed.t Servant
Wm. Baillie.

Camp at
Nellore
16th Augt 1780

To Charles Oakeley Esq.r

Sir

From Col Braithwaite
encls d.d Flint to
Wantswart

I have received your Letter of the 4th Instant by the Bearer, as also the one of the same Tenor and Date sent by way of Chingl.t but the Messen.r in whom under Lieut Flint is very steady good

1209 Fort St George August 1780

Officers and as I know he will push the Thing, I suppose that Tomorrow by eight o Clock if practicable it will be done. This Place and Wallajanagur Pollams are strangely neglected. If I had had Power I would have prevented both. Cuddalore can spare every thing necessary to the Latter, and I may for this Place I have given Ammunition. But to who? an Havildaur!

I am Sir

Your Obed Servt

Braithwait

Camp near Cavanjdy
Augt 16 1780

Wrote the following Letter to the Governor General & Counc

To the Honble Warren Hastings Esqr.

Governor General and Council of Fort William

Gentlemen

So Bengal
Wanting for Supply
of Money
Four Deserters sent
them.

We had the Honor of writing you in Dispatch under Date the 26th of July and now forwa a Triplicate,

Since that Time Hyder Ally has emplo a considerable Body of Horse in ravaging the Carnatic and he himself with the rest of his Army has advanced as far as Arnee and taken three or four small Forts whic were garrisoned by the Nabobs People. Our Troops being divided thro' a great Extent of Country it has neces taken up some Time to assemble the Army but this is now nearly effected and in a few Days we hope to have a respectable Force in the Field to act as Occasion may require. We flatter ourselves you will excuse being earnest with you upon the Article of Money

Cuddalore

1210 Fort St George August 1780

but as it will be impossible for us to carry on that War without Supplies from Bengal we are anxious to be informed when and to what Extent you may be able to assist us, We send to you by the Duke of Portland the four Deserters respecting whom you wrote us in your Letter of the 1st June and we have given strict Charge to the Commanders to keep them in close Confinement untill he receive your Orders to deliver them, we enclose herewith a Paper explaining the Manner in which they deserted and the Reason of their being entertained on this Establishment

We are
Gentlemen
Your most obedient
humble Servants
John Whitehill &
Select Committee

Fort St George
10 Augt 1780

19 Received the following Letter

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr.

President & Select Committee

Honble Sirs & Sirs

I am honourd with yours of the 8th Inst only this Day. I find the Detachment of the Enemy that made themselves Masters of Rawat-Nellour and whom I informed the Honble Board I had Information intended laying Siege to this Place have altered their Route and have taken that of Trinomaly I am informed their altering their Intentions was on Account of receiving

& from Mr Roberts
Ryots Horse &c
towards Trinomaly

1211 Fort St George August 1780

Intelligence of a Reinforcement to this Garrison, At present this Part of the Country is pretty clear of any of Hyder Ally's Troops but a few disaffected Polegars who had joined Hyder having Nothing to oppose them have put some of the Villages under Contributions and infest the Roads with their Pons,

I have the Honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedt: Hble Servt
George Roberts.

Sugar
Augt 15 1780

John Whitehill Esqr President & Governor &c
Select Committee at Fort St George
Sir & Gentlemen

From Capt Edw Hughes
intends remaining
off Negrapatam

I had the Pleasure to receive on the 11th: of this Month your very obliging Letter of the 10th: in Duplicate and am happy you think the Squadron was of Use at Pondicherry, every where and on all Occasions you may depend on my best Endeavours for the publick Service.

As my Apprehensions of an intended Junction between the French from their Islands and Hyder Ally in the Carnatic, induced me to take a windward Station on this Coast in Order that I might be in the better Condition to defeat any such Attempts if made by the Enemy, You may rest assured I shall continue with the Squadron under my Command on the Station so long as the Season of the Year and other Circumstances will permit

me

Fort St George August 1700

me to do so with Safety

I am with great Regard

Sirs & Gentlemen

Your most & most Hble Servant

Dan: Hughes

Superb in
Tranquebar Road
16: Augt 1700

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr

President and Governor of Fort St George

Sir

From Capt Colby
obliged to put into
Cuddalore

I arrived at this Place last Night
and as we had heretofore met with very unfavourable
Winds I intended landing here in Order to proceed on
by Land, but on writing to Mr Cumming he has advised
me by no means to think of it as Hyder he says has
certainly Parties of Horse about Chidambrum which
would effectually stop our Journey, neither could he
spare me any Sepoys to protect the Money I have
with me, I am therefore under the disagreable
Necessity of going on by Sea, I have the Honor
to remain Sir

Your most obedt Hble Servant

H A M Cosby

Off Cuddalore
16 Augt 1700

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq: Governor & President
and the Select Committee of Fort St George

Honble Sirs

From Col: Braithwaite
arrives at Chingleput

I have the Honor to inform you
that I arrived here this Morning past six the Day
broke having marched all night from
my

1213 Fort St George August 1700

my Ground near Cavarypoky I have met with no
Impediment nor have any of the Enemys straggling
Parties appeared — I had pretty certain
Information of a very large Body of Horse from
Conjeveram that croped the River at Chiroaum on
Purpose to give me as much Trouble as they could
but whether it is that they are afraid or that my
early Hour of marching of which they could have
Knowledge or Suspicion disappointed them
I knew not, but they have never appeared, I
I have brought up every Thing this last Stage
very well Hyder must certainly have very b
Intelligence or must be much weaker in
or in Heart than he is reported to be or he should
have made a Push to engage my Detachment
if he could not attempt that alone he has little
expect from any Attempt after a Junction
is true I do not believe he would willingly en
such a Force as mine in a pitched Battle un
any some great Countenance only if any Thing
could tempt him to risk a Battle it must be th
Hopes of preventing a Junction of the Force of the
Carnatic, and had he had any Intelligence he
would have known that the Number of Follow
that encumbered us, would have given him
Advantage, for besides those nationally belonging
to the Troops, two or three thousand Peons to
Captain Dawes Battle in the Course of two Years
I am satisfied no Body and there are all those belonging

Fort St George August 1760

to Col. Brown's Detachment — In short I am convinced that for every fighting Man I have six Women Children and old Men, who upon the least Alarm in Spite of every Precaution fell back upon the Troops and almost rendered it impossible to form them for effectual Resistance — If he had had Spirit and Intelligence he must have known that the last Stretch but one, I had ten Miles of as bad a Road as perhaps as ever was trasped almost every Step Knee Deep till we came to the Pass of Madurantcum, where was the finest Spot for him to have formed with every Advantage on his Side and when he must have attacked us to every Advantage jaded and fatigued and an inevitable Disorder as we came out of the Slough. It is true I had taken every Precaution for I fully expected it, as he was within a very convenient Distance to have met me on that Spot, and I had a strong advanced Guard consisting of his Highness's Grenadier Sepoys and five Companies of Sepoy Grenadiers — But to my Astonishment not an Enemy appeared. I mention this Horrible Circumstance because I conceive it to be a very strong Proof that this Man is not to be seriously apprehended and that if he is at all pressed and pushed he will retire out of the Carnatick as fast as he came into it. I will add another Proof of his Want of Intelligence or General Ship, by some strange Inattention the important Fort of Carangoly is at present Garrisoned by a Havildar and 20 of his Highness's Sepoys only. I have very great Reason to believe from Circumstances which

plain

Slought

unencumbered

d

1215 Fort St. George August 1760

I cannot here mention, that it would have been needless
The first Summons had Hyders People from Conjeveram pushed
for it so as to have got Possession of it the Night before my
Arrival as it commands the only Road I had to take
that the Consequences would have been very serious. I was
much surprised that I had Power to leave Chromdroog
with Burrhearns and Sepoys into it and the two Guns
but I durst not take such a Step without Authority
The Nawaub even objected to receive any Ammunition
from me without the Nabobs Orders although I pushed
him much to receive it, perhaps he thought by
received supplies a greater Defence must be expe
from him - It is of Importance Honble Sirs that
that Fort should be looked to, it is very large
a good Ditch and strong Bouge, would afford
Asylum to the Inhabitants of its own Pettah
the great and populous Village of Madrastapam,
to several Neighbouring Villages, and in my
Opinion a Large Quantity of Grain and Ammunition
should be lodged there from whence an Army in the
Field might be supplied, as the River here is sometimes
impassable for many Days together, and I am
confident that now if that Place had been capable
of affording any Assistance my remaining on that
Side the River, which we must accept to go towards
Arcot or Wandewash would have saved the Enemy
very much for Report but it is only Report if a
People come from the Cross Side, they that he
counted much upon the wet state of the Country

9

1216 Fort St George August 17 1780

I had to pass and that upon hearing my Approach
his Infantry and Artillery fell back to Trinomaly
and himself with the Cavalry to Vinery but I have
no Confirmation yet I do not Doubt it, for the Man
who would not attack us under the the Disadvantages he
had I am convinced will not wait till we attack him
and I suppose we shall hear of his attempting Wandewash
and Warriapollam or such Things as he can attempt
by surprize — To the former in Consequence of Mr Baillys
Letter of the 14th containing your Orders and which I
received the Evening of the 16th I immediately
detached Lt. Flint and Four two very diligent and good
Officers with two Companies of Sepoys with a hundred
Rounds per Man at nine o'Clock that same Evening
and as they went without Tents or Baggage of any Kind
and the Distance was only sixteen Malabar Miles I
they reached it Yesterday Morning. Not knowing
the Situation of that Place I thought proper to order
Mr Munro to advance to Lt Flint 400 Pagodas on Account
of Three Companies and I have no Doubt the Killedar
is predisposed to receive him, but I remember he
refused to let me into the Fort, when I was going up
down with the Army to Pondicherry and I have written
to him twice for Intelligence, but have received no
Answer, Warriapollam requires Attention, The original
Possessor of that Country and to whom the People are
attached as I am informed in Hyder I Interest much
very much will depend upon immediate Collection
of Grain being made in the several Forts as also
Steps from where the Army may be supplied.

217 Fort St George August 1780

I have no Doubt that his Highness the Nabob will exert his Authority in this Business but I need to the Annulars will little avail the expediting of Military Operations and I could wish the Deposit absolutely to be made before the Want is felt I shall agreeably to my Orders from Sir Hector Munro wait him and exert myself in the Matter of Bullocks of which I have brought an Hundred Spare Draught Bullocks from Pondicherry and have met with two hundred here

I have the Honor to be
Honble Sir &c &c
With the greatest Respect your
faithful and obedient Servant
John Braithwaite

Chunglipat
10 Augt 1780

Dispatched the following Letter

To Colonel Lang
Commanding at
Velore

Sir

To Col Lang
to throw a Reinforcement into Arcot if possible

As the Select Committee are to informed that Arcot is invested by Hyder's Horse and some of his Infantry, the Committee desire if you can throw in any more Troops to Arcot that you will do it immediately taking Care to keep at Velore what Number of Troops will prevent any Incursion Attempt upon it and you will also let Capt Rennoy and the Commanding Officer at Arcot know that the Army will in a few Days march to the Relief of that Fortress and therefore that he

1218 Fort St George August 1800

he must defend it to the last Extremity or until
the General arrives there with the Army —

By Order of the President and the
Select Committee

Chas Oakeley Sec.

To Col Ross Lang
Commanding at
Velore

Sir

To Col Lang
to send a Company
of Sepoys to Coverpauk

I am directed by the President
and Select Committee to desire you will send a Company of
Sepoys to Coverpauk and if you think this with the other
Detachment already ordered will weaken your Garrison
too much you are at Liberty to take another Company of
Sepoys from Amboor leaving only one Company for
the Defence of that Place

I am
Sir
Your most obedient Servt
Charles Oakeley

Fort St George
29 Augt 1800

To Colonel Eccles Nixon
Commanding at
Trichinopoly

Sir

To Col Nixon
with Orders from Nabob
to send Artillery Men
to Madura & Palamcottah

I am directed by the President and
Select Committee to enclose you a Letter for [illegible]
which contains an Order from the Nabob for the
send each a Company of Artillery to each of the Garrisons of

1219 Fort St George August 1780

Madras and Palamcottah, in Case Lieut Smith should not be arrived at Tritchinopoly you will forward the Letter to him, as it will be the Means of his more speedily detaching the above Men —

By Order of the President & Select Committee —

Charles Oakeley Secy

Fort St George
Augt 16 1780

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr

Governor & President Select Committee of Fort St George

From Col Baillie
on March thro
Nairspett

Honble Sirs

I have the Honor to acknowledge the Receipt of yours of the 11th Inst by your Secretary the Contents of which were fully answered in a Letter and Duplicate dispatched Yesterday on my Arrival here, the first by the common Tappal and the other by a special Messenger, I march this Night and enter the Road of Nairsperttah and Ashamapett —

I am with Respect

Camp at Nellore
17th Augt 1780

Honble Sirs

Your most humble & obedt Servt

William Baillie

26th Received the following Letter from Mr Edwd Hughes

To John Whitehill Esqr:

President & Governor &c Select Committee of
Fort St George

Sir & Gentlemen

From Mr Edwd Hughes
proceed with the
Fleet to Negore

I had the Pleasure to address you by a Letter of the 16th of this Month on

Duplicate

122a Fort St George August 1780

Duplicate of which is now enclosed —

On the same Day I sent the seven Artillery Men by one of the Ship's Longboats to Mr Hudson your Resident at Nagore and having done what I judged necessary at this Place I shall proceed tomorrow Morning to the Road of Nagore and from thence furnish such Stores as the Garrisons of Tanjore and Nagore may be in Need of, and the Squadron can spare

I am with great Regard
Sir & Gentlemen —
Your most obed^t & Obliged^t Servant
Edward Hughes

Superb in Francaise Road 16 Augt. 1780

Wrote the following Letter to Cuddalore

To William Cumming Esq^r
Chief of Cuddalore

Sir

You will on Receipt of this send an Officer and one Company of Sepoys from Cuddalore to Warriapollam and the Officer is to defend it against any of Hyder Ally's Troops as long as he possibly can, but a sufficient Quantity of Money and Ammunition go with the Sepoys —

By Order of the President & Select Committee
Chas Oakeley Sec^y

At a Select Committee Present
The Honble John Whitehill Esq^r President
Charles Smith Sir Hector Munro KB
Samuel Johnson

The Cuddalore to send a Company of Sepoys to Warriapollam

Fort St George 20 Augt 1780

1221 Fort St George 21st August 1700

Monday the 21st

Minutes of last Committee read and approved.—

Read the following Letter from Masulipatam

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Masulipatam regarding Stores & repairs wanting there.

Our Committee of Stores having consulted upon sundry Matters relative to that Department we beg leave to lay before Your Honor &c sundry of the Particulars thereof as will require your Decision.

1st The Quantity of Gunn Powder ordered to be kept in Store at this Garrison has never yet been completed. The present Deficiency amounts to 500 Barrels as the out Garrisons in this District draw their Supplies of this Article from hence. A Provision Should be made for that Purpose in such Case there would be much greater Deficiency than is abovementioned, for we think that 500 Barrels is the least Quantity that should be allowed as a Store for the Consumption of the Dependancies of this Place. As this Article of Powder might be manufactured here, and we believe with as little Cost as at Madras whereby the Expence and Risk of Conveyance, at least, would be saved and as there must be some Difficulty in procuring sufficient Quantities of Powder, where it has hitherto been manufactured, which we presume by the Scarcity

Warner

1222 Fort St George 2 August 1760

Manner in our Demands have been supplied It cannot but appear to us expedient to make a Trial of manufacturing this Article here in such Quantities as we may have Occasion for, other Reasons besides those already mentioned concur in favor of this Proposition the Demands for this very important Article of military Stores has been, as we believe (and may again be) so great that the present Means of furnishing it were not adequate thereto, it is clearly for the Benefit of a Country that where the Defence of it in any Respect whatever must be attended with Expence, what is laid out should be distributed in that Country rather than elsewhere, the the distant Situation of these Districts from the present Source of their Supplies makes it very expedient too in our Opinion that in such Articles as can be provided here, and particularly when they can be furnished at the same if not at a less Expence than it now Costs, they should not be made to depend thereon but left to provide the same from hence such a Dependence established here may some time or other tho' such an Event does not appear to be near, from the Intervention of unexpected Circumstances prove the Safety of the Coast These are some of the Reasons which have occurred to us upon this Matter, more might be added, but in doing so we should perhaps exceed our Province, and therefore we submit it as it stands, with all Deference to your Determination

The two Powder Magazines in this Fort cannot receive more than 2 Barrels of Gunpowder, the Overplus of such a Quantity has always been lodged in the Bombproofs under the Bastions but it has been

explained

 Fort St. George 21st August 1800

explained to us that this Manner of storing it was adopted merely thro' Necessity and that it was intended as soon as the Fortifications were completed on every Side, to erect a new Magazine, at least as capacious as, the two now in Use, the Danger to which a Place must be exposed in Case of an Attack from such a Situation of its Powder Magazine as we have abovementioned is too obvious to require enlarging upon it and therefore we shall submit it without further Discussion, With one Remark only that in Case your Honor &c should be of Opinion that the Work just proposed cannot properly be undertaken for some considerable time to come, we would then recommend, that some other Bombproofs than those now made Use of to lodge the Powder, be fitted up for that Purpose, as the Bastions to which these Bomb proofs belong seem to be precisely those against which an Enemy would naturally be led to direct an Attack and enclosed we send you Plan & Estimate of an additional Magazine N°1, to such as is proposed

3 — The Wheels of some of the Gun-Carriages on the Works being entirely decayed, insomuch that many of them have actually fallen to Pieces, we request your Orders in what manner new ones shall be provided, Our Engineers estimate for thirteen six Pounder Carriages we send enclosed N°2 as the Officer of Artillery has represented that they ought to be put in Hand without Delay being much wanted.—

4 Five Thousand Stand of new

Arms

1224 Fort St George 21st August 1780

Arms which were received in September last Year appearing to be in very indifferent Condition upon their Arrival it was judged necessary to prove one hundred of them, The Report of this Proof come's N°3 and we beg Leave to refer you to it, Your Honor &c will observe that there appears to be a Choice in the Manner of proving of these Arms, should you resolve upon having a Proof of the Remainder we beg your Orders which Method shall be adopted, Altho' the apparent ill Condition of these Arms was the Cause of this Proof that was made, it does not appear as the Storekeeper informs us, that the Pieces which burst did so from that Cause or from any other Cause connected therewith - On the Contrary the Fault seems to be in the Metal which is of a very bad Quality

The above Arms were sent hither without being indented for, and we have no Conveniences to lodge them if they are to remain here, it will be necessary to provide some which will be attended with an Expence of 2 or 300 Pag.ds we only mention this Circumstance for your Information

The Sheds in the Arsenal for lodging Gun Carriages being out of repair we have enclosed an Estimate N°4 which includes not only the Expence of repairing the same, but that of some other necessary Work in the Arsenal -

5 We have the Honor to send you an enclosed Indent for Military Stores N°5 wanted for this Place, as there is a considerable Deficiency of many Articles of these Stores, the proper Quantities of which were we presume, established upon the most correct Consideration. We beg Leave to entreat your particular

Attention to the same,

6 In our Address under Date 13th June
last we made you acquainted you acquainted from the
Commanding Officer at Tammulcotah relative to the
publick Buildings there which stand much in Need
of Repairs as also of an Application wee received from the
Paymaster for Mr Graham to have a House built for him
we now enclose our Engineer's Estimate of Expence No 6
for repairing the said Buildings, and have to entreat
your Orders there upon together with Mr Grahams Application

7 Our Agent Master having represented
to us the buildings now used for the Business of Cornage
to be so old and out of repair that in bad Weather the
Workmen are much exposed and unable to continue
at their Work, and also that the Walls which are only of
Palmira Plank renders it very unsafe to keep any Cattle
of Value therein we judge it necessary for these
Considerations to direct the Engineer to draw out
an Plan of the said Buildings and make an Estimate
of the Expence wanted to put it in a proper State of Repair
which comes enclosed No 7. for your Approbation.

articles.

We are with Respect

Manelipatam
2d Augt 1750

Honble Sirs your

Your most obed Hble Servants
Chas Hotsford
Thomas Barnard
Alex Pringle

The Inspector informs the Committee that agreable
to the Sence of the last Meeting he had proceeded to

Above

1226 Fort St George 21st August 1780

prove the new Guns and delivered in the following

Report

That he had loaded one hundred

of the common Musquets with Powder twenty double the

Weight of the Ball the Ball being the same as used in Service

(viz) on a Medium a full Ounce Weight or the 15th Part of

a Pound Averdupoize that on this Trial 50 went off exact

that Number 36 burst.

That perceiving such a Loss and not being

very certain of the exact Quantity of Powder, made use of in

his Majesty's Service for such Proofs he had written to the

Presidency for full Information on that Head, Copy of

the Answer of this Letter is annexed to this Report

That the Proofs made at the

Presidency exactly corresponds with Mr Lloyd's as the

Committee will observe in the Answer abovementioned

yet as it was something more than what is used (by

that Information in his Majesty's Service Mr Lloyd's

Yesterday proved 20 with the exact Weight of Powder

(viz) the 15th Part of a Pound, Averdupoize two Barrels of

this Number burst

The Quantity made use of in the

last Tryal does not exceed two Cartridges such as are used

on actual Service. as it frequently happens that a

Soldier (whether his Rice (loaded with one Cartridge) has

fired or not and he is therefore liable to have double

Charge in the Barrel, it will be absolutely necessary, for

the Safety of the Men and good of the Service that all the

new Arms be proved before they are issued to the Troops and

Part

does not know

1227 Fort St George 21st August 1700

that the Quantity of Powder used for such Proof be at least what at this last Tryal has been made use of

The Sentiments of the Committee being taken on the Subject of the first Paragraph of the foregoing Letter.

Mr Smith's Opinion on the above — Mr Smith is of Opinion that Gun Powder as well as every other Article that can be made at Masulipatam should be provided there if they can be done as cheap and as good as at Madras and no farther Expence incurred besides what may be necessary merely for the making as the Charge & Risk of conveying Stores from hence to Masulipatam will thereby be saved —

Mr Johnson will deliver in a Minute on the Subject — Mr Johnson is of the same Opinion and will give his Reasons for it in writing

The General's Opinion — — Sir Hector Munro is of Opinion that before any Permission be given to make up Powder at Masulipatam the Chief and Council there should be desired to send hither an Estimate of the Expence and likewise a Sample of Gun Powder manufactured at that Place. He is also of Opinion that no other Articles of Stores should be provided at Masulipatam untill the Chief and Council shall have explained what particular Stores they mean as he himself has seen Stores made use of at our Garrisons, which have been very bad — —

The President of the Board's Opinion. Orders on the Letter from Masulipatam. The President is of the same Opinion.

On the second Paragraph of the Letter it is agreed, that the Gentlemen of Masulipatam

be

1228 Fort St George 21st August 1700 –

be permitted to fit up the Bombproofs which they have represented to be necessary for Lodging the Powder.

On the 3d Paragraph it is ordered that the Wheels of the thirteen 6 Pounder Carriages be put in Hand immediately

On the 4th Paragraph it is ordered that an Enquiry be made of the Committee of Stores when and by whose Authority the 2000 Stand of Arms mentioned in this Paragraph were sent down to Masulipatam and that they be desired to give their Opinion of the Prof that has been made of them.

Resolved that the Conveniency recommended by the Cheif and Council for Lodging the abovementioned Arms and likewise the Sheds for the Gun Carriages be provided –

The Committee cannot allow any Repairs to be made or new Buildings to be erected at Sumeulcotah but as the Cheif and Council represent that the Repairs recommended to be made to the Buildings now used for the Business of Coinage are very necessary, it is resolved that they be permitted to execute them –

Read the following Letter from Masulipatam.

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

The Consideration of the Wars at this Garrison

From Masulipatam representing the Want of Artillery Men

1229 Fort St George 21st August 1780

Garrison having engaged our particular Attention on
the Occasion of the Reports which have lately prevailed
of approaching Troubles in the Country We esteem it
as our Duty to make an immediate Reference to your
Honor &c in some few Points which may by an unexpected
Turn in Affairs require your Decision and speedy Orders
Our Garrison Stores are exceedingly deficient for we have
only a small Quantity of a very few Articles. The State
of our military Stores has lately been fully represented
to your Honor &c and the Monthly Returns will sufficiently
explain what Supplies of that Nature it may be expedient
to forward us. One Circumstance however relative to
this Subject, we should do wrong to omit upon such an
Occasion as this, We have scarcely any Artillery Men
in the Fort, the Number at least does not exceed four or
five, We have submitted these few Circumstances to
your Honor &c from an Opinion it may be necessary
that some Steps should be taken thereon, and that we
should have been highly culpable were any thing to
have happened from the Want of such an Attention
We shall wait your Orders herein the Board
have authorised me to explain the above to your
Honor &c I am &c for myself and them with great
Respect

Masulipatam
4 Sept. 1780

Your most obedient
humble Servant
Edward Cotsford

(signed)

Secretary thereof

By the Duke of Portland's Orders

1230 Fort St George 21st August 1780

is going to Bengal Stores of every Kind will be sent to Masulipatam agreably to their last Indent but with Respect to the Artillery Men they have requested might be sent, it is totally out of their Power to spare any at present— They must therefore be directed to supply the Want of them as well as they are able by teaching Lascars or Europeans the Gun Exercise and it is agreed to order 12 or 15 of the Coffre Company at Ganjam who have had some Experience in this Exercise to be sent to Masulipatam

Read the following Minutes of the Committee of Stores

Fort St George 19 August 1780

At a Committee of Stores present

Major General Sir Hector Munro K.B.
Colonel Edward Fames
Major George Maule
Mr Bryan Heaney—

Minutes of the Committee of Stores

1— The Military Storekeeper lays before the Committee Indents of Stores wanted for the Garrison of Masulipatam and Tanjore, Agreed that they be complied with, agreeably to the Commissarys Remarks

2— The Military Storekeeper lays before the Committee Indent of Stores wanted for the Nabobs Seapoys— Agreed that it be complied with, but that they be supplied with Firelocks

3— Mr Jones late Storekeeper at Tanjore represents to the Committee that when Capt. Brereton left that Garrison, there were no Tents in Store and as it

1231 Fort St George 21st August 1800

1. It was impossible for his Corps to march without Carts He supplies them with 6 Field Officers Tent, 3 Marquices and 2 private tents for which he has not been made any Allowance as other Lords have been since sent from Madras. Agreed to recommend to the Honble the Select Committee that Mr Innes be paid the Company's Price a proper Deduction being made by the Storekeeper at Tanjore for the Damage which they may have sustained from having been some time in Use

4 The Military Storekeeper represents to the Committee that no country Wood can at present be obtained proper for making Shells Beds, Agreed therefore to recommend that they be made up on the old Construction

5 Agreed to recommend to the Select Committee that five 6 Pdr Field Carriages with Limbers and Boxes be made for the Guns in Egmore, and that two spare 6 Pounders Field Carriages be also made up.

6 Agreed to recommend that 12 3 Pdr Carriages with Limbers and Boxes be made up for the new constructed 3 Pdr Guns and that a proportionate Number of Tumbrils be made on the new Construction but of the same Breadth & deeper than the old Tumbrils

7 As there are no Carriages for the Guns intended for the Sea Fort Agreed to recommend to the Select Committee that a sufficient Number be made for that Purpose

1232 Fort St George 21st August 1780

S — — The Commissary of Stores — represents to the Committee that there were formerly fifty Lascars allotted for the Laboratory & Magazines which have since been taken away on different Service. Agreed to recommend to the Honble & Select Committee that the above Number be allowed for that Purpose and that they be not removed on any Occasion

. Hector Munro
. Edward James
. George Maule
. Brian Sweeny

Orders of the Select Committee thereon

3d — — — — — — — — — — Mr Jones to be paid agreably to the s Recommendation of the Committee

5th — — — — — — — — — — Five 6 Pd. Field Carriages to be made with and two Spare 6 Pounder

6 — — — — — — — — — — Approved & ordered accordingly

7 — — — — — — — — — — The Engineer having represented that twenty two 24 Pnds. & not fourteen 18 Pnds. are more immediately wanted Ordered that they be made up

S — — — — — — — — — — Approved — —

Read the following Letter from

Mr Thomas Palk

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr.

President & Governor &c Select Committee of

Fort St. George

Honble Sirs

Herewith I have the Honor to

Letter from Mr Palk

1233 Fort St George 21st August 1780

I transmit you an Indent for capital Military Stores to complete the Statements for the Defence of this Garrison. Also two Notes from Col. Nixon I take the Liberty to enclose. I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect

Honble Sirs &c &c

Your very Hble & obt Servt

Thomas Palk Storekeeper

Switchinopoly
8 Augt. 1780

small.

As the small Carriages for foreign Guns can be made up by the Paymaster here for a smaller Expence than sending them from Madras the Committee of Stores are requested to advert to that Matter and also to the making some Tents. Trichinopoly being a Popular Garrison and frequent Detachments may be ordered to Manen a few Tents lodged here would be very convenient The Officers of Capt.n Biddulphe's Party marched lately without Tents or Belts for their Arms, five old ones excepted which were borrowed from the Nabob's Stores

To Tho.s Palk Esq.r

advert

In Consequence of an Order I received from the Select Committee to be upon my Guard I judge it necessary to request you will with all Expedition make a few light Gun Carriages for foreign Guns, which the Carriages made any where but on the Spot can never fit

Sirs &c &c

Your most obed.t Serv.t

E Nixon

Augusta 8.th 1780

of Trichi-nopoly

As the Commanding Officer represents the Necessity of having Carriages made up for the small

1234 Fort St. [illegible] 21st August 1780

small [illegible] foreign guns, Ordered that the Storekeeper
there, be directed to make them up with all Expedition

Read the following from Capt.n Clifton

Commanding the Artillery at Camp

To Major General Sir Hector Munro

Sir

I should have wrote to you ere this
representing to you the Deficiencies which are necessary to
be provided and exceed the Honble Companies Regulations
but that I have daily expected your Arrival in Camp.
Tho' now I have to inform you that the Lascars which
have been joined to the Artillery are by no Means sufficient
for the Departments. The Commissary of Artillery & Stores
takes away from the Use of the Guns 100 Lascars, and will
many more as his Stores from Time to Time shall encrease
The Quarter Master by the Company's Regulations may
at the Statements of 35 Lascars to 100 Men one allowing
300 Artillery Men for the Charge of Tents and encampings
114 Lascars and this I observe to be necessary to the
Regulations, which as in every other Department
has been found Insufficient for the Exigencies of the
Service, It is therefore I recommend for the Use of the
field Artillery only that the Company of Lascars be
encreased to eighty in Number exclusive of those
employed with the Company of Stores and the Quarter
Master of the Battalion. This Increase would afford a
Compliment for the whole Field Artillery
joined which consist at present of more than 60

from Capt.n Clifton
representing the
Deficiency of
Lascars to the
Artillery

1235 Fort [illegible] 21st August 1796

Pieces of different Calibres since they would be more
on hand of Return with that alacrity which is absolutely
necessary I can raise a sufficient Number if
immediately provided the Committee give Orders or
you permit me to do so

I hope Sir to have the Honor
of being placed as Commandant of Artillery during
the ensuing Campaign and that after every Fatigue
and Inconvenience no other Officer will come to the
Command as I flatter myself with giving you every
Satisfaction in my Department

I am
Sir
Your very obedient Servt
Chs Clifton -

Ponda Morales
Camp -
13 Augt 1796
150 Lascars to be
raised

Ordered that the Commissary
General do raise 150 Lascars in addition to what are
at present employed for the Use of the Army, and that
after this Number is completed, those already in the Artillery
Corps be not taken for any other Duty.

The Commander in Chief lays before
the Committee the following Letter from Colo. Cameron
Commandant at Angola -

To Major General Sir Hector Munro
Commander in Chief of the Forces of the Coast
&c &c

I have the Honor to acquaint you
that since the Departure of Col. Baillie from this Country
I have been [illegible]

Hyder's

1236 Fort St. George 21st. August 1760

the Vencatagary Rajah and situated close in the Bordrs of the Gunnoor Circar six Coss only from Emenaw. The Man was obliged to desert it for want of Provisions and leave behind him four Peices of Cannon. The next Place threatened is Pottacamore Fort belonging to the Vencatagary Rajah and situated twelve Coss west of this Place. The Man who commands seems in good Spirits has laid in Provisions has four small Peices of Cannon and everything requesite for a stout Defence. But should he leave the other give it up. The Cannon Ryder People join'd in those Places will enable them to make my Situation very disagreable more so especially my Garrison being so very small, that I must decline taking any little Advantage which might offer by Sally &c &c —

Should the Nature of the Service be such as not to allow my having one or two Companies of Sepoys more sent me, could I be allowed to inlist (for their sing[le]ponay) 100 Men which are in this Country and which formerly belonged to the Batt[n] that was stationed here a very little Sense of Praise would make them answer every Purpose wanted. I have the Honor to be with much Respect

Sir

Your most obedient Servt

Caw[d] Camonds

Ongole
16 Augt 1760
To enlist 100 Sepoys

Resolved that Capt[n] Camonds be permitted to enlist 100 Sepoys agreeably to his Recommend

Gen[l] Munro's Motion for taking into Consideration the following Minute

Sir Hector Munro delivers in the

The Critical Situation now, not only

Fort St. George 21st August 1780

of publick Affairs, but the intricate Predicament, and which I find myself at present make it an indispensible Duty which I not only owe to my Employers but to myself to have things carried on in the Select Committee in my Absence so that my Reputation as an Officer and Character as a Man, may have a fair Chance given to them whenever any Responsibility falls to my Share,

The unfortunate Divisions as well as difference in Opinion which Messrs. Smith and Johnston have held in Opposition to the Governor and myself and which have uniformly subsisted of late in our Deliberations both in Council & Committee added to some other Circumstances which might be mentioned, leave no little Room to expect that any Plan or Operation of mine in the Field will be either permitted to be carried into Execution or their Effects bid the fairest to have the most canker'd Destruction Put upon them.

It is therefore my determined Resolution not to be answerable in any Manner whatever for the Actions of others, and which may affect myself in Points as an Officer, which I hope I have held untarnished hitherto and which I am determined as far as in me lies to keep inviolably so, while I have Existance.

Therefore with a View to give greater Efficacy to what the Governor as well as myself think the best Plan for carrying on the Services at this critical Moment and endeavour if possible to put an Execution without Disputes or Dissentions which may retard it, I move that on my Departure to Camp on the essential

Duty

The President

1238 Fort St. George 21st August 1780

Duty that I am ordered upon, that Mr Davidson be appointed an acting Member of the Select Committee during my Absence.

Fort St George
21st August 1780

President's minute on the above

The President is concerned at a Season like this when the Representations of Hyder Ally Cawn, loudly call for Measures of Unanimity and Firmness, that the Commander in Chief of the Army should have Reason to feel the absolute Necessity of moving for the occasional Admission of Mr Davidson into the Committee. The uniform & settled Appearance of a Determination in Messrs Smith and Johnson to oppose every Plan adopted by the Majority of the Committee is indeed too evident to allow of even the smallest Hesitation in imagining, that, in the Event of Sir Hector Munro's Departure for the Army, every Plan hitherto laid down will be counteracted or even perhaps totally laid aside. Under these Difficulties and seeing no Prospect of a Change of Sentiment in those Gentlemen and trusting that the candid and unbiassed Judgement of Mr Davidson will set Matters in a different Point of View when he comes to be acquainted with them, the Commander in Chief seems unquestionably to have Expediency sufficient on his Side to warrant the temporary Infringement of the Company's Orders. No Man, the President is free to declare, has a greater Repugnance at acting contrary to the Commands of his Superiors than he has. But there are Seasons when a Government must however irregular, deviate from the

the Line which is prescribed, and use that discretional Power which from Necessity it is invested with, Plain Truths speak for themselves, The Records of the Board as well as the Committee are Proofs that little Reliance is to be had on the Concurrence of Majr. Smith and Johnson with Respect to the Measures to be pursued if they shall be left with a decided Majority in the Committee

The President believes they have made no Secret of their Intentions on this Head, even the sudden Transition of Mr Smiths Departure by the Way of Cuma, from bodily Infirmity, into his Continuance from publick Consideration, is a Clue to a Supposition, that these Intentions were not hastily nor immaturely resolved upon, but, that they were the Result of predetermined Deliberation, In short the President is firmly of Opinion, that the Commander in Chief has Cause sufficient for calling upon the Assistance of the Committee in the Manner he has done In this critical Situation of Affairs, when the Measures he means to recommend, he is apprehensive will be frustrated, the Moment he quits the Presidency to carry them into Execution unless timely Precautions are taken to prevent it, Wherefore the President seconds the Motion of the Commander in Chief, for the Admission of Mr Davidson into the Committee during the Absence of Sir Hector Munro, and further recommends that he be sworn in before Sir Hectors Departure for the Field

Ord the same Same that he embraces the Opportunity of returning Sir Hector

1260 Fort St: George 21st August 1790

For the very liberal and constitutional Support
which he has invariably received from him, since
he has had the Honor of sitting as President of this
Committee -

Mess.rs Smith
& Johnson

As the Court of Directors have
expressly ordered in their Letter to the President and
Council of the 10th April 1793. "That if the Commander
"in Chief shall at any Time be absent from the
"Presidency, the President and the 2d & 4th Members
"of the Council shall be a select Committee during the
"Absence of the Commander in Chief from the
"Presidency" We are of Opinion that the appointing
Mr Davidson a Member thereof is illegal and so dissent
and protest against the Measure, And we consider it
as a Dissolution of the Committee, and reserve to
ourselves the Liberty of replying to the Minutes of
the President and the General. Charles Smith
Wm: Johnson

Resolved by the Presidents casting
Vote, that Mr Davidson be appointed a Member of the Select
Committee during the Absence of the Commander in Chief from
the Presidency

Carried for Mr Davidson
by the President's casting
Vote - - - -

Mr Davidson is in Consequence
now sent for and the Oath of Secrecy administered to him.

Oath of Secrecy
administered him

Read the following Letter from
Mr Forbes President at Anjengo

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.r

President and Governor &c Members of the
Select

1241 Fort St George 21st August 1780

Select Committee at

Fort St George

Noble Sir & Sirs

From Mr Porteus
Situation of Tellicherry
threatened by Sundar
Cawn

On Occasion of this Address us to
advise your Honor &c that last Night a Ship called the A
Free Mason sent on Shore Letters from Mr Cruver the Resident
at Tellicherry to me the one is a Duplicate and dated the
17 Ultimo the other dated the 8th Instant in the former of
which he says "Dispatch this Letter to acquaint you that
Sundar Cawn is come from Calicut with a large Body of
Troops belonging to the Nabob Hyder Ally and have joined the
Nairs against us, they are now attacking Dermapatam
and we expect they will shortly attack us on every
Quarter I desire you will immediately advise the
Presidencies of Madras & Bombay of our Situation and
write to the Governor and Council of the latter to send us
as soon as possible one Thousand of Rice and Cash and we
shall probably want some Rice"

Sardar.

Dharmapatam

Under the 8th Inst Mr Cruver
writes "I am sorry to acquaint you that last Night we
evacuated the Island of Durmapatam which is now in
Possession of the Enemy but we brought off our Troops
with little Loss you will please to advise the Presidency
of Bengal & Madras of our Situation"

It is out of my Power to give
your Honors more Information than what the above
Letters contain, as we have not the smallest Intercourse
with Tellicherry the Season for Shipping going on the
Coast not being yet opened and that by Land intirely

yet

Fort St. George 21st August 1700

impracticable to be attempted neither did the Captain of the Ship Free Mason Capt Goddard Williams who was on there at Tellicherry on or about the 5th Instant furnish me with the smallest Intelligence, but after Receiving the above Letters Hoos away immediately to the Southward

I am with Respect

Honble Sirs &c

Your most obed Hble Servt

I Norlesse

Anjengo
11 Augt 1700

Sergeants & Artillery then at out Forts to be allowed half a Batta -

The President acquainting the Committee that the Sergeants at the out Forts and the Artillery then stationed at the Guns at the Companys Gardens and on the Black Town Wall are subject to additional Expence & Inconvenience by being detached, being obliged to pay for the Carriage of their Provisions & Water (the former from the Fort) and being constantly at their Posts ready for immediate Service In order therefore to encourage them to persevere in their Alertness & Attention, and to prevent thinking of the Hospital when they find that their Expences are greater than those in the Fort and that they have infinitely more Duty to perform & in Consideration likewise of the few Artillery Men up we have at Madras the President proposes that the Allowance of ½ Batta be made to these Men so Employed upon his Recommendation and that of the Officers of the Corps to which they belong who will be responsible that they do their Duty and are always at their Posts, Thus 1st Allowance which will be only one Fanam & 55 Cash a Day for each Man may induce several more of the Artillery to come

1243 Fort St. George 21st Augt. 1760

come out of the Hospital and enable us to have the Guns upon the Black Town Wall & better manned than they are at present an Object of greater Importance probably from the addition of Expence to the Company by the proposed Allowance

Resolved that the Sergeants and Artillery Men at the out Posts be allowed half Batta agreably to the Presidents Recommendation —

Charles Smith

Saml Johnston

1244 Fort S.t George August 1760

Received the following Letter from

Col. Brathwaite.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.r

President & Hon.ble Select Committee of Fort S.t George

Hon.ble Sirs

As I have written to the Governr

and the General I have not troubled you with Letters

From Col. Brathwaite not only on Account of the Uncertainty of their Conveyance

but because I had only Difficulties to describe which

I am not fond of, the Subject Matter of them will no

Doubt be communicated to you by the Governor and

General, I beg you to rest assured that if I had

not perceived them to wear a very serious Appearance

in Regard to future as well as present Movements

I would not have laid so much Stress on them, I

have a fine Force and in high Spirits and if the Difficulty

I have mentioned is provided for, I am convinced they

will know no other, but on this Account they have been

a little clamorous, I have the Honor to transmit to you

Inclos'd by Lieut Young who is agreable to the General's Orders

marches with the rest of the Regiment who served in the

late Troops, This and being obliged to send sixteen sick

into Chingleput has induced me to call upon D.r Thornhay

to examine his Corps, And I have very good Hopes to

collect from him from twenty to thirty effective Men

and Volunteers for the Field. I have the Honor to be

with the greatest Respect Hon.ble Sirs

Your most humble & obed.t

John Brathwaite

Camp at Chingleput

20 Regt N.o 2 Mo

1245 Fort St. George 22 August 1780

Wrote the following Letter to Col Brathwaite

To
Col: John Brathwaite
at Chinglipet

Sir

I am directed by the Select Committee in Consequence of your Letter to Sir Hector Munro of the 20 Inst to desire you will exert yourself in getting as much Rice as will be sufficient for your Detachment to Vendalore you will use your utmost Endeavors to be there tomorrow Night where you will find Rice Bullocks and Arrack for your Detachment for one Day to carry you to the Mount on Wednesday, it is much wished that you may arrive there on that Day

I am
Sir
Your most obedient Servt
Charles Oakeley

much

Fort St George
22 Augt 1780

Tuesday
Nov 22d

At a Select Committee Present
The Honble Robert Whitehill Esqr President
Charles Smith Sir Hector Munro KB
Saml Johnson

Minutes of last Committee read and approved

The President lays before the Committee the following Instructions which he proposes for the Commander in Chief on his taking the Field

To Major General Sr Hector Munro KB

1246 Fort St George 22d August 1780

Commander in Chief of the Company's Troops on the Coast

Sir

We desire you will proceed and take the Command of the Troops now assembling for the Field to act against Hyder Ally Cawn.

Instructions for Genl Munro.

To enable you the more effectually to form a Junction of the Troops and to employ them as shall seem most advantageous to you for the Protection of the Country. We empower you to issue Orders to any Officers commanding Garrisons or Detachments of Troops in the Carnatick

After assembling the Troops you will be pleased to move in such Manner as may best enable you to cover the principal Forts and to seize the first Occasion that you shall think favourable for attacking the Enemy and obliging him to quit the Carnatic. We confide so much in your military Experience and Abilities that we mean not to recommend any positive Plan of Operations but shall leave you in the free Exercise of your own Judgement and Discretion as to the Mode of accomplishing the Objects we have in View. We sincerely wish you Success and are

Sir

Your most obed.t humble Servts

John Whitehill &a

Fort St George
22d Augt 1780

Resolved that the Consideration of the foregoing Instruction be postponed till the Day after Tomorrow

Consideration thereof postponed.

Lieut Alex.r Read is now appointed Persian Interpreter to the Commander in Chief on the Coast in room of Mr Johnson deceased

Lt Read appd Persian Interpreter to the Comm.r in Chief

Fort St. George 22d. August 1760

Minute.

Mr. Johnson's Opinion on the Subject of the Quntoor Circar

At a Committee held on the
the President and General were of Opinion that a Letter
should be written to the Governor General and Council
explaining our Reasons for not complying with their
Requisition for restoring Guntoor Circar, to Bazalat Jung
As a considerable time has elapsed since these Opinions were
given and I am ignorant of their Reasons, I think it
incumbent on me to move that this Letter be directly
drawn out and forwarded that an Answer may be received
as soon as possible; even a Day lost, in the present critical
Situation of Affairs may be dangerous I am of Opinion
that the Governor General and Council wrote to us, on this
Subject, after the maturest deliberation and that it is of
the highest Importance to secure the Soubah's Alliance
at this Juncture when it is so much wanted. It has been
my unalterable Opinion that our taking Possession of the
Guntoor Circar without the Consent of the Soubah was contrary
to the 4th Article of the Treaty concluded between the Company
and the Soubah, on the 12 of November 1766, and therefore
very dangerous and impolitick. I think it also
necessary to remark that this Measure
was carried into Execution before I was
a Member of the Committee otherwise I should
have dissented

Resolved that a Letter
be written to the Governor General and
Council

Council of Bengal stating the Embarrassment we have been
under in Consequence of their Requisition to us for desisting
the Guntoor Circars and the Objections which occur to us against
such a Measure, acquainting them however that in Consideration
of the present Posture of Affairs we are disposed to make this a
Sacrifice for obtaining the Soubahs Friendship but that as the
Guntoor Circars was upon its coming into our Hands let at Rent
to the Nabob, it becomes expedient that we should have his Concurrence
which we shall use our Endeavours to procure.

Resolved that a Letter in Consequence
be written to the Nabob on this Subject

Resolved that all extra Charges
which have already or may in future be incurred for the
Support of the Present War, be carried to the Head of "Second
War with Hyder Ally Cawn"

Encl'd Smith

Wm Johnston

1249 Fort St. George August 1705

22d Dispatched the following Letters

To Edward Cosford Esqr.
Chief and Council at
Masulipatam

To Masulipatam in answer to their Letter respecting Detaining of Stores

Gentlemen

We have received your Letters of the 13 & 29th of June and 2d Augt. also the Cheifs Letter of the 4th

We approve of the Establishment you have proposed for the Coy of the Sebbundy but with Respect to the European Officers attached to that Corps we do not see any Necessity for making them an extraordinary Allowance. As to the Cloathing we desire you to provide it in the cheapest Mode you are able.

Duke.

We have by the Company's Ship Duke of Portland complied with your last Request, for Stores so far as the several Articles could be spared. Upon considering the Proposal contained in your Letter of the 2d Instant for making up Gun Powder and other Stores at Masulipatam we think it proper to desire you will send us an Estimate of the Expence at which Powder can be made at your Settlement as well as the Charge of providing Boulaungs or Utensils for manufacturing it, and if you can with little Expence forward to us a Sample of Powder we desire you will do it, with the Respect to any other Articles which you wish to be made up at Masulipatam we desire you will explain to us what they are, and at what Expence they can be provided

We permit you to fit up such Room

for

1250 Fort St George August 1780

Bombproofs as you judge Absolutely necessary for lodging
the Gunpowder in agreeably to your Recommendation, and
we consent to your making new Wheels for the Number of
Gun Carriages you mention

We shall enquire into the Cause
of your being supplied with the 2000 Stand of Arms, you
inform us you had not indented for and which appear
in your Proof of them to be in such a bad State, we shall
refer the Subject to the Committee of Stores and in the mean
Time we allow you, to be at the Expence of such Conveniences
as may be requisite for them, we consent also to your repairing
the Sheds necessary for Gun Carriages and doing the other
Work particularized in your Estimate N°4 –

We cannot at present be at any
Expence of Buildings of any Kind at Samulcotah
Such Repairs as may be
absolutely required to the Fort we give you Power to
to execute. In all these Works we cannot too strongly
recommend Oeconomy – and we hope the Expence
will not upon any Occasion exceed the Estimates you
have transmitted

We are sorry it is not in our Power
to send you any Artillery Men at present, the Detachments
from this Corps employed on the Mrs Coast, and the Number
required for the Army in the Field leave us with
barely sufficient for the Military Duties of this Garrison.
as soon as we can possibly spare any, they shall be sent
to you, in the mean Time you will endeavour to supply
the Deficiency by teaching Lascars or Coffrees the

1251 Fort St. George August 1700

Upon Exercise and we shall order the Resident at Ganjam to send you Men & of the Coffree Company who may be useful to you in their Way

We are Gentlemen

Your most obed.t Servants

John Whitehill &c

Fort St George
22d. Augt 1700

To Mr James Henry Casamaijor

Chief & Council at

Vizagapatam

Gentlemen

To Vizagapatam
Mr Brule's allowances
struck off

I am directed by the President & Select Committee to enclose you Copy of an intercepted Letter from Mr Brulé and to desire that you will cause him to be brought to Vizagapatam where he is to be taken particular Care of, his allowances from the Company to be struck off and he is only to have a small Subsistance given him

I am very respectfully

Gentlemen

Your most obed Servt

Charles Oakeley Secy

Fort St George
22d. Augt 1700

To Mr John Turing

Resident at Ganjam

Sir

To Mr Turing - a Court of Enquiry to be held on Ensign Rice

I am directed by the President and Select Committee to transmit you a Letter from Mrs Rice to Genl Sir Hector Munro and to desire you will cause a Court of Enquiry to be held to elucidate the Circumstances

2 Sheets

1252 Fort St George August 1780

mentioned therein & send their Report to the Presidency
you will likewise order 12 or 15 Coffrees from your District
to be embarked for Masulipatam by the first Conveyance

I am

Sir

Your most obedient Servt

Charles Oakeley

Fort St George
22d August 1780

To Mr Thomas Palk

Storekeeper at

Vizichinopoly

Sir

To Mr Palk to make upon some Bullock Carriages —

The President and Select Committee are pleased to direct that you do make out such Carriages for the small foreign Guns as the Commandant of Vizichinopoly shall think absolutely necessary

I am

Sir

Your most obedt Servant

Charles Oakeley

Fort St George

22d August 1780

To Mr Thomas Oakes

Commissary to the Army

Sir

To Mr Oakes order to raise 150 Lascars

In consequence of a Petition Representation to the President and Select Committee setting forth the Inconvenience of having the Lascars attached to the Artillery Corps employed upon any of the other Duties upon Camp I am directed to desire you will raise 150 Lascars in Addition to the Lascars

1253 Fort St George 24th August 1700

to that the Artillery Lascars may remain always with their Corps.

I am Sir

Your most obed Servt

Charles Oakeley

Fort St George
22d Augt 1700

To Captain Edmonds

Commanding at

Ongole.

Sir

To Capt Edmonds ordered to raise 100 Sepoys

The President and Select Committee are pleased to direct that you do raise one hundred Sepoys in addition to your present Force.

I am Sir

Your most obed Servant

Charles Oakeley

Fort St George
22 Augt 1700

Thursday the 24th

At a Select Committee Present

The Honble Charles Smith Esq. John Whitehill Esq. President

Sir Hector Munro KB

Saml Johnson

Minutes of last Committee read and approved

The Consideration of the Instructions recommended by the President the last Committee for the Commanders in Chief being resumed Mess. Smith and Johnson propose the addition to be made to those which is contained in the following Draught submitted by them to the Committee.

Instructions for
Lt. Hector Munro
proposed by Mssrs
Smotte & Johnson

1254 Fort St George 24th August 1780

To Major General Sir Hector Munro

Commander in Chief of the Company's
Troops on the Coast

Sir

We desire you will proceed and
take the Command of the troops now assembling in the
Field to act against Hyder Ally Cawn

To enable you the more effectually to
form a Junction of the troops and to employ them as shall
seem most expedient to you for the Protection of the Country
we empower you to give Orders to any Officer Commanding
Garrisons or Detachments of Troops in the Carnatic

After assembling the troops you
will be pleased to move in such Manner as may best enable
you to cover the principal Forts and to seize the first Occasion
that you shall think favourable for attacking the Enemy &
obliging them to quit the Carnatic when we may hope for
the speedy Reduction of the Nabobs Forts which Hyder
has already taken.

(When we reflect upon the Opportunity
Hyder Ally Cawn had of attacking to advantage the 2 d
Detachment commanded by Col Braithwaite, on his
March to Chingleput we are inclined to think he has no
Intention to hazard a general Engagement but mean
to attack as many Forts in the Carnatic as he thinks
he can reduce before our Army is able to march) if as
reported he is now before Arcot, as this Capital is of the
utmost Consequence we are of Opinion your Route
to Earth

1255 Fort St. George 24th August 1700

march as soon as possible to its Relief, but should it
have commenced before your Arrival, we leave you
the Manner and time of attempting the Recovery of it
As the Rapidity of Hyder's
Motions have been experienced in our last War we
deem it superfluous to mention the Necessity there is
for your being extreamely vigelant to guard against
any Attack that he may attempt on the Black Town
with a considerable Force of Horse and Foot
of
We confide so much in your
military Experience and Abilities that we mean not
not to recommend any positive Plan of Operations but
shall leave you in the free Exercise of your own
Judgement and Discretion as to the Mode of
accomplishing the Objects we have in View
We sincerely wish you success &c
Your Assured Friends

For Fort St George
24 Augt 1700

The President and the Recommander
observe that they have no Objection to any Part of the
is foregoing Instructions, except that which begins with
"When we reflect &c" and ends with "Before our Army be
able to march" The Rest being approved is ordered to
be copied fair and delivered as soon as possible
Read the following Letters
from Cuddalore.

1256 Fort St George 24 August 1708

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

Honble Sir &Sirs

We have laden and dispatched
to you on the Snow Adventure Muckamaugee Sayang
2329 Barrels of Gun Powder the Bill of Lading of which
is enclosed, and the Duplicate of which shall be forwarded
to your Honor & by Land

We have the Honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedt Humble Servants
William Curnock
Daniell
Wyllys Moreland
H Ballsteed

From Cuddalore
send 2329 Barrels
of Gun Powder to the
Presidency

Mo
-ja

Cuddalore
20th Augt 1708

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

We have the Honor to send you

From Do with send
the Remainder of
the Powder by the
first Sea Conveyance

enclosed second Bill of Lading of 2329 Barrels of Gun-
Powder laden on the Snow Adventure Mohammeejee
Sayang and dispatched to your Honor & Governor
this Powder with about 600 Barrels will here make
the whole of what we received from Col Braithwaite to be
sent to the Presidency and as the Complement of Cuddalore

1257 Fort St George 24 August 1790

allotted to this Garrison is complete we shall receive
these 600 Barrels, with the Stores by the first Sea
Conveyance that offers, The Powder dispatched to your
Honor &c as well as the Rest remaining here, We are
very apprehensive has sustained much Damage
by being exposed to several hard Showers of Rain
in its Passage from Pondicherry in Boats and the
very bad Condition of the Tarpawlins which came
with it,

In Obedience to your Commands
we shall have the intervening Tools belonging to
Capt Gells valued and send them also to your
Honor &c by the first Sea Conveyance -

We have the Honor to be
Honble Sirs &c
Your most obed Hble Servts
William Cumming
Dan Daniell
Will Nattand
C H Tallepiece

Cuddalore
21st Augt 1790

To The Honble John Whitehill Esqr Governor & Dept
and Select Committee of Fort St George
Honble Sirs &c

In Consequence of your Order
of the 20th Instant which I received this Morning Ensign
Allan will march tomorrow Morning early with one Company
of Sepoys to Warriahpollam with a proper Quantity of Musquet
Ammunition, but I am much afraid that Capt Evere

from Cuddalore
Ensn Allan with 1 Compy
of Sepoys to march
to Warriahpollam

Commands.

Everett.

1258 Fort St George 24th August 1780

Nabob's Officer commanding there may make to me
Objections to deliver over the Command to him, which
it is absolutely necessary he should do, the Defence of the
Place being entirely entrusted to Troops by your Honor's
Orders received by me, this Day. I have furnished Encl.re
Allan with a Copy of the Order which may be the Means
of preventing any Dispute or Difficulties
I remain with the greatest
Respect Honble Sir &c.
Your most obed.t Servant
William Cunning—

Cuddalore
22d Augt 1780

Read the following Letter from
Colonel Braithwaite—

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

Sir

From Lt. Braithwaite

About Noon today a Few Horse have
appeared about two Miles from this Place Chingleput
North West about 4 Miles from my Camp and burned the
Village of Bloor I directly dispatched the two Grenadier
Troops of the Regiment's Cavalry, but the Birds were flown
they were about forty in Number, and well mounted
and so soon as they had burned the Village they galloped
off. the Horse pursued them about seven Miles to no
Purpose they went forwards to Conjeveram and burnt
every Village as they went; By some Horse-

detail

1259 Fort St George 24th of August 1780

done I cannot only not move from here but cannot subsist here, I have this Day not received a Grain from any Body and have only procured eleven Bullock Load of Paddy by saving some adjacent Villages, No Khan of the Nabobs has yet, or will give me any Assistance, a Spie come in tells me Hyder is encamped on the South Side of the River of Ami that he left them the 18th that they appeared alarmed and were called to arms two or three Times upon trifling Reports, I beg you Sir to think seriously on my Situation

I have the Honor to be with much Respect and Esteem, Sir

Your obedient Servant
John Braithwaite

Camp near Chinglepute
21st August 1780
11 A.M.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
Governor & President
Londleston

I have this Moment received your Letter of the 21st Instant and the Duplicate both safe and I have but just this Hour received 80 Bullock Load of Paddy being all Yesterday without, as soon as the Rest here beat it out and eat, I will march at 10 Oclock to Vondalore which is good twenty two Miles from hence and reach it if I can tomorrow, but to be at the Town Tomorrow is impossible

I am Sir
Your very obedt Servt
John Braithwaite

Camp near Chinglepute
Tuesday 22 Augt 1780
5 in the Evening

One Man who calls himself a Portugal Man received both your Notes to me at once

Arnie

Charles Oakeley } at Madras

d

together load, having been } for hence, Mount

prop

1260 Fort St George 24th August 1780

Read the following Letters from

Colonel Lang -

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr

President and Governor.

Honble Sir

The Hyears I wrote you Yesterday

From Col Lang with Intelligence

about made their Escape the Night they were taken

and two of them came in here Yesterday Evening -

All was well at Arcot Yesterday

Morning at eight o Clock, and I have made them acquainted

with the Time the Army is to be at Conjeveram - I find

from private Hands that the Nabob's People are in

great Spirits. I have the Honor to be

Honble Sir

Your obedient hble Servant

Ross Lang -

Vellore

15th Augt 1780

P.S. Since writing the above I have Intelligence

of 2000 Horse and some Guns having taken Post about

five Miles this Side of Arcot at 10 o Clock last Night

and that Hyder himself is to move that Way from

hence today -

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr

President &c. Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Ditto

I have the Honour to address you

Yesterday by the Tappal and sent a Duplicate by

a private Hand to be delivered to Sir Hector Munro

1261 Fort St. George 24th August 1780

unt

I also wrote him yesterday a particular Accou
of what has come to my Knowledge and shall continue
so to do untill he gets into such a situation that he
will not have Occasion for any Intelligence from
me, This Morning I am informed that a large
Body of Horse with Guns took Post last Night at ten
o'Clock about five Miles on this Side of Arcot, and
that a Number of the Enemy had got amongst the
Hills thro' which we had a Communication with
that Place— However I had a Letter from that
Yesterday and all was well and in good Spirits at
eight o'Clock in the Morning

Hyder Ally himself is to move
this Day towards Arcot

I have the Honor to be with
all due Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your very obed & devote
Servant —
Rob Lang

Vellore
15 August 1780

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

From Ditto

I have the Honour to address
you Yesterday but the Sappal Man found it
impossible to get to Arcot and therefore returned
here at Night. He informs me that the Sappal
Man near Arcot was obliged to leave his Packet of
the

1262 Fort St George 24th August 1780

the 14th and does not know whether he had been able to carry it on or not.

The Arcot River having been high for two Days past I took the Advantage of that and wrote to Sir Hector Munro, I sent the same to day & forward this and Yesterdays to the Army by private Hands in Hopes that they may go safe.

I am this Morning informed that the Detachment of Hyders Army that moved from Conee towards Arcot was within four Cos of the latter Yesterday Evening and that Hyder himself marches this Day at 12 oClock for Arcot, I have the Honor to be with all due Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most obedient and devoted Servant

Ross Lang.

Vellore
16 Augt 1780

P.S. Since writing the above I have certain Intelligence of 2000 Horse 3 Battns of Sepoys a Battn of Topasses some Europeans and four Field Pieces being about 12 Miles to the Southward of this so that I expect to see them tomorrow

Read the following Letter from

Captain Cosby

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr

President & Govr of Fort St George

Honble Sir

I am sorry to inform you that

from

From Capt. Cosby obliged to put into Pondicherry

from having every Prospect of reaching Nagore as this
Morning we were drove off the Land in the Height of
by the Force of Squalls and Currents were astonished
to find ourselves again off Cuddalore, as I despaired
of getting on by Sea after so many Disappointments
I requested the Captain would let me have his Boat
in Order to get ashore at this Place and pursue my
Journey by Land at all Events after being ten Hours
in her the Lascars almost spent with rowing I have
at last accomplished it and am this Moment setting
off for Tanjore which I hope to reach the third Day
from this and shall immediately proceed from thence
to Trichinopoly with the Sepoys I am much mor-
tified at so much Time having been already lost
unfortunately lost, and remain

Honble Sir

Your very devoted & obed Servt

H. A. M. Cosby

Cuddalore
21st August 1790

Read the following Letter from
St George Mackay

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
Governor & President & Select Committee
Honble Sir

Sirs

From Mackay
to Supplies Col Brath
wants a Detach
with Provisions

All the Rice and Paddy which
I had provided for the immediate Provisions of this
Garrison, I have sent out for the Use of Col. Brathwaite's
Detachment whose Distress for Rice Arrack &c and
I may add for Tents and almost every other Article

Fort St George 24th August 1780

necessary for Service would I humbly conceive induce you were you upon the Spot to pity the situation of a fine Body of Men capable for the most important & honourable Purposes. A flying Body of Horse appeard this Day, and burned some Villages near this Place. The Colonel has ordered two Troops of Grenadiers to attack them this Evening if within 13 Miles of his Encampment all the Encouragement these Troopers have had for proceeding so far with the Colonels Detach.t was his own private Generosity and which he must most liberally pursue for the Safety and Credit of the Service before a Horseman is contented or will leave his Lines. The Renter has had no Directions from the Nabob to supply Col: Braithwaites Detachm.t with Rice or Provision and in Consequence of which the Col: is here now with any more Provision than his daily Consumption. For as there are about four or five hundred thousand Souls about this Place at present who must at least have ½ a Measure of Rice a piece a Day how is it possible to furnish a Body of Troops such as his with the Supply he must off & necessarily stand in Want of. All the Bazaar Sheep and Grain I had I have supplied him with, the most to my own private Disadvantage as the Colonel at a proper Time will inform you, the Hurry and Confusion of things prevent my having the Honor to copy this which I hope you will be pleased to pardon. I am Honbleder, with the greatest Respect

Your very obed.t Servant

Geo Mackay

1265 Fort St. George 24th Augt 1780

Read the following Letter from
Lt. Douglas commanding at Guntoor.—

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

Lond Douglas intends marching to Mungelgoory

Since my Arrival here on the 10th I have been using my utmost Endeavours to procure a Supply of Carriage Bullocks and Provisions but with very little Success for as soon as it was known that Col Baillie's Detachment had left this Part of the Country almost the whole of the Inhabitants went off to the other Side of the Kistnah those that remain do not seem much attached to our Interest some of the Zemindars I am assured have already sent Vackeels to make their Compliments at Hyder's Camp. On the 12th I sent an Officer with two Companies of Sepoys and eighty Bullock's Load of Ammunition and Grain to reinforce Ensign Boisdauine who has been at Innaconda for some Time past with one Company and a half, this Force is as I imagine quite sufficient to secure the Place which is a very strong Rock but the Stock of Provisions is but small and Meer Sibe has left a Part of his Force before the Place and he is now on his March towards Guntoor. The Nabob's Manager says that he has not received Orders to lay in Provisions at the different Forts untill Col Baillie's Detachment was called to the Southward, and that it was not then Possible by which

Sibe

Means

1266 Fort St George 24th August 1760

Means I have been prevented from occupying the strong Holes of Condatoor and Bellemconda, As I could not remain in this open Village I have sent the Stores and Baggage to the Pagoda of Arungleegary which is a strong Post about 5 Cos from hence and intend marching there early tomorrow Morning with the other five Companies as it is within the Cos of the River Kistnah I hope I shall be able to procure Provisions without Difficulty and should it be judged necessary to send any Detachment from the Circars I shall be ready to join them.

I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect,

Honble Sirs &c

Your most obed Hble Servt

W Douglas

Guntoor
16 Augt 1760

Agreed to write to the Gentlemen at Masulipatam to afford such Assistance to Col Douglas as he may require from thence or as they shall be able to spare him

Read the following Letter from Colonel James

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr President &c Select Committee

Hble Sirs &c

The present State of Affairs in the Carnatic calls on every Officer at the Head of a Department to exert himself in the utmost to put Things in that come immediately under his Direction on such

From Col James in the Name of Fort St George applies for an Aid be sent

Fort St. George 24th August 1800

a State as to secure his Employers as much as possible against any importunate Event, and when he is circumscribed in Power, he owes it to the Service and to his Honour to represent freely what he thinks is necessary to be done in his Line.

The Department I have the Honor to be at the Head of is now of such Importance to the Service that were any Deficiency to appear I should undoubtedly be called on, and the Scene of my Labors instead of being closed with the honourable Rewards due to long and faithfull Services would end in total Disgrace.

A Fortification cannot be said to be in a State of Defence till every Thing is ready to oppose an Enemy. I therefore recommend that Guns and Mortars be mounted in proper Places on the Works of Fort St. George that Platforms be laid for them and that the Expence Magazenes for the different Works be examined and properly supplied and as this is a Duty of the Artillery, I recommend that an Artillery Officer not under the Rank of a Captain be appointed to regulate every Business of that Department, and to report daily to the Governor. — Capt.n Kennedy's Indisposition prevents his taking the Field, 'tis needless for me to say any Thing of the Merits of an Officer whose long and faithful Services best Speak for him. I beg Leave to recommend that he be appointed to the Command of the Artillery in Garrison with full Power to regulate every Business of that Department and

1268 Fort St. George 24th August 1780

and to put in a proper State for the Defence of the Fort for which Duty I think him every Way qualified

The Corps of Artillery is formed barely sufficient to Man the Field Train I therefore recommend that as many of the Batt.n in Garrison as are fit for Artillery Men be drafted into the Corps, or instructed in the Duties of it.

It is with Reluctance I trouble Your Honors &c at a Time like this with any Thing that concerns myself. I am sensible of the Honor you do me in requesting me to take the Field when Labouring under a cruel Disorder, and by the Surgeons pronounced unfit. I cannot however under there Circumstances account for your neglecting to place that Confidence in me, my Rank in the Army and the Important Office I fill entitle me to. I am informed heavy Cannon and small Mortars are ordered to the Field without having received any Official Intimation of it, or being once consulted regarding the Consequences of marching with such Ordnance while the Enemy's Cavalry are in the Carnatic. This Conduct to an old Officer conscious he does not merit Neglect or ill Treatment, and myself and Family suffered to creep into Garrison without a Place to live in, obliged to crowd on a Family who were so indulgent as to spare a small Room for a short Time and are now daily expecting I shall be provided for, while Junior Officers by superior Interest are holding the Quarters my Rank entitles me to. There are circumstances, but I wish to suppress them proceed from

1269 Fort St George 24th August 1800

from the Hurry of the Times rather
than any intentional Neglect—

I am ready to do every
thing I can for the Service in the Fields
but as the State of my Health will
not allow me to execute the extensive
Duties of my Office to my own
Satisfaction, — I hope to be indulged
with the Assistance of a Brigade Major
and an Aid de Camp The Staff
allowed to the Commandant of a
Artillery in Bengal,

With such Helps I
make no Doubt of carrying on every
Duty to the Satisfaction of the
Commander in Chief

I have the Honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs

Your very obedient
and faithfull Servant
Edward James

Fort St George
Augt 24 1800

To the Commander in Chief
&c &c &c

Fort St George 24th August 5/00

observes that Colonel James seems to be hurt at his not communicating to him the Intention of carrying heavy Guns; that he spoke on this Subject to Capt. Mancury the Commissary of Stores who is the Person that usually prepares the Artillery and Stores for the Field, and that as it is only within these few Days that Colonel James determined to go to Camp having produced a Certificate of his ill State of Health, the Commander in Chief was willing to give him as little Trouble as possible before his Departure and did not omit applying to him concerning the heavy Artillery with a View to give him the least Offence, or shew him any Slight as the Commanding Officer of Artillery

On Account of Colonel James's ill State of Health, the Committee consent that he may be allowed an Aid de Camp or Brigade Major during the present Service but

To be allowed an Aid de Camp

Thus

127 Fort St George 24th August 1700

this is not to be regarded as a Precedent

Charles Sent

Geo. Foxcroft

1272. Fort St George. August 1760.

24th Wrote the following Letters.

To Captain Knight Alcock
or Officer commanding at
Tanjore

Sir

I am directed by the
President & Select Committee to desire you will
Order Mess.rs Gallaspie & Watson Surgeons Assistants at
Tanjore to join Col. Corbyn's Detachment with all
possible Expedition

I am
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Charles Berkeley

Fort St George
24th Augt. 1760.

Letter to Capt.n
Alcock, to send 2
Surgeons Assis.ts to
Col. Corbyn's Detach.t

To Captain Tongue

Sir

As the Select Committee
intend moreover about thirty Sepoys, for the Field
they request, in case the Accoutrements arrived safely
from Cuddalore are your Property that you will
spare them sufficient for that number, or if you rather
wish to dispose of them a reasonable Compensation
will be allowed you.

I am
Sir
Your most obed.t Servant
Charles Berkeley

Fort St George
24th Augt. 1760.

To Capt.n Tongue.
desiring he will spare
Accoutrements for 30
Cavalry.

1273 Fort St George 1 August 1700

24 A Letter from the Nabob

From the Nabob desiring a further advance may be made to the 1st Regt of Cavalry

dated this day & entered in C C (No 84) was read desiring that the Money agreed to be advanced by the Company on account of the Arrears due to his Cavalry was not quite sufficient, & that it would require eighteen thousand (18000) Pagodas more to pay off the 1st Regiment to the Beginning of this Year & put them on an equality with the other two Regiments, who had been satisfied to that Period requesting therefore that this additional Sum might be advanced by the Company on the same Terms as the former.

The foregoing Letter from the Nabob being written in consequence of the first Regiment of Cavalry, having positively refused to march with the Army, unless they were first satisfied as to their Arrears, and the same paid for the Army's leaving the mount, being this Evening, the Nabobs Letter was sent round, & the Committee agreed to make the advance required, by giving Notes to Captain Dugald Campbell, Commanding Officer of the Regiment, for the Amount.

His Request complied with.

25 Received the following Letters from Lt Col. Braithwaite

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr

Governor & President &c. Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs

We encamped at Arnée, four Miles south of Gumrah yesterday about an hour ago

Fort St. George, August, 1780.

ago; I march on tomorrow morning for Conjeveram by the Route of Periaballam & Soliapore, agreably to orders of Major Genl Sir Hector Monro. I have the honor to be

From Col. Baillie arrives at Arcot to-morrow for Conjeveram.

Camp
24 Augt (Noon) 1780.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most humble &
obedient Servant
Wm Baillie.

25 Augt

Wrote the following Letter to

Mr R. D. Munro.

To. Mr. Robert Duncan. Munro

Sir,

I am directed by the Presidt & Select Committee to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter & to acquaint you that as there is no further occasion for a Paymaster to Col: Braithwaite's Detachment, they desire you will repair to Madras.

From Mr Munro, dated on Board the Bombay.

I am Sir
Your most obedt Servt
Charles Oakeley

Fort St George
25 August 1780

26

Wrote the following Letter

To Captain Hugh Robert Arbuckle
Commanding at
Tanjore

Sir

I am directed by the Council

8

1275 . Fort St George, August , 1780

To Capt.n Alcock
refer'd to orders
sent to Major Mac
Allan relative to
the Subsidy.

4 Select Committee to acknowledge the Receipt
of your Letters of the 27th & 28th Inst.: & to desire, that
you be entirely guided, with respect to the Subsidy
from the Subsidy Corps, by the Letter to Major Mac=
Allan on that Subject; of which we have furnish'd
Captain Barrowes with an Extract

I am
. Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Charles Oakeley

Fort St George
26th Aug.t 1780

. To Edward Cotsford Esq.r
Chief Ye Coast
at
. Masulipatam

Gentlemen

. For order to strengthen
the Army in the field as much as possible We thought
proper to withdraw Col.o Baillie's Detachment from
the Guntoor Circar, & Lt Douglas who commands there
at present being too weak in Troops to garrison some
of the strong holds We desire you will give him such
Assistance as he may require, or as you shall think
yourselves able to spare from the force in your District
We have directed him to correspond with you on this
Subject, & to represent his Situation from time to
time to You. You will observe that whatever Troops
you may be able to send Lieut. Douglas, We give
you permission to recall upon any Emergency

To Masulipatam
directed to afford what
Troops they can spare
to Lt Douglas.

We are

1276 Fort St. George: August. 1700

We are
Gentlemen
Your most obedient Servants
John Wheldeville &c. Select Com.

Fort St George
26th Augt. 1700

To Lieut. Walter Douglas
Commanding on
the Pantaloon Bercan.

Sir,

We have received your Letters
of the 16th and 18th Instants
We approve of the march
of the Troops to Mungalegary, & are glad to find your
conducted it with so little loss.
We have written to the
Chief & Council of Masulipatam to give you all the
assistance on their Power, & we desire you will acquaint
what reinforcement you require to keep possession of the
strong holds, which is all we can propose, until Cir-
cumstances will admit of your having a sufficient Force
to act upon the offensive. It will be proper that you corre-
spond with the Chief & Council of Masulipatam frequent
them from time to time with your situation
The Gentlemen at Masuli-
patam have directions to give money for the Payment
of your Seapoys. You will in consequence advise them
what manner it may be remitted to you with least

Sol. Douglas
acquainting them
with the above.

keep.

risk.

We are Sir
Your most obd. Servants
John Wheldeville &c. Select Com.

Fort St George
26th Augt. 1700.

1771 Fort St George 1st August 1780

27. 1

Received the following

Letters.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr.

President &c.a &c.a Select Committee

Fort St George

Honble Sir &c.a Sirs

I had the honor to

From Colo.l Lang Byder take Dolc = gan. Two deserters from Hyder &c.a

acquaint you the 12th Instant, that I could not send the European Battalion down to Conjeveram & from that to the 17th I took every method of sending your Honor &c.a & Sir H. Munro an account of what was going on this Way. As some of my Letters have been intercepted & some obliged to destroy my Letters I have ordered the Bearer of this to go a circuitous rout, that it may reach you but it will be at least four days

Since Hyder Ally took Arnee, his Troops have taken Dobagunt & the Church Sir's fort, both about eighteen miles from hence & yesterday morning he arrived with his Army & encamped from Shaltno to Chuckeramatoor, South East of this Place.

This morning two English = men came in here from Hyders Camp. one of them deserted this Service on 1774. the other was a mate of a small Country Ship that was taken at Calicut on the Malabar Coast. They say that there is a general Discontent in his Army, & that great numbers will leave him as soon as our Army draws

1278 Fort St George, August 1700

The Europeans to a man will come off if they possibly can. The discontent began at Bangalore & had a particular Account of it from my own People before Hyder moved from that.

Hyder Ally has now with Him, besides Peons & Battering Cannon & about twenty Field Pieces, Twenty Thousand Sepoys, so little dis==affection have they amongst them, that upon any Alarm a man may see each Horse a Flock of Sheep as one of their Battalions.

Yesterday I received your Letter of the 15th directed to the Officer Commanding the Euro=pean Battalion at Coyetoore; it was forwarded to me by Colonel Braithwaite.

I have the honor to be, with all due Respect,

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your very obedient & devoted Servt

Vellore
22 Augt 1700

Prof Lang.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
Governor President &c. &c. &c. in Council
at Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

This Morning I had the Honor to receive your Commands of date the 3 Instant from Capt Caley, who will march from hence this afternoon at 4 o Clock, with the Six Grenadier Compa=nies from the Battalions on this Garrison.

I

1279 Fort St George, August 1780.

I have order'd Lieut.
Eastland & Ensign Lloyd, to proceed with the
two Companies of the 78th Battalion, to which they
belong; on a Representation from the Officer comman
From Capt Alcock ding that Battalion, as well as my own knowledge
that there are not other Officers on the spot of sufficient
Rank or Experience to supply their places, were they
to proceed to join the Army; as by the order of the 21st
Instant — on so doing, I hope I have acted consistent,
with the good of the Service, to which I hope will meet
your Approbation.

By directions left me by Major
Maclellan; I have ordered Mr Gillespie, Surgeon's
Mate to proceed with this Detachment.

I have the Honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most humble & Obd Servant
Capt Robt. Alcock
Captain Commanding

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

I shall proceed this afternoon
at three o'Clock, with the six Grenadier Companys
From Capt Cosby from this Place to Tirchinopoly, & hope to get there
proceeds to Trichinopoly to-morrow Evening, & the next day shall begin to cross
the Rivers with the whole Detachment, the two Regi=
ments

1280 Fort St. George, 9 August 1780

Regiments of Cavalry, are I am told expected at Trichi-
=nopoly at this day. I have receivd Sir Hector Munro's
Letter of the 5th and shall to the utmost of my power
comply with such parts or the whole of it as Circum-
stances may enable me.

I have the honor to remain

with the greatest Respect.

Honble Sir & Sir

Your most devoted, humble Servt.

E. B. M. Cosby

Aug: 25th 1780

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

I wrote Sir Hector Munro
in the morning that I was proceeding marching this
day by an extraordinary fall of rain last night. By
way of getting on together Govind, between twelve and one
I moved about a Mile, & discovered as near as I can guess
two thousand of Hyder Allys horse. I have yet no further
Accounts. If this night proves fair I shall proceed to-
morrow. I have the honor to be with respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most humble
& obedt Servant
Wm Baillie

Camp near Vangal
26th Augt. the Evening.

From Col. Baillie detaind by the Rains near Nungul.

in

Wm Co

1281 Fort St George — August 1700

Wrote the following Letters

To Captain Hugh Robert Mcork,
Commanding at
Sanjore.

Sir

We have directed the
Chief of Nagore to forward to You, a quantity of Gun-
powder, he is to receive from on board the Fleet, but
as We understand there is not sufficient Magazines at
Sanjore to receive it, We direct, that after delivering
such part, as you can securely stow away, you send
the remainder to Tranquebar

We are
Sir Your most obd. Servants
John Whitehill &c Chief Com.

To Cap.r Mcock
Gunpowder to be sent
to Sanjore.

To Sir Edward Hughes
Knt Admiral of the Red &
Commander in Chief of
His Majestys Ships in
India

Sir

Having occasion to the
Southward, for the Gunpowder received on Board
His Majestys Fleet at Pondicherry, We are to request
You will take the first favorable Opportunity of landing
that at Nagore, our Resident there has received orders
to take charge of it,

We

Sir E. Hughes
to call & the Gunpowder
at Nagore.

1282 Fort St George, August 27th 1700.

We have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servants
John Whitehill &c. Select Comm.

Fort St George
27th Augt 1700.

To Mr John Studdleston
Resident at
Negore

Sir

We enclose you a Letter to
To Mr Studdleston on the same subject. have written to Sir Edward Hughes, requesting he will Land the Gunpowder received at Pondicherry at your Residency. There are 990 Barrels, of which you will take such Quantity, as you may have occasion for at Negore the remainder, You will forward to Tanjore, the Commanding Officer of which place has received our Orders respecting the same

We are, Sir
Your most obedt Servants
John Whitehill &c. Select Comm.

Fort St George
27th Augt 1700.

Received the following

20

Letter.

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

The continued raining
as from March induces me to give Credit that

1283. Fort St George, August 27, 1780

From Lt. M.Kay
a French deserter
from Hyder arrives
at Chingleput.

a Frenchman, a deserter from Hyder's Camp, who
arrived here this Morning says of his Passage
the Port of Arcott.

His Army as reported exact-
-ly according to the number reported some time ago
by Colonel Baaithwaite - Hyder, it is said, meanswhile
this month to the Nabob, whose Capital, if he only could
possess himself of, Upstander, would in the greatest
degree gratify his Revenge & Ambition. The forenoth
man, who is now with me, says, that all the
Europeans in Hyder's Service are guarded & looked
after as if they were all Prisoners, & suspected of every
thing that was faithless to his Purposes. Hyder and
his Son are at Arcott. The Firing increases every
5. Minutes, & therefore I will not delay a minute
longer this Information.

I am, Honble Sir & Sirs,
Your most obedt humble &
respectfully
Geo. Mackay

Chingleput
26 Augt 1780. 8 P.M.

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Col. Baillie
dated on the
Bank of the Cortelair

On the opposite side is Copy
of a Letter wrote to Sir Hector Munro of this date. I have
the honor to be most respectfully,
Camp on the N Bank
of the Cortelair, 3 P.M. 27 Augt.

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obed & humble Servt
W Baillie

Dear

1284 Fort St. George, August 1780.

Dear Sir,

A second heavy fall of rain last Night, has prevented our being this day at Trepasore We are encamped on the North Bank of the Cortelar waiting its fall. when we came to it, the two thousand horse mentioned in mine of yesterday were upon the opposite Bank, but moved off on the firing of a four Cannon shot. It seems they neither on our short march attempted any thing against our Baggage, nor burnt any Village on our Right. I am respectfully &c.

(Signd) W Baillie

Camp, 27 August 30 P.M.

Received the following Letter

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

I am favord with your Sworn Capt. Goldings Requesting some old Guineas may be sent to Madura.

Sirs, order of the 13th Instant, and agreable to your Injunctions shall endeavour as fast as possible to complete the deficiency on the Battalion, occasiond by the detachment serving with the Troops at Tellicherry, exclusive of the Augmentation order'd the 27th July.

And Also will put that Fort in the best State of security possible. I am obliged to employ some of my Seapoys on repairing the Barracks and Works & Also have got a few extraordinary Artificers to assist in repairing some of the Gun Carriages. I have truely

Do

1285 Fort St George, 2 August 1780

old Gunners can be spared, they are much wanted
here.

I am with the greatest Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedient &
humble Servant
Robert Fletcher

Madura
29th Augt 1780.

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

Loss of Baillie still detained by the Rains. In great want of Rice &c.

The Detachment remains encamped on the North Bank of the Cortelear. Every Night seems to increase the fall of Rain, & height of the River. Our Provisions, Tamarin Rice, &c so scarce, I have been under the necessity of opening several Paddy Stores in the Villages for our Subsistence. Where Inhabitants are met with they are protected, & regularly paid, & not finding any, as far as possible an Account taken & the money collected or Receipts granted me, occasionally to be produced

I in Sir particular mention this matter, because surely there will be innumberless complaints, & of Quantities taken whereof there is no Account. Many Villages too distant for me to guard must be not only plundered by the Enemy but our own followers. I have the honor to be respectfully

Honble Sirs
Your most humble
& obedient Servant
W Baillie

Camp, 29th August
1780.

1286 Fort St George, August 2, 1780

31

Received the following Letter

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr

President &c. Select Committee

of Fort St George

Honble Sirs &c.

From Col: Laing

Hyder erects three Batteries before Arcot.

I had the honour to address you the 22nd & yesterday at noon, I was favored with a duplicate of your Orders of the 3d. your Letter of the 14th & duplicate your letter of the 16th & your Letter of the 17th & Postscript

I am sorry your orders did not arrive in time to send Seapoys to Arnee as you will find by my Letters that it had surrendered to Hyder Ally before the date of your Orders. I Intending Seapoys now to Wandewash. I think it impossible, as Dobe Guns & the Bhaukles Fort have been taken since Arnee, with Stocks as are here entirely to the South & South East. Hyder Ally with his Army is at Arcot & a large Body of Horse at Conjeveram, So that I shall not attempt it.

The Seapoys I have ordered Some Arabon & Jemadar no doubt but they will be here Tomorrow Morning. they will enable me to take a little more Care of our Black, which at present is guarded by a Dett of Trustworthy Seapoys of the Rabobs for want of Pay.

Your Orders regarding the Battering Cannon shall be strictly attended to & every thing shall be ready, but Bullocks are in Short of draft sixty & Carriage ninety which cannot be supplied here

From

near

1287 : Fort St George, August 1780

nor is it possible to get them from Arcot at this time; but you will be pleased to observe that after we have furnish'd Bullocks for the heavy Guns that we have not one for our Field Artillery.

Hyder Ally. I hear has begun three Batteries before Arcot, but there has not been any firing yet of either side since he went there. I hope hourly to hear our Army has moved, for should he be able to take the Pettah he could get great Riches to distress our Army to a great degree, as the Natives even yet has collected every thing they can want, as far as Lay in his Power, into the Pettah. the manager is a sensible clever Man, but he is old & wants To Die.

I have the honor to be with all due Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most obedient & dev.d Hble Servt

Rob.t Lang

Vellore,
25th August 1780.

P. S. Hyder has dismounted & taken the Arms from a Regiment of Carnatic Cavalry that he suspected was going to desert.

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

Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

It is with much satisfaction I shall the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter from C.t St Thomas Dated the 22d, forwarding one hundred Seapoys as an Addition to my present force, which I hope soon to

compleat

1288 Fort St George, August, 1780.

complain. Meer Sadi has withdrawn his Troops from
Meer Sadi leaves Mangelegurry & marched with the main Body towards
Mangelegurry & marches towards Ennemda Ennemda. two of the Zemindars accompany him, Gun
& Darrow & Narsinaz the Reason for this Manouvre cannot
yet learn, but suppose he thinks Lt Douglas will avail
himself of this Opportunity to pass the Kistna and by
which means he will get the Possession of the Pagoda
at Mangelegurry, Or he intends trying to reinstate
Gundaverow in the Fortress of Ennemda. Either the Issue to
be with much defeat

I have the Honble Bd's Hon
Your most obd humble Servt
Edward Edmonds
Captain

Coringole
27th August 1780.

To the Honble. John Whitehill Esqr
President & Lt Colo Commandt &c
Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

The day following I had
the Honr to address you Last on the Subject of the Grenadiers
From Capt Alcock marching from this Garrison under Col. Cosby, I received
a Letter from the Adjutant General, with directions for
the Grenadier Officers marching with their Companies
which gave me much satisfaction, as I had of myself
anticipated the wish of the Honble Board, as I had also in
part done by sending Mr Gillespie Surgeons Assistant, as
you directed by order I received Yesterday from your Secre-
tary. Mr Watson sets out this Evening, on[illegible] of the
Grenadier Officers I have sent Cosgrove Madras & Scott

mor

1789. Fort. St George, September, 1700.

the 5th. Ensigns Barracks & Cookings of the 5 Batts
They have all been on service. By a Letter from Capt Corbet
Detachment he was yesterday crossing the Coleroon
to Sarangaveram, & that some of the Enemys horse
had been there the day before. I have the honr to be

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most obedt humble Servant

Hugh Robt Alcock

Capth Commandant

28.

Fort St George
20th Augt 1700

September 5th

Received the following Letter

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr

Governor &c. &c.

Fort St George

Sir

I am informed from
From Lt Douglas Guntoor that Meer Sadc left that Place this Morning
with all his Force. It is said that Sefoji Sadc as soon
as he knew of [illegible] Approach leaving this part of the
Country, sent an Order for them to proceed to the Southward
also. But all that I know for certain is, that he was a
Mile from Guntoor this forenoon on the Road leading
towards Ongole, the foot have left on the Neighbour
hood of this Place are now on their way to join them
Meer Sadc has with him I think somewhat above
3000 Horse, but no Guns, & a very few Matchlock
People.

horse

The Inclosed with the above

1290 Fort. St George, September 1700

not received any Pay for these three Months and are now much distressed; I have not as that account been able to send the two Companies belonging to the Bircars to joyn their Battalions.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect

Honble Sir!

Mangalegurry Your most obedient humble Servt

23. August. 1700 Walter Douglas

To the Honble. John Whitehill Esqr

President &c.a Select Committee

Honble Sir &c.a

I had the honr to address you yesterday by private hand, as there is no dependance on the intelligence from Col. Lang on the Tappals. there is now seven due & that goes by the same Route as mine of the 22d & 24th.

I had this morning a letter from Ascott from Captain Rodergast who acquaints me that Cyber Ally was erecting a Fort Jean Battery on the Point to the East, & that he was very uneasy at not hearing any thing of our Army

By the Intelligence I have from my own People there is three Batteries erecting against Ascott: one East, one South & one Southwest, & that they intend to have one on the North side of the River; however from the distance they are said to be from the Point it appears to me that our Guns will do more harm to the Forces

Fiend

batte

1291. Fort St George, September, 1780

& Inhabitants than they will to the Pallah Walls
The Enemy has a strong party at a Good post on the
Road from hence to Arcot about four miles distance
from that. there is also a party of Horse between this,
& Amboor but not such a Number as to prevent the
Supplys coming from that

I have the Honor to be with
all due Respect,

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most obedient & devoted Servant
Roj Lang

Vellore
25. August 1780.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I was prevented sending
the annexed Letter away last Night by a Body of Horse
passing on the North side of the River which this
morning found to be the party that was up between
this & Amboor returning to Arcott.

A large party of Horse
& Foot went to the North Side of
by Hyder Ally on order, it is
Baulks from going into Arcott.
at Vellore, & that it was suspected
as Yesterday

the River yesterday
to prevent Coll
Our Accounts of this Body
would be at Wandewash

I have not heard from Arcott
to day, but there has not been any
Yesterday & that was from the Pallah
that Crossed the River. I have the Honor
Vellore
26 August 1780

Honble Sir
Your
& Sirs
Your most obedient & devoted Servant

1292 Fort St George September 1780.

P.S. The Seapoys from Ambooraree come in here.

To the Hble Jno Whitehill Esqr
President & Governor &c. Select Committee
of Fort St George

Hble Sir & Sirs

From Capt Crosby drawn at 60 Days Sight

In consequence of the permission given me by the Honorable President I have this day taken the Liberty of drawing on your Hon. Board Bills of Exchange at 10 days sight in favor of Mr John Douglas for six thousand, seven hundred & thirty one Current Pagodas thirty Cash (C. P. 6731.30) which your Honors &c. will be pleased to duely honor & order it to be placed to the debit of the Loan made by the Hble Company to his Highness the Nabob of Arcot for the use of his Cavalry

I am respectfully,

Hble Sirs

Your most devoted

Trichanopoly
27th August 1780.

& obedient Servant

A. A. M. Crosby

2nd

Received the following Letter

To Jno Whitehill Esqr
President & Governor &c. Select Committee
of Fort St George

Sir & Gentlemen.

From the Intelligence I have received within these few days past, I think there can not be any doubt that the French at the Mauritius

From Capt Hughes
on Intelligence

will receive a Reinforcement of Ships of War from
this Season, & that they intend to act offensively against
some of our Settlements on this Coast, either jointly
with some of the Country Powers our Enemies, or Sepe-
rately by themselves; in the last case, I am of opinion
that the Lateness of their Arrival at the Maldivas, &
the approaching Monsoon on this Coast, may make
Bombay their Object, I have therefore taken this early
opportunity to lay the Intelligence I have received before
You.

As it will be necessary for
the Squadron under my Command to returne to Ma
Draft Road in order to compleat their Provision & Stores
so as to be on a Condition to quit this Coast before the
middle of October, to proceed round Ceylon to the Mal-
labar Coast, & Bombay, I shall chuse to quit this
Station about the middle of next Month, unless
an Enemy come on the Coast before that Time. I am
with great Regard,

Sir & Gentlemen

Your most Obedient, humble Servt

Edwd. Pellew

Superb off Negapatam
20th August 1700

Intelligence

On the 25th August, 1700, His Majesty
Ship Eagle chased a Sail to the N.E. & spoke with her,
she proved to be a Danes Ship named Bourgonai,
Captain De Rocka, from Copenhagen to Tranquebar.
left Copenhagen 30th Nov. 1699 & arrived at the Cape of
Good Hope the 30th May 1700. She left the Cape the 14th June

following

1294 Fort St George September 1780

following and the Captain says he left there two French Ships of the Line & a large Convoy of Troops ready outward bound from France in Table Bay & that a French Flag Ship with the remaining part of the Transports was hourly expected to arrive. His Majesty's Ships Belleisle, Isis & Resistance with their Convoy were not arrived when he left the Cape, & the Eagle Packet from England was kept in Table Bay by the French.

On the 26 August, His Majesty's Ship Nymphe chased a Sail to the NE & spoke her: She proved to be a Danes Ship named the Copenhagen, Captain Koyer left Copenhagen the 10 December 1779, & arrived at the Cape in the Beginning of June last. She left the Cape the 19th June following & the Captain says he left in Table Bay the following French Ships, The Ajax of 64 Guns, the Beauvette, Commander, the Elephant of 36 Guns, the Argus of 10 Guns a Bomb & three Transports with a great number of sick Men, brought from the Mauritius for the Recovery of their Health, the Betsey Snow from Bombay to Madras was detained in Table Bay, & the Convoy under His Majesty's Ships Belleisle Isis & Resistance was not arrived when he left the Cape.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Thos Parry of His Majesty's Ship Sybyl to Sir Edward Hughes, Knight of the Bath, Rear Admiral of the Red &c. dated at the Cape of Good Hope the 1st May 1780.

On the 15th February last I sailed from Plymouth with Sealed Orders, on opening which I was directed to proceed with all possible dispatch

to

St. Helena, 1st September, 1780

to this place to take under my Convoy the homeward
bound East India Ships, & to avoid the Island of Ascension
and keep about 30 Leagues to the Westward of it, in consequence
of Intelligence received that a small Combined Squadron
of French & American were cruizing off that Island
for so it was reported in England

Inclosed I transmit You
the last account I can procure of the French Motions
at & near this place, since the beginning of February
last, which with I hope, prove satisfactory. On the 3rd
of this Month I shall leave this place with the South
=ampton, & Jason Indiamen under Convoy & proceed
to Long Landing agreeable to my Orders.

A List of French Ships at the Cape
of Good Hope from the 2d February to the 1st May 1780

The Squadron under the Com=
mand of Mons.r Trongollie, who hoists a Rear Admi
=rals Flag, but without Orders for so doing, either from
the King or the Admiralty, of France, I even with a Brc=
=vet, consists of the following Six Ships.

		Guns	No.
Le Brilland	Mons.r Trongollie	64	590
L'Orient	" Dorves	74	775
Le Severe	" D'Pallieres	64	500
Le Carnolante	" Sommeleve	30	300
Le Flammand	" Le Brens	50	540
Le Subtile	" Mauvilles	20	170
		310	3,045

The Hercule Salomon and Mon=
=sieur of St Jean & Officers. The Squadron sailed
from

Fort St. George, September, 1700.

from hence the 3d of March last & cruized off Cape Lagullas
Last till the 22nd of that Month, when they spoke with a
Danish Ship from Bantam from which they learned that
the English Company's Ships were to leave China about
the 20th January & from that time they have not been seen
by any of the Ships which have touch'd here, except
these should have been them, sun by the Resolution &
Discovery about the 4th of April in Latt. 35, 10 & about
2 degrees East of Cape Lagullas, the d'Brant carries a
Broad Pendant at her maintop Masthead, & Dover
who commands appears to be styled a Commodore.

The following private Ships
have been here from the Islands for Provisions.

The Preston
The St Anne } these sailed from hence 17th Feb.y with Provisions

The Solomon — She sailed the 23d. March

Le Monarke — Captain Bourbon
Le Languedoc. —— Le Fort. } two ffrn Snows now here

The Moorish Men of War
here & almost laden with Provisions of all kinds, such as
Flour, Wine, Bread &c., which gives one to apprehend that
they would proceed after the Ships departs.

The French Ships of War
went out laden with provisions of all kinds, such as Wine,
Flour, Bread &c which gives one to apprehend that they
would proceed after the middle of April to Macarica by
that our Ships would have ceased them for this season,
should not, for Sport, the have gone away for St Helena
which time is improbable, as he having so great a

Quantity

St. Fort St George, September 1780

Quantity of Provisions on board could not carry them sufficient for a long Voyage, but this is only my own Conjecture; The probability is that the Islands being in want of necessaries he has proceeded to them; The French here give out that he had orders to be at Mauritius by the 15th May, but tho' that may be true, it is not to be wholly credited.

Extract of a Letter from the Baron Van Plettenberg Governor of the Cape of Good Hope to the Council at Negapatam, dated 12th of June 1780.

"In all probability the French have some undertaking of consequence in view from the great preparations they are making for the Mauritius & great number of men on board Regiments are sent hither: their present naval force is able to resist the English on India coasts altogether which will probably come under the Command of Mons.r de Suffrein when they will have a considerable Superiority. She will, in my opinion go against Bombay or some where in its neighborhood.

The Bay False is full of French Ships of War & Transports, & more are expected a small English Vessel is blocked up there & cannot get out. The French Commg Officer having threatned to send her & take her as soon as he can get out of the Bay, & unless Admiral Vernon arrive here this Vessel must remain in the Bay untill the French Ships sail which will not be untill the Month of August.

In our late Boys are now

Anchor

1298 . Fort St . George , September 1700

rendevoucing 10 or 12 French Ships bound to the Mauritius
& a third more of that number is yet to come

Extract of a Letter from Mr Edward Mostyn
dated at Trangambar, to Sir Edward Hughes Knight of the
Bath &c: dated the 2d August 1700.

"A Danish Company's Ship
arrived here yesterday. She left Copenhagen the 30th November
last & the Cape of Good Hope the 15th June last; saw in
False Bay at the Cape two French Ships of the Line, two
Frigates & seven Transports, more Ships of War & Transports
were expected to join them under the Command of Monr
De la Bot. There was also an English Packet there
watch'd very narrowly by the French Ships.

Edwd Hughes.

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

Honble Sirs

From Col. Baillie requests Boats may be sent him

The fall of this Cordial seems a little to be depended on; I wish the Honble Committee would think of some mode to assist us. Perhaps, Boats or Catamarans could be sent from Cuddalore to Chittavenam. 'Tis true, it would be a very round about way; but better that, or any, than remain where we are. We have had two four Nights, notwithstanding the Moon is quite impassible a Strong Indication, or rather proof of its being from great Source & therefore not likely to fail us.

Humbly.

impa

1299. Fort St George, 3d September, 1700.

I have the honor to be
respectfully.

Camp: 4th Septemr 1700
6 P.M.

Yr Humble Servt
Lieutenant Governor &
Lieutenant Colonel
W. Braillie

At a Select Committee. Present

Sunday the 3d Sept.

The Honble John Whitehill Esq. President
Charles Lambe
Samuel Johnson
Ser. Factor Munro absent on
Service.

Minutes of last Committee
read & confirmed.

The Contracts arrive from England

The Honble Company's Ship Contracter having arrived this Morning from England & a Letter from the Coast of Deadras dated the 24th February 1700. received by that Ship is now opened & the President moves it may be immediately read.

Minute of Mrs Smith & Johnson on Mr Davidson's Petition into the Select Committee

Mr Smith & Mr Johnson then upon Observe, that they had delivered in a Minute which they conceived it necessary to be submitted to the consideration seriously, before any Committee was held on Mr Davidson had taken his Seat, as they considered the Resolution of the Committee of the 21st Ultimo & the Rule there in mentioned to Mr Davidson, were not sufficient to entitle him as a Member. That they deemed their Minute contained matter very worthy the Consideration of the

1300 Fort St. George; 3. September, 1800

the President, & might hopefully endeavor him to alter his Sentiments, with respect to the Propriety of admitting Mr Davidson, to be a member of Committee, but as the President moves for the reading of the Letter from the Court of Directors, & as this cannot be done, without Mr Davidson's taking his Seat, all that they have now left, is to desire that their Protests may be read, & entered on the Proceedings of this Day, & on the mean time they enter the following Protests

Previous to entering on any Business, Mr Smith desires it may be recorded.

That he considers the present and all future Committees at which Mr Davidson sits as a Member, as unconstitutional & contrary to the express Orders of the Company; therefore he holds the President & General, responsible for all Measures which may not be approved by Mr Johnson, or himself, so held Mr Davidson keeps his Seat at the Committee

3 Sept. 1800. / Charles Smith

Protest of Mr Smith against the above Measure.

Mr Johnson agrees entirely in opinion with Mr Smith, & thinks their consenting, for the present, to sit in a Committee which they deem unconstitutional, the greatest proof they can give of their Attachment to the Company's Interest — he hopes no Responsibility can be required of them for Measures entered by a Committee, of which they have so explicitly declared their Sentiments.

Protest of Mr Johnson

1301 Fort St George 3. September 1790.

Minute of Mess.rs Smith & Johnson, on the same Subject

We are not answerable of the lapse of time since the 21st Ulto. when this Measure was resolved on; we are sorry it was not in our power to deliver this Minute before the Generals departure, but the nature of the Subject required our most serious Consideration, and we were not prepared until Monday last. — as we are of Opinion it could be more regular to deliver it in Committee we waited since in Expectation of adventurers, but none coming until yesterday, & the meeting afterwards deferred — as a Committee is now unexpectedly assembled, we avail ourselves of the Opportunity to deliver it

3. September 1790
Sunday

Charles Smith
Jno. Johnston

Minute of Mess.rs Smith & Johnson on the same Subject.

In Consn. for Fort St George. Minute, in the Committee held on the 2d. Instant, moved that Mr David Haliburton be appointed one during Mr. Member of the Select Committee deceased Lieu. Absence; & order that Protest was recorded by the President, with this Addition, that he (the President) further recommends that he (Mr Haliburton) be sworn before Sir Charles Oakeley Supreme Judge for the Field. Garrison = troops at Cuddalore, as appointed by the positive Orders of our Superiors at Home, & our Instructions of the Nature on which the General summoned to make & the President to record, no consultation could a Protest, cannot be entered Sooner than two days sufficient by either Party to receive & answer the Liberty of replying to the

Fort. St. George, 3. September, 1700.

"Minutes of the President & the General." which we shall now do, as fully as our Abilities will permit & in such a Manner, as we hope will merit the Approbation of our Honorable Employers; as the Sentiments, which we now offer for the Records of the Company, are the Result of our best Judgement, founded on the Justice and unequivocal Orders of the Court of Directors, free from Passion, Prejudice or Resentment, and consonant to the Duty, we conceive, we owe to our Superiors, & the Dignity of that Station, to which those Superiors have been pleased to appoint us.

We regret, as much as the President or Sir Hector Munro can do, that there has been any division in Committee or in Council, both we positive-ly deny that any Sentiment, proceeding from us whether by Motion on our parts, or by dissent to any Motion made by either of those Gentlemen, originated from a Principle of Opposition to them.

We form a Judgement & Conduct so repugnant to our private Feelings, and so incompatible with our public duty.

We believe the President will find it very difficult to shew one instance of our Inclination, on our part, to counteract any Plan for the public Safety, or for the Honor & Welfare of the Company, nor has the President any Right to conjecture, to either Act, a want of Candour, or a bias on our Judgment, from a Principle of Opposition

However, least it might be supposed, that we had, unwarily, form'd a party against the President and General we appeal to the Records for a Refutation of any such Idea

and

and after that, in these words beforesaid, many instances wherein we essentially differed in Opinion, from each Other:

The President has declared that "the Records of the Board, as well as the Committee, are "proofs that little Reliance is to be had on the Concessions "of Messrs Smith & Johnston, with Respect to the Measures "to be pursued, if they shall be left with a decided Ma- "jority on the Committee."

We on our part therefore say, that no Consideration can induce us to give up our Judgement to the President or the General, but where our own con- cedes with theirs — to those Records we appeal for our Justification — our Differents have not been wantonly made or maliciously worded. — they speak our Sen- timents and the Reasons on which those Sentiments are founded — they breathe neither Pique, Prejudice, or Resentment. * — to our Honorable Employers we shall leave it to decide, whether our Conduct be censurable or Approbation worthy.

* We could not say how easy it would be for us to recriminate in this Respect, upon those Gentlemen, but this is not properly our Province. Recrimination is not Argument, nor is Retaliation Justice.

The President says, that "these difficulties, Wrong and Disrespect of a change of "Sentiments in those Gentlemen, and trusting that the "candid and unbiassed Judgement of Mr Davidson, with "our Letters in a different point of View, will be com- "to be acquainted with them; the Commander in Chief was "unquestionably to have Expedients sufficient, on his "Side, to command the Recommendations of a temporary "infringement of the Concluded Orders." Thus, the

1304. Fort St. George, 3d September, 1760

"President, is free to declare, has a greater Repugnance at
"acting contrary to the Commands of his Superiors than
"he has. But there are times, when a Government must
"however irregular, deviate from the Line which is prescribed
"and use that discretional Power, which from necessity,
"it is invested with."

We have not at present, in Idea
that sort of Exigency which can warrant the President
in acting so directly opposite to the Express orders of
our Superiors, & we are so very well satisfied of the Grounds
of this Opinion, that we consider it as a deliberate Act of
the President to subvert the Government of this Presidency.
the Orders of the Company are too express, are too pointed
provisional of the very Situation on question to admit of
any Deviation therefrom under a Presumption of discretionary
Power.

We think it incumbent upon
us to declare, that the Measure now adopted, as illegal &
injurious, & as far as we know that it is without precedent
We are also of Opinion that it tends to introduce Anarchy
into the Constitution & into the Conduct of the Affairs of
the Company at this Presidency: nor do we hesitate to de-
clare, that no Question of greater Extent in all its Conse-
quences, or more liable to fatal Objections has fallen
to our Lot, since we have had the Honor of being
Members of this Government.

It appears to us incontro-
vertible, that Mr Davidson can have no legal Voice in the Coun-
cils* to which he is a Party; & still more of only

* Whatever Act, done By the President & Two Councillors

sanctioned

Fort St. George, 3. September, 1700.

sanctioned by the Opinion & the double Voice of the President may be deemed illegal, or, at least, strongly questionable. Yet it is but too obvious, that this may involve the Affairs of the Company & even Individuals in circumstances of Confusion & difficulty, which at this time, ought to be hazarded and far less under the present Circumstances of our Affairs. Indeed the Conduct of the Majority of the Committee, on this Occasion, appears to us so contrary to Reason as well as to the Company's Authority, that we can hardly regard it, on any other light, than as premeditated purpose of forming a Division in the Government, The Natural Consequence of which we leave to the Consideration of those Gentlemen, & to the Reflection of their intended Coadjutor. Our Interest in the question, is not greater than theirs. We think that too much is hazarded, & wish that there may be no mistake of Passion or Precipitation. It is our earnest desire to act with Temperance & Moderation and to preserve Peace in our Councils by a faithful Adherence to the Legal Institution under which we are constituted; as the only mode in which we can proceed with Safety to ourselves & to the Interests of the East India Company, having no other View or purpose to serve, than the due Discharge of that Trust, which is reposed in us as Members of their Government. We doubt not but this will appear, in the strongest light, from the Conduct which we have shewn in the fore Agitations of this Question. We then thought it our indispensible duty to weigh the Serious Consequences of a Compromise, which, if continued with equal Obstinacy by both Sides, might end in a Confusion

more

more easily to be apprehended than removed; & therefore
determined to proceed with all possible Circumspection,
without belonging over Exact by a criminal Acquiescence
We then declared, in substance & now repeat it, that the
Committee, cannot, by their own Authority, bring any
other Member to Vote, in that Department, than such
as are appointed by the Company. — It being in congruous
in itself that a power so derived, should counteract the Basis
=rely on which it is founded; as the present measure certainly
does. But some future occasion it may be found necessary (as
necessity will always prove a convenient plea, to give a
Colour to every measure which may suit to adopt,) to make
a still further Addition of Members to the Select Committee
Even to the number of Persons Invested as Members of the
Council. This would only be going a Step further on
the same track which is now decided & we believe, that
the Act, on these Grounds, would be as legal as in this; when
there is no Rule but the pleasure of the Governors, who sub=
=stitute their own Authority in the room of that which ap=
=pertains only to their Superiors; the Consequences of which
where there is no Check but the Dissent of a Minority; and
no definite appeal, but to a Power so distant in point of time
that all the mischiefs, which could arise, may have their
full effect before any Relief can be applied. And it is worthy
of notice that in case of an illegal Institution or self-created
power, as this appears to be, is much stronger & of more
dangerous tendency, than that of a legal Authority, dis
=pensing (in extraordinary Cases) with the Rules & Orders
of that Power by which it is constituted. If the Institution

If

of the Commandr be such as We understand, it cannot be altered, or qualified, by any Arguments or terms, which have been made use of to give a Colour to the present Measure. That Authority alone, which is Competent to appoint it has expressly limited it to four Members of which the Military Commander in Chief is one, by the Orders, by which it is established, after naming the first Members of the Board of all future Members has the Clause, "If any Military Commander in Chief should, "at any time, be absent from the Presidency, then our "Order is, that the President shall call to join the Members of "our Council, shall be a Select Committee, for the purposes "aforesaid, during the Absence of the Commander in "Chief from the Presidency."

From thence then it is clear, that the Board was both forseen and provided against; nor need we bring it to remembrance, that it has already happened under the present Institution, during the Siege of Pondicherry; but on that occasion, no substitute to the employ he then was worthy of, (all the Members of Board were prevented by sickness, from attending for a considerable time) nor do we believe that any body entertained an Opinion that it could take place. It was Trusted that cannot or executed by Proxy; The orders expressly say that, in the absence of the Commander in chief,* (whilst he is Sick or on Commandr (and of course before that part of the Order, which related to his absence, can have any Operation) together with the President (by his Double Vote) determine that the order of the Company, in their respect,

* The President, the second & fourth in Council shall be the Committee. But now the Commander in Chief

Fort St George, 3d September, 1700

Testock, shall be set aside & of no effect; abrogated, by a new Appointment of their own; which, in reality constituting the Committee to consist of five Members, at one & the same Time, for it is nowhere said, or pretended, that the Seat of the General is vacated by his Absence.

In delivering these Opinions, we have considered the great Importance of the Subject, to the Affairs of the Company, and indeed to the Existence of their Constitution, which is thus wounded. We are conscious of our Inability to speak of it with that Energy & Precision which it deserves, but we cannot, as honest men, entrusted by our Honorable Employers, satisfy ourselves, with a bare dissent to so extraordinary a Resolution, or avoid removing any express or implied Reflection, which the measure may be supposed to carry with it in respect to ourselves, as implying a disapprobation of our past or Distrust of our future Conduct, which if those Gentlemen who attempt these insults to our Employers, & to their Colleagues, can support, we now call upon them to do; or else that it must stand confessed that they have no such foundation, but, upon this occasion, have adopted a measure, no less vindictive than violent; and so, we doubt not, but the Honorable the Court of Directors will regard it, & further, that they will hold those, who are Parties in it, as we do, fully responsible, for the illegality of the Act, & for all the Consequences which may arise from it.

As to the Conduct of Mr Davidson, in particular, on this occasion, & Duty of such a Nature, & of such high importance, tho' clearly enclosed by the express

Fort St. George, 3. September, 1760

as proof or does of the Consistory we doubt not but it will here-
after be a very serious Question to Some, whether any Act
which passed under the Sanction of his Honour Power, can
be free from Exception, or even Legal; & whether the
whole Transaction will not be regarded by that Power
which can alone take Cognizance of it as a groß insult
upon their Authority, without overlooking the avowed
purpose of the Gentleman's admission to his temporary
Seat; which requires little other Comment from us than
our unreserved declaration, that we never could have
proceeded upon Business to act under a part without
being decided unworthy of a Seat either in Committee nor
Council. It is true that he is a Member of the Board
but a Seat on that Department is not alone sufficient
to entitle him to Sit & Vote on the other, until a vacancy
happens; it is obvious, that the present measure may
on some future Occasion, be carried still further, Nine
or more members may be brought into the Committee
even without being Members of the Council, as it
is not that Character solely, which gives them a Qua-
lification; but the Nomination of their Employers, who
may, at their pleasure appoint such of their Servants as
they judge fit, to that or any other Station; & of this, the
Case of the Reverend Mr Bolt (at that time one of the
Company's Chaplains) and of Mr Henry Vansittart (the
then only a Senior Merchant) are in point, as they were
each appointed Members of the Select Committee. Indeed
it is well known, that the Confessed Abilities of these Gen-
tlemen, recommended them to the Court of Directors

Since

1310 Fort St George, 3d September, 1700.

How far such distinguished talents of Knowledge & Industry, with which Mr Davidson comprehensively endowed to the Company, in the Execution of that important duty in which it is thought necessary that he shall take a part may have been discovered by our Colleagues, we must leave to their decision. We are free to declare, that they have not, as yet, been sovereignly apparent to us.

But totally averse as we are to every thing that has the Appearance of premeditated Variance in our Councils & sincerely desirous to avoid all grounds of Complaint, whilst we can proceed in the Execution of our duty, without a breach of the Companys Established Institutions &c, we would now propose & earnestly recommend, that the proceedings of the Committee, in respect to this Measure, may be recorded, & that they be corrected & reversed. The Governor & the General have in effect, vacated the General's Seat in the Committee during his Absence; tho' our Honorable Employers have determined, that it shall not be vacated, and. This is the Authority by which we all hold our Seats. By what authority is the Resolution of forcing a new created member into a Seat which is not as yet vacant, & which no Authority here can, at their own Pleasure, make so; If there is no such Power, should the exercise of it be assumed in any Department? & least of all, in that, where our Employers, have entrusted all their Political Military & Naval Affairs, nor should it be disregarded that it is done at a time, when a powerful Invader is in the heart of the Carnatic, & when the possibility of the

Force

1311

Lett: from Bergen, 3. September, 1780.

Inclosed I send you, and the Gentlemen Merchants, Copy of a Letter, and Resolutions, which I received last night from the Committee of Merchants at this place, and which I am directed to lay before you. We do therefore most earnestly recommend, that it be well considered, to what consequences such a Resolution may lead, as many as many of the Seamen have families and Friends, as well as on others which are more obvious, And how far the Legality of the Resolutions, & the Authority of the Committee, under such a disguised profession, may be questioned, or impeached. Indeed we trust that the Consideration of this important Subject has not been hitherto considered with that Temper, & attention which it deserves. And we still have hopes that being more received, the Arguments & Reasons, which we offer, will strike with a force not less strong, than if they have not before been sufficiently weighed.

We cannot help observing that although there has been such a considerable Lapse of Time since the 23d Ult.o we have not yet seen what foundation there is for such Apprehensions. We call upon the General to mention any Circumstances, or our Conduct, which can justify them in suspecting us of intending a wanton interruption of any Plan or Operation of his on the Land or of a Disposition to misconstrue those Plans, or Operations by the Attack which may result from them.

Our Regard to the Welfare of the Country, to our own Security, and to the Ground themselves, entitles them to our hearty Cooperation in any Plan which wears the Appearance of Propriety; & we shall be as ready as any one to sit down to the Sale of Wax, any misfortune or which may befall him, & as chearful & Cordial in

over

our Congratulations & Testimonials of Applause for the Success, which we sincerely hope may crown our Arms & his Conduct, as any Member of Government or of the Commanunity.

But at the same time that the General thinks it proper for him to shew, such Solicitude in what respects his own Duty and Conduct in the Field; nor thinks it incumbent on us not to forget that the Commander have many other Branches of their Duty to attend to, on which the Business of Negociation of Peace as well as Military & Naval Affairs (all within their Province) & that this renders it the more necessary to avoid any Infringement upon or Deviation from the Legal Institution thereof.

Mr. Smith's Resolution to go home, proceeded from the imminent Danger of his Health in the Opinion of his Physicians should he continue to stay here, & the fortunate and unexpected Turn, which his disorder took, at the Eve of his intended Departure, made him unwilling to risk a Return of his Complaint, as the Situation of Public Affairs was too critical not to subject him to a heavy Censure, from his Employers was he to quit his Seat in Government on the hour of Danger, on any other Consideration, than that of labouring under a Disorder, which a change of Climate alone could remove.

Having, we trust fully proved the Illegality, unexpediency & impropriety of Mr Dawkins Admission into the Select Committee, we move that the Resolution

1313 Lon.s. Temple 3 September, 1800.

Revolution, a Draft was formed in Committee on the 21st of last Month, relative to the Business may be now received.

3 Sept.r 1800.

Mr Davidson when taking his Seat, the Letter from the Court of Directors is read

A Letter from the Court of Directors to the Governor General & Council of Bengall received by the Contractor to be forwarded thither immediately

Mr Davidson takes his Seat

Letter to the Gov.r Gen.l & Council of Bengal Contractors to be forwarded.

Charles Smith

Sam.l Johnston

1314. Fort St George, 1 September 1780

63

Wrote the following Letter

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

Gentlemen

We have the honor to enclose
Letter to Bengal on: You, a Letter under your Address from the Hon.ble Court
relating Letters for the Hon.ble of Directors p.r Bristol Bombay.
Court of Directors p.r Bristol
Bombay.

We are
Gentlemen
Your most obedient
humble Servant
Lord Macartney &c.a &c.a &c.a

Fort St George
3 Sept.r 1780.

Received the following Letters

64
4

To the Hon.ble John Whitehill Esq.r
President &c.a Select Committee
at Fort St George.

Hon.ble Sir

I had the honor to address
from Colombo; you the 26.
relating of Hyder having
left Arcot & his march
to Conjeveram.

Hyder Ally has shifted his
ground a little from Arcot & is now at Chuckramalore
He has a large body of Horse at Malaya[illegible] Pallah & a party
of two Thousand Horse, Two Battalions of Seapoys & Ultra Chea
-ard Colleries between this & Arcot. the 26th, in the Morning
there was an alarm in Hyder Ally's Camp & our Army
being at Conjeveram, on which a large detachment

1315. Fort St George, 1st September 1780

of Above, foot, & Guns marched towards that, the same Day. — he has given up his Plan of taking Arcot for the present; & my people affirm that he has not more than six thousand Horse with him at present. I have the Honor to be with all due Respect

Honble. Lord Sirs

Your very obedient & Hble Servt

Vellore

29th August 1780

Ross Lang

P.S. Since writing I have intelligence that the Horse that lay on the North side of the River at Arcot marched towards Conjeveram, the 26th in the Evening. the foot that is gone towards Conjeveram are said to be eight Battalions of Sepoys, & that they have with them eight field Pieces.

To the Honble. John Whitehill Esqr

President &c. &c. &c. Select Committee

of Fort St George

Honble Sirs

Sworn before me

Vellore

30th August 1780.

By the Intelligence I have this day received Hyder Ally sent away his heavy Cannon yesterday Evening towards Arnee, & this Morning about three o'Clock he marched himself the same Road. All is now clear about Arcot & I hear our Army is this side of Conjeveram,

I have the Honor to be with

Honble Sirs &c. &c.

Your very obedt & Hble Servt

Ross Lang

1316 Fort St George, September 1780

Received the following Letter

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.

President & Select Committee

F. Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I arrived here this forenoon at 11 o'Clock, but much disappointed at not being able to learn any accounts of our Army, by the Motions of which I was in hopes of guiding my own with a greater degree of Secrecy, than I see a prospect of, under the above disadvantage.

From Capt Cosby marches towards the Changama Pass to endeavor to cut off Hyders Convoys

The Account which the Honble the Select Committee had of a Magazine of Provisions having been laid up at Attoor, the destruction of which was the first Object of this Detachment, I sent from many of my People was without foundation, which from my Last orders the Honble Committee, I presume are now acquainted with, nor has any been from thence to Hyders Camp, what he received is by the Changama Pass, & as in my last instructions from the Commander in Chief, I am directed to attempt to cut off his Convoys on the Changamah road & destroy that Pass or in case of not being able so to do, to join them as soon as possible, but the first recommended as of the greatest importance to our Army. I intend to attempt it without loss of time. I shall therefore leave here all my Tents Guns, & heavy Baggage, and with the Detachment as lightly equipt as possible with a few days rice

1317 Fort St George, September 1780

d

in three Knapsacks & march from hence by the most
private Road I can find directly to Changamah where
should I be so fortunate as to fall in with any of them
I will be able I can flatter myself with the hope of
accomplishing as I have well assured he has with
many thousand people appointed on purpose to repair
the Pass beyond the power of this Party (unprovided
as it is with Tools) to hurt, so as to stop him even
for half an hour.

Should he happen to be on
this March back whilst I am at Changamah it
will from the situation of the Country there about
require all our Activity to get to bear of them, unless
our Army is close at his Heels on that case I shall
have the pleasure of co-operating with it to the
Adv.ge.

Until my Arrival near this,
Hyder had Parties in most of the Passes in order to
stop the Roads by had given the Inhabitants, cows, but
they made off as fast as possible on my Approach
I have the honor to remain with the greatest Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most obed.t & devoted Hble Servt.

J. Lagan
2d Sept.r 1780.

H.E.I.C. M. Cavalry

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

Since writing the foregoing

1318 Fort St. George, September 1780.

From D.o marches towards Gingee in order to join the Army

Yesterday the people I had sent on to explore the Country between this & the Changamah Pass on order to find out a short & private road are Returnd & tells me they have the People of this Country which I had employd on this Service, they have been unsuccessful & declare the impossibility of the detachments marching by any but the Pass road & as the Enemy have a Garrison there & we are now forty odd Miles from it & the Country between this & that very often they must unavoidably know of my Approach besides which the distance is such that I shall be under the Necessity of halting near it & obliged at last to leave it at least twenty miles on my rear as Changamah lies nearly West of it, & as I should have no way but the same to return I should in so doing run a great Risque of falling in with My Own whole Army, from these Considerations therefore I am under the necessity of giving up my first intention and as I am quite in the dark as to the Situation of our Army having heard nothing of it since the 26th last Month, I shall as the most likely way of falling in with it march directly to Gingee, which I hope will meet with the Approbation of your Honor &c &c.

I have the Honor to remain with the most perfect Respect, Honble Sir & Sir

Your much obliged, Humble

Humble Servant

H. A. M.c Leay

Seagar

2 Sept.r 1780

5 o Clock P. M.

I Should I on my March hear of the Army I shall march to it wherever it is by the shortest way.

1319 Fort St. George, September 1780

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

Fort St. George

Honble. Sir & Sirs

From Colo. Baillie
enquires the Cortelier
to join the Army

I had the honor to acquaint
You that the Detachment under my command crossed
the Cortelier this Afternoon, & will march tomorrow to
join the Army. I am most respectfully

Honble. Sir & Sirs

Camp the South of
the Cortelier
6 PM. 3 Sept. 1780.

Your most humble Obed.
Servant.
W. Baillie.

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

Fort St. George

Honble. Sir & Sirs

From Col. Douglas.
Hears Hyder leaves
Guntoor. repeats
Orders

On the 23. March with
all his Force moved from this Neighborhood and from
Guntoor. Since your last Intelligence of his being
on the other side of Innicondah on the Road towards Cuddum
Lee sudden departure from that Corner was no doubt occa-
sioned by an order from Hyder, but whether he is to proceed to
the Southward, or to remain with his force for the pro-
tection of the Coddapah Country, I cannot as yet
pretend to say.

As soon as it was known that
Hyder's Horse had left the Corner, I recalled Letters from
all

1320 Fort St George, 6th September 1790

all the Jaghiers, full of professions of attachment to the Company's Interest, which I believe are sincere only so long as the Enemy shall remain at a distance, & that I can attribute to no other cause than the treatment which the Zemindars & Inhabitants have met with from the Rabobs Manager.

Ensign Boisdauvre commanding at Innicondah, being a little more at large in the Field advanced to the Northern part of the Circar took that opportunity of procuring an addition to the small Stock of Grain in that Place, & there is now sufficient for two Months for all his People. As my Orders on leaving Madras were given on a Supposition that Col. Baillie's Detachment was to act in the Quarter I have found myself much difficulted how to act. Innicondah both on account of its Strength & Situation bordering on Hyder's Country, I conceive to be the most eligible Station for the Reshoys of a proper Supply of Provisions can now be procured. If it is not intended that a Force sufficient to keep the Field, shall be sent into this Circar, the Companies of Capt. Bredges & Capt. Smith's Battalions may be sent to the Circars & to Ongole, as the Independent Companies will be quite sufficient to garrison Innicondah. As I cannot move from that Place without too great a Risque until the destination of their Future force is known, I hope I shall be favored with your further Instructions.

I have the Honor to be, with the greatest Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most obed. & humble Servant

Walter Doveton

Bengal Regiment

3d Brig. 1790

79

1321 Fort St. George 1st September 1780

To the Honble. John Whitehill Esqr.

President & Governor &c. &c. Select Committee

of Fort St. George

Honble. Sir & Sirs

I have been favord with

From Ganjam your Letter dated 3d. Instant advising that Hyder Ally Cawn has commenced hostilities against the Carnatic & desiring I would be upon my guard by drawing the Troops together, as much as possible to act upon the defensive in case the Enemy should be attacked.

I have already represented to your Honr &c. the present Situation of this Fort & took the Liberty to recommend what I think is really necessary to be done to put it into a State of defence

The force on this district consists of.

One Battalion of Seapoys

Three Companies Subsidy D.o

5 to 6 Officers

3 Private European Artificers

2 Invalid Gunners

4 Non Commissioned Officers.

The Subsidy are now employed under the Resident, but in case of Emergency or any Apprehension of danger, I shall think myself justified in recalling them & with them & two Battalions more Troops from the Garrison. There will remain the Eight Companies of Seapoys & a party of Artillery with one or two Brigades of Guns to be employed as occasion may

may Require on the Field.

I have order all superfluous Articles of Stores to be removed from Arcot. I compleat the four Field Pieces with Stores & Ammunition so that the Troops Stationed at Arcot are ready to move at a Moments warning.

By learning the Coffres and Lascars, they are capable of working the Guns, but we want a few non-commissioned Officers & Gunners who I hope your Honor &c. will think proper to send to our Assistance

I have received a letter from Capt. Crawford Baillie informing me he is now at Cattack in behalf of the Bengal Government, & as he wishes to return to Calcutta from home by a sea Conveyance I expect to see him here in a few days in regard to news he writes he cannot be explicit, but in private says, that it will depend upon our political Manoeuvres with the Bhoodar Rajah whether the Troops with Chinnagee Boosla are to act in this Quarter after the Rains or not

I enclose the return of Military Stores in this District for the Month of June.

I am with Respect,
Honble Sirs
Your most obedient
humble Servant
John Turing

Ganjam
21st August 1780.

Wirth

1323 Fort St. George, September 1780

Wrote the following Letters.

To the Honble William Hornby Esqr.
President & Governor &c. & Select Committee
at Bombay

Gentlemen

To Bombay; sends by Letter from the Court of Directors for Ships Pondicherry

We transmit enclosed herewith a Letter from the Court of Directors by the Ships under your address, also a Letter for You & one for General Goddard, which were received a few days ago from Bengall.

We likewise send you Extracts of Intelligence received from the Cape of Good Hope.

We are
Gentlemen
Your most obedient
humble Servants
John Whitehill &c. Select Com.

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

Gentlemen

To Bengall. encloses Letter from Lt. Hughes, & Intelligence & Copy of Letter from the Cape

We have the honor to send you herewith a Copy of a Letter from Sir Edward Hughes with an Extract of Intelligence also a Copy of a Letter written to us from the Cape containing an account of Ships arrived & expected.

We are
Gentlemen
Your most obedient humble Servants

1324 Fort St George, 6th September 1780.

At a Select Committee, Present

The Honble John Whitehill Esq.r President

Charles Smith, Samuel Johnson

Alex.r Davidson.

The Commander in Chief

absent on Service

Minutes of last Committee

read & approved.

Mess.rs Smith & Johnson made their

appearance in the following Minute

Wednesday the 6th

Joint Minute of Mess.rs Smith & Johnson concerning Mr Davidson being admitted into the Committee

The President having put a Negative on the Motion on which we made a Minute at the last Meeting for reconsidering & rescinding the appointment of Mr Davidson in the Capacity of a Member of the Committee, during the General's absence in the Field; and we having then avoided any other Step, than a bare Opposition to the Measure, by entering our Solemn Protest against it, after the Delivery of a Minute (previous to Mr Davidson entering upon his new Office) in which we exposed its Illegality & dangerous tendency; in the hopes, that the Reasons we therein offered might produce a Change of Sentiments in the President; but that, having failed, we might deem ourselves excuseable if we suffered the Matter to rest here; but sensible that the more we consider the Contingencies which may arise & the future Effects which them may produce under the Sanctioned Voice of a Disqualified Member, the more we find ourselves impelled to

purpose

propose and recommend, any Step, that may correct or lessen such evil Consequences; and in that View we now offer an Expedient, which we hope will not be refused. That the whole be referred to the Decision of the Governor General & Council, & that all Parties shall rest satisfied with their decision of the Matter. In making this proposal, we consider the Nature of those duties for the discharge of which the Committee is expressly appointed, to wit, "the transacting all political, Military and Naval Affairs & accomodate the same, to the Powers, with which the Legislature has thought proper to invest the Governor, which seems to establish the most direct & positive Connexion between that Board and this Committee, so as to give the former, a superintendence, & even a Controul on the most important functions of the latter; & this naturally leads us to think, that the Reference which we now propose (and more particularly in the Present Situation of our Affairs,) will not be deem'd unimportant. We are aware that the Assent of Sir Hector Munro to this proposal, may be deem'd necessary, & we are willing that it should be obtained. If the Board should see fit for to suspend his own Opinion (as the Law required in the Order of Voting) till that of the Council can be obtained we can have no Objection; we only observe, that Copies of every thing that has passed on the Subject, may be sent to the General (with the best expedition) to enable him to communicate his Sentiments thereupon; with all convenient Speed; & if then our proposal shall be adopted it will follow, that a proper Answer shall be made to

the

Fort St George, 6th September 1780

the Governor Genl & Council, by the President & Select Committee, accompanied by Copies of whatever has passed, or shall further occur upon the Subject.

6th Sept. 1780.

The President moves the Question proposed by Mr. Smith & Johnstone, on the foregoing Minute, which is carried in the negative by the casting Voice.

Carried against the Measure

Mr Smith then gave in the following Minute.

As by an Act of Parliament for establishing Regulations for the better Management of the Affairs of the Company, we are directed & required constantly & diligently to transmit to the Governor General and Council of Bengale, advice & intelligence of all Transactions and Matters whatsoever, that shall come to our knowledge, relating to the Government, Revenues, or Interests of the Company: Mr Smith moves that all the Papers, relative to the Admission of Mr Davidson into the Select Committee may be transmitted to the said Governor General & Council of Bengale, that they may have ample information of this remarkable, unprecedented & unauthorized Change in this Government.

Mr Smith's Minute moves that all the Papers regarding Mr Davidsons admittance into the Committee be transmitted to Bengal.

6th Sept. 1780.

The President & Mr Davidson being desirous that the Consideration of the Motion made

To be considered

by

1327 Fort St. George, 6th September, 1780

By Mr Smith, should be delivered all next Committee.—
the same is agreed to.—

The President lays before the
Committee, a Draught of a Letter, which he proposes to
be sent to Bengal, on the Subject of that Regulation made
by the Governor General & Council to throw for delivering
up the Pondicherry Cannon to Bazalet Jung.

The said Letter is answered as
follows.

To the Honble Warren Hastings Esqr.
Governor General, &c. Council
at Fort William

Gentlemen

Letter to Bengal concerning the Cannon to Coreen

We have the honor to ac-
knowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 12th June.

The important Negociation
concluded on that Letter, added to the Treaties, which
so soon followed the Receipt of it, will we flatter ourselves
be considered by you as a sufficient Apology for not send-
ing an earlier Answer. The Subject has indeed engaged
much of our Attention and We have turned it over
over again on our own Minds with the View of ending
as far as We possibly could, the Objects which gave
Jealousy from our Compliance with your Desire
of
, We were readily to enu-
merate what has passed relative to the Pondicherry Cannon
since the Year 1775, when the French Forces stationed
there first became a Source of Jealousy to the
Nabob,

suppose

suffice to observe that the measures which were taken to obtain the Dismission of those Troops were such as must have convinced the Nizam of the Steadi Regard We paid to our Treaties, yet the repeated Applications We preferred to him on this Subject availed nothing The French were permitted to continue on the Carnatic Coast, & when the War with that Nation broke out, We found it necessary to appoint a considerable Force to counteract their Designs. At this Time We also made a pointed Requisition to the Nizam, with no better Success than the former one, and seeing there was little probability of obtaining the end We sought, by direct Applications on this Channel, We listened to the proposals made to us by Bazalet Jung, & with your Sanction entered into a Treaty with him, which freed us entirely from the Inconvenience We had been endeavoring to remove.

From this Review We conceive it does not appear to us that the Nizam has any just Cause of Complaint, Whatever Misfortune with the French took place, it certainly became a Violation of Treaty in the Nizam to permit our Enemies to remain in Bazalet Jung's Dominions after We had formally demanded their Dismission; nor could he, by the most rigid Construction of the Treaty of 1768 accuse us of any Breach of our Engagements in the Mode we pursued in consequence of his neglecting to do us Justice. But what more than all We have said, convinces us that We are right, is, that our Proceedings and the Treaty in

consequence

consequence, had the Success of your Consult[ation]s for
Sation.

We now request of us to deliver
back to Bazalet Jung the Guntoor Circars which
We obtained on certain Terms by Vertue of the above
mentioned Treaty with Him. Your Justice cannot forbid
Us to rest upon the Necessity of procuring the
Nizams Friendship, If this indeed is now become so
Urgent, that We are willing to make the Sacrifice you
propose for effecting it. As to the Mode of requiring
us to give up the Circars, We cannot wish on the present
Occasion to enter into the smallest dispute about it.
The difficulty which occurs to Us in complying with
your desire is of another Kind; nevertheless we are
heartily disposed to remove it, By what we now
Endeavour for that purpose.

When We obtained the Sunnuds
for the five northern Circars including that of Guntoor
the Nabob required of the Company, that We might
have the Guntoor Circar at first, whenever it came
into their Hands, which they consented to Unwillingly
after the Delivery of that Province to us upon the Conclu
sion of the Treaty with Bazalet Jung, We formed
it to the Nabob for a certain Term, subject to the
pleasure of the Company; & the Nabob now holds it on
this footing. We have written a Letter to this Purpose
representing what you have urged us to the Prope
riety of giving up the Guntoor Circar in compliance
with the Nizams Desire, & expressing our Hope that

he

1330 Fort St George, 6th September, 1760.

he could relinquish his Claims upon it as Renter, but soon as he received his Answer We shall acquaint you with it, & do every thing on our Power to expedite the Business agreeably to your Wishes

Before We conclude however We must express the Apprehension We feel that Hyder Ally Cawn should upon the Restoration of Peace, Influence enough to acquire the Possession of this District to themselves. We know that he has already both by Temptation & Threats endeavord to obtain it; & should that any Time hereafter succeed in his Designs, We shall find him a most troublesome Neighbor as by the Situation of the Country he would have it in his Power to stop our Communication by Land with the Northern Circars & in case of Bazalet Jung's Demise it might cost us a War to take Possession of our Reversionary Right to the District.

We are

Fort St George
2. Sept. 1760.

Gentlemen
Your most obedient & humble Servants
John Whitehill Sen. Select Com.
Jos. Smith & Jno. Johnson dis.

Majr. Smith & Johnson disapprove of the foregoing Letter

Majr. Smith & Johnson approve of the foregoing Letter, as inconsistent with the Sentiments they have already expressed on the Subject of it

Read the following Letter from Capt. Eddington, Commanding at Palamcotah,

1331 Fort St George 6th September 1799

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr

Governor & President &c. &c. Select Committee

Fort St George

Honble Sirs

On receipt of your letter
from Capt Reading dated 25th Ulto I judged it my Duty to consult with Admiral
Novi's regard the protection of Mr Nooce Cawn the Nabobs Manager, in respect
the Tinnevelly Country to the future Protection of the Tinnevelly Country, &c.
and my Assistance therein

I recommended the immediate
Reconciliation on the Nabob's Name with the
Polygars, who in future of dangerous Enemies might
become useful Friends - That he would assemble the
Nabobs 5th Battalion of Seapoys, a great part of which are
now thrown away by being on Pole that are not
serviceable - That he would draught the best men
out of forty Subsidy Companies, & form one Battalion
of them, at least, & recruit the Subsidies to their old
Establishment - That with this Force I joined to the
Polygars, & properly Assisted, the Country would
be protected from Invasion, or else a large Detachment
was sent against it & that even then, from the Nature
of the Country much might be done. The Manager
seemed to agree with me in Opinion, but said it
was necessary to write to the Nabob; I continued
pressing him on these points, but still he has no Orders.
He promises to assemble the Battalion of Seapoys
that they may be put in some Order, & to form another
this Battalion

1332 Fort St. George 6th September. 1780.

Battalions at Shaw Wadowick; the Polygars he says, have
offerd of themselves to assist the Enemy, but time is
wasted & nothing done.

I desire wish to be understood as
preferring a Complaint of the Nabobs Manager, who
like most of those in his Situation is of an indolent dispo-
sition, & cannot be supposed a Judge of Military Opera-
tions.

As Your Honours are pleased to
Direct me to protect the Country as well as to defend
the Fort. I will not for obvious Reasons enter into parti-
culars; the Fort & Works are extensive, & you know
the Strength of the Garrison — my Command is limited
to the Fort having no Authority out of it. If it is meant,
I Should defend the Country, I request I may have
sufficient power to treat with the Polygars, that I may
give them such Assurances of Your Honds Protection
as will induce them to act heartily with the Com-
mander in Chief. That the Nabobs Troops may
be put under my Orders & that a Fund for the Payment
of them & Batta for the Polygars (which shall they not
be established; for Troops that are not paid cannot be
depended on.

I must observe, that on enqui-
ring into the Affair. None Can was intended for this Com-
mand of the Nabobs Troops & Polygars, he named the
Shellidar of Calicade, whose Brother now Commands
Hyder Ally's Troops at Dindegal. I was not struck with
this circumstance that I thought it necessary to in-
form You with it; & it will serve to point

1333 Fort St. George, 6th September 1780

out the Necessity of laying no Tonnage on giving me such
Powers as from the above Circumstances, you shall
judge necessary. I have the honor to be
Hon'ble Sirs
Your most faithful & obedient
Humble Servant
James Eldrington

Palamcotah
5th Sept. 1780.

To the Hon'ble Sir Thomas Rumbold Bart.
Governor & President &c. Select Committee
of Fort St George

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

I have the Honor to inclose a Copy of two Letters from Hyder Ally that were intercepted, & which Ally. Nine Cowries brought Ellore Morning, & read before me. By the Address of that to the Polygars, it would seem that the first married, as the most considerable one of the Country, the last is every reason the contrary that he is not even devoted a Polygar, & has not above fifty men under him.

I inclosing from Do. a Copy of two Letters that were intercepted from Hyder Ally.

He has been for some Months Refractory, & took himself to the Hills, where confident that leaves room to believe that the others mentioned in the Letter, who are all considerable Polygs, were not concerned with him, but that to add to his own Consequence he made free with their Names without their Consent.

This ground will be cleared upon the Arrival of the Nabob, who is daily here under

a strong Guard.

I addressed your Honors some days ago, wherein it might appear that I meant to reflect on Coll. Norris Conduct in justice to him I must say that he is now using every endeavor in his power for the Safety of the Country, without money, which at such a time may be suspected cannot easily be obtained, he has as I recommended to him got the greatest part of the Nabobs Troops together.

He has already the Nabobs Order wrote to the Polygars who are coming on, for two days hence there will be near seven thousand with their Chief in the Neighborhood of Tenavelly; a formidable Body, could they be depended on; if I cannot help me more recommend my to your Honors empowering me to give the faith of the Company to the Polygars engage for their future security on equitable Terms otherwise, their being assembled may prove, dan: gerous & expedient in a Country where there is not any sufficient Troops to overawe them.

I am, with the greatest

Honble Sirs Your

Your obedient humble Servt.

James Edingtown.

Fort St.
George,
Patamcottah
25th Sept. 1780.

Resolved, that Copies of the foregoing Letter be forwarded to the Nabob, & that he be particularly requested to send such orders as may enable Capt. Edingtown to employ all the Troops, belonging to his Highness for the Protection of the Country

Copies of the foregoing Letters to be sent to the Nabob

1335 Fort St. George, 6th September 1790.

To give every Assistance to the Polygars which may be necessary to enspire them with Confidence & join them firmly in the Interest of the Government. Agreed also that the Nabob be requested to signify his Determination upon these Points as soon as possible.

Read the following Letter from Masulipatam

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

Hond. Sir &c.

From Masulipatam enclosing Copy of Letter from Ld Douglas.

We have received your Letter under date the 3d. Instant.

Our Chief having laid before us a Letter to him from Lord Douglas, on the Guntoor Circar, copy of which comes enclosed, we have judged it expedient, to recommend to that Officer in case he should be of opinion that his Detachment is not of sufficient strength to cope with the encreasing numbers of the Enemy, to cross the Kistna, into the Circar without loss of time. The Pass of Innavanda at present occupied by three Companies & half of Sepoys; two of them belonging to the Corps under Lord Douglas. He therefore thinks they may be dispensed for Provisions.

Captain Abercrombie with the to proceed to join his Corps at present will remain for a short time upon our Requisition to that Effect, in the Command of Hondapollam Lieutenant Wilson takes

to Rivers

1336 Fort St George, 6th September 1780.

detained on these Coasts upon the same Account with
continues on like manner to act with Captain Longs
Battalion which is on board the Ships

We are very respectfully
Honble Sirs
Your most obedient
humble Servants
Edward Cotsford
James Hodges
Thos Barnard
Alex Bungle

Manalapatam

To Edward Cotsford Esq
Chief &c
Sir

I did myself the honor
to write to you the 16th from Guntoor, informing you
of my Situation & of my intention to march to this
Place, & also requested to be informed of any Detachment
was to be formed from Manalapatam to act against
Hyder's Army in the Guntoor Circar. I must now inform
you that Hyder's Horse made their Appearance sooner
than I expected; for 16th a little after Sunset, I was informed
by an Havildar that Meer Sahib Camp had arrived
the Night before at Copparam, 10 Cos from Guntoor.
Havildar & Sepoys in his Camp who came on one
after the other informing One of the Havildars formed
with all expedition on the spirit of information I received

1337. Fort St. George, 5th September, 1780.

the Detachment to march at 2 o'Clock next Morning:
On the Arrival of the second Dispatches about 10 o'Clock,
I ordered the Detachment under Arms & marched about two
Hour's distance some Tents & some of the Officers baggage
should get on a little in front; I came about two or
100 o'Clock, & met a Party of Horse galloping thro' the
Village, they were soon joined, by many others & harassed
us the whole night frequently obliging the Detachment
to halt. At Day light they appeared to be about 1000, or
1100 Horse & very few Matchlock People, They formed into
several Bodies very close to us and as if determined
to prevent our proceeding further; about a Dozen of them
made a Charge in order to break our Line, but two of their
Horses & one of their Riders fell immediately on the Bayo-
nets of our little flanking parties, the Rest retired as
fast as possible and did not again attempt to come
in upon us, but kept close enough to have several of
their Horses knocked down by the Fire of our Musque-
teers. We had a few Sepoys wounded, & the Baggage
which went off before the Detachment entirely plunder-
ed; several of the Sepoys who attended it are also missing
I have no Account on the Coast to be depended on as to
the Number of Dead and Wounded which they have had.
We lay and yesterday Encamped to be as safe as I
can judge about 2300 yards this Place, the greatest
part of which went off last Night towards Pondi-
cherry Their Intention is I am really ashamed to know
their Accounts which I receive differ so widely that
there is no judging what is to be depended on. At

for the

1338. Fort St. George, 6th September, 1760

Forbes intended to have pushed on to cross the Kistna, but as Meer Sahib has no heavy Guns with him & Grain here, I have determined to remain until I know of any Detachment is to be sent. In my last I mentioned the small Stock of Provision with the three Companies & a half at Innaconda, on their Account & am extremely anxious to know of a Detachment is to cross the Kistnah.

I am favord with your Letter of the 16th. The supply of money may I think be brought from Bezoara but for with very little risk 1500 or 2000 Pagodas will I think be sufficient, as keeping the Seapoys a little in Arrear may always prevent the means of preventing Desertions. I request that you will be so good as desire the Bazar People belonging to this Place to return from Bezoara as there is a great Quantity of grain on the Village, & there follows from bringing a small Quantity more than is necessary for their Subsistence

I have written to Capt. Oldham, the Commanding Officer at Condapilly requesting that he will send me some Barrels of Ammunition, for our three Pounders, & a supply of Musket Ball, Cartridges, & Flints.

Fanam have not been plundered on the Coast, & I scarce almost begin a doubt that it was with the Consent of all the Zemindars that Meer Sahib came into this Circar, Narsinah & Pundarow. I am informed I have already wrote to

you

1339. Fort St George, 6th September 1700

From all this We may attribute to the Moderation of our Nabob & his Managers

I hope you will make every allowance for this Letter on perceiving I am sensible it requires an Apology. I have the honor to be

Sir

Your very obedient Servant

(Sign'd) Walter Douglas.

Peon dispatched 16 Augt 1700.

As the Season will very shortly permit the two Officers mention'd in the foregoing Letter to come to the Presidency by Sea, the Chief & Council must be desired that the Orders before signified, Directing them to join their Corps be complied with by the first Opportunity

Read the following Letter from Capt Edmonds, commanding at Cingole

To the Worshipfull Isaac Wastwick Esqr

Governor &c &c &c Fort St George

Honble Sir,

From Capt Edmonds complaining to the Fort at Cingole.

It is with some Concern I find my self obliged to represent to you the Conduct of the Kelledar of this Fort, but the condition of this place is such that I should conceive myself highly blameable, was I not to do it, & was any accident to happen. Some time ago this Man came to me with a Letter from the Nabob desiring I would make

such Repairs as might be necessary to the Fort, I re-
-quested permission to set people to work, which I
very readily consented to. They had clear'd the Earth fr-
out of two breaches which are on the Wall, when the
Mullidar differed with them about their Wages, all the
they only ask is Measure of Gunnalloo, or Pholum pr.
Day. which is furnished by the Munnidar of the
Country & sent them in order to pay their People.
he keeps the good grain, & for the few day's work that
was done gave the people grain he has had buried
two years, & which is entirely rotten; (may more)
had a false Measure made by which he should them
of one Third. the People risen off & their places remain
quite open. I have spoke to them about it but to
no sort of purpose; for the Expence of one hundred
& fifty Pagodas the Fort may be made very tenable.
I hope Sir you will resent this Man's conduct
to the Nabob also the Necessity there is for the immed-
-iate Repair of those places, under mark wore by
what he has done; & pardon this freedom.
I have the honor to be with much respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obed. humt. Servant
Edw. d Edmonds.

Pegole
20th August 1700.

Agreed that Capt. Edmonds
be permitted to lay out 150 Pagodas on the necessary
Repairs to the Fort of Pegole.

Read the following Letter from
Mr Bywater, Paymaster at Cuddalore.

1341 Fort St. George 6th September 1700

To the Honble. Isaac Wheatehill Esqr.
President & Governor &c. &c. &c. & Select Committee

Fort St. George

Honble. Sir & Sirs

Pleased my self the honor to address the Committee the 15th informing upon
honors &c. that the people sent to Arcot the 13 with
the orders for the money were discovered on the road
by a party of the Enemies Horse, one of them was
taken & that the other fled to the hills. I have now the
pleasure to inform your honors, that after concealing
themselves on the hills for a day & two nights, they got
safe to Arcot, & the orders were sent immediately
on their being presented, of which Captain Bondagnest
advised me the day following. Colonel Lacy dispatched
a party of Sepoys on the night for it, and they returned
early on the morning following with two thousand
Pagodas & two thousand Packes, which was all my
people were able to carry; it was sufficient for our
immediate wants, tho' not enough to pay off the
arrears due to the Garrison, the Balance is with Capt.
Pendergrass, but absolutely impossible to be conveyed
here at present, as our Communication with that
place is shut up. Wherefore hope the Honble Committee
will be pleased to procure me an Order for
the Nabob on his Collector here for five or six thousand
Pagodas, which I shall employ as soon as Summin
Cash, the next member of Bullocks & Coolies which

I

From the Paymaster at Bellore, advising of his having received money from Arcot.

1342 Fort St George, 6th September 1760

I have got in readiness a great and daily Expence

I am

Honble Sir & Sirs

Vellore

24th August 1760.

with all due respect

Your most obedient &

very humble Servant

Tho.s Ed. Ogilvie

Paymaster

Order'd that the Superintendant of the Stable & Accounts be advised of the Contents of the above Letter that he may carry the Amount of the order sent to Mr Ogilvie to his Debet.

Read the following Letter from

Lieut.t Edward Harvey at the Cape of Good Hope

Honble Sir & Sirs

I am requested by the Secret.

Com.mittee of the Island of St Helena to send you every

Intelligence which I may collect during my present

Service, respecting the French forces in India.

From Lieut.t Harvey advising of the arrival of some French Ships. And enclosing List

On my arrival here the latter end of March I was well informed that the regular Troops at the Island Mauritius was five Hundred Men, and at the Island Bourbon there was five hundred, I have enclosed a list of the French Ships which are to the Eastward of Cape of Good Hope; the first six on the List began cruizing with Le Brant & commanded by Mr Tronjolly left their Cruizing Station on the 15th or 16th of April without any

between

1343 Fort St George, 6th September, 1780

Between Cape of Good Hope & Cape Lagullas, Wind S for
the Island Mauritius

I understand that a fleet,
consisting of six Ships of War & five sail of Transports
having on board Eleven hundred Regular Troops, sailed
for Brest about the 13th thirteenth of February last,
but meeting with some of his Majesty's Ships had separated
& since the twenty ninth of May, three arrived here
the following Ships of that fleet, Le Bizarre of 64 Guns,
Le Vigilant 64 & Le Elephant 36 & the Le Rogue 10 Guns, Six sail
of Transports one has arrived since, Vizt (by my last
Dated eleventh of June) having on board six hundred
regular Troops bound to the Island Mauritius, The
Protector Le Charmant of 36 Guns belonging to the same
fleet, with the Commander of the Transports as daily ex-
pected.

As they have not succeeded
in taking any of the Honble Company's Ships so far
this season, in all probability, they will have a fleet
to Cruize off the Cape much longer than usual as they
now understand I have Convoys

I suspect their Intentions is to
go against some of the Honble Company's Settlements
in India, as two of the Transports which both Ships arrived
had no Troops on board, & I am informed that several
others of the same fleet that are not arrived, have
likewise no Troops

I received information by all Vessels
that which arrived yesterday, that two of the Honble
Company's

64

1744 Fort St. George, 6th September 1700

Company's homeward bound Ships past them near
to the Cape of Good Hope, & obliged the Transport which
mounted Eighteen Guns, to go between the Rattlesnake
Island, with a strong Gale from the Eastward the above
Fleet will sail from hence about the tenth or fifteenth
of July to the Island Mauritius

Honble Sir Nathl Lisle
Governor to Council
Your most humble Servant
Edward Harvey

Fort St. George
13th June 1700
To the Honble the Governor
& Council
of Madras.

A List of the French Ships to the Eastward of Cape
of Good Hope.

L'Entreprenant	74 Guns	
" Bourbon	64	
" Severe	64	
" Hammond	50	
" Constant	40	
Sublime	30	
Bon Accord	32	
" Pourvoieux	40	
" Elizabeth	30	
" Hercule	0	but she has ports for 20.
Bristoly		
" Bizarre	64	Arrivd here from 38 March 1700
" Gaillard	64	
" Elephant	36	
L'Argonaut	10	

1345 Fort St George 6th September 1760

This List is exclusive of the Transports which have arrived since the Twenty ninth of May.

Read the following Letter from Sir Edward Hughes.

Sir & Gentlemen,

I transmit you enclosed Extracts of Intelligence which I have received from England since my last Letter to you of the 20th August, and am with great Regard,

Sir & Gentlemen

Your most obedient

Humble Servant

Edwd Hughes.

From Sr E. Hughes enclosing Extracts of Intelligence received from England

Superbe in Negapatam the 1st September 1760:

To Lewis Lechmere Esqr.

President & Governor and Select Committee of Fort St George.

Extracts of Intelligence

Paris 4th February 1760:

We learn from Brest that the Bizarre, & the Solitaire are about to sail from Brest to be joined there by two Frigates & four Ships in Flute fitted for War and the whole bound to the Isle of France.

Paris the 7th February 1760:

We learn from Brest that the Ships the Berthie the Bizarre, & Charmant are arrived there from Basque.

The Squadron collected at L'Orient

1346. Fort St George, 6th September, 1760.

of two Ships of the Line, two Frigates & your Sloops with a Convoy are on the Road, they are to be joined by two more Ships of the Line from Brest, and immediately proceed for the Isle of France.

Paris the 10th February 1760

The Bizarre Bathie & Ajax of 64 Guns and the Charmant Frigate with 18 Sail of Transports are near sailing from L'Orient for the Isles of France.

Paris, the 14th February 1760.

Monsieur Tornay sails next Month with six Ships of the Line & 4000 Men who are to be commanded by Thos. De Prochambeau as Major General & not by Count Dillon, for the East Indies.

London, the 10th March 1760.

On the 14th February last sailed from L'Orient the Bathie & Ajax of 64 Guns, La Charmant of 24, & 18 Sail of 30 Guns with 16 Transports with Troops & Stores for the Mauritius and Orders to pay the Ships there. The Bathie having on board L'60,000 Sterling with three of the said Transports were taken ten days after by a Squadron of His Majesty's Ships under the Command of Rear Admiral Digby. Some Advices add that another Fleet is to sail from L'Orient to the Mauritius in the Course of next Month.

Edwd Hay Esq.

Read the following Letters from

Capt Alcock, Commanding at Tangore.

To the Hon.ble Charles Yorke Esq.r &c.

Military Secretary

Sir

1347 Fort St George 6th September 1780

Sir.

From Capt Allen &
adjutant of Maj Macleod.

I have received your letter of the 2d Instant with the Orders of the Honble Committee, on which I shall not fail to pay due Attention. I am sorry to be under the disagreeable necessity of reporting the Death of Major Macleod, who departed this life at Negapatam the 29th & was interred the day following. I am Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant
Hugh Allen Capt Commd

Negapatam
31 August 1780.

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

Hon'ble. Sir & Sirs

Capt Allen represents the Magazine should be built within the Walls of the Pagoda.

I have received only your
Commands of the 27th Instant, & from none you have been
misinformed with respect to the Magazines of this
Garrison, the Quantity of Powder (290 Barrels) to be sent
from Negapatam is much less than the Extent of the Garrison
The Magazines are capable of containing five times that
Quantity to compleat them, & I have entered on the
Subject of Magazines, I think it my duty to inform
you the present is situated on the Larger Fort, that
we have none on the Smaller fort and in case of an
Attack should be undoubtedly necessary the danger
attends the Removal of a Magazine at that time is
obvious. The most convenient place for that purpose is

1318 Fort St. George, 6th September, 1780

the Walls of the large Pagoda. Should the erections more meet your Approbation, & in that situation it will be necessary the Pagoda is unforme. One Sergeant, two Corporals, three Gunners & two Matrosses of Invalid Artillery embarked at Madras on the Superb Man of War) destined for this Garrison are arrived all safe for duty. I have the honor to transmit by this Packet under seperate Cover Monthly Returns for August, & subscribe myself with respect

Honble Sirs Sirs

Your most obed & most humble Servt

Hugh Robt Clerke

Capt Comdt

Resolved that Capt Clerke

Estimate of the Expence be ordered to send an estimate of the Expence of a Magazine to be of a Magazine, & that the Paymaster at Tanjore be desired sent.

to collect the Quantity of Materials which may be necessary for such a Work.

Read the following Letter from

Lieut Col. Nixon, Commanding at Trichinopoly.

To the Honble. Lchon Sulivan Esqr

Governor, &c. Select Committee of

Fort St George

Honble. Sirs

I have the honor to send you

From Col. Nixon a general Monthly return of the Troops under my with Return of Troops Command for last Month, & have included the Detail & Separating the Troops of Artillery who do duty on the Garrison. Four Gunners belong to the Detail to be found there Vacancy

of the Corps encamped daily on the Ground Appointed for the Line. They are Quiet & orderly & would behaved Gallantly if occasion required, but notwithstanding they are greatly in Arrears of Pay the Duty good & chearfully done. Their wants however begin to pinch them severely now, and as they may be made extremely useful if regularly paid. I take the Liberty of proposing to your Honble Board to permit my Paymaster to issue Monthly subsistence to them in like manner as the Company's Garrisons is subsisted, without they continue to do Duty here or Else where will be placed to their Credit some other mode of Payment for them.

Captain Baillie who marched from Samiaveram the 29th Ult.o & had reached Allatoor on the 30th with every respectable Body of Troops, received every Assistance where he required. Since Captain Biddulph's Party joined him on his Route was encamped a little to our Westward, that Enemy grew a little Bolder, Parties near to the Mahratt people daily, & sometimes skirmish with them; nevertheless this Party kept the Field, and any of some use to this Country. I have every Inclination to assist & support them, and had formed a Project of sending out some of the Mahratt Battle Guns if two Guns to take some small Forts which are garrisoned by Sepoys only, where they have laid up much grain, which I have informed was taken out of the Mahratt Country; but am so circumstanced for want of Troops as not to be able to undertake it, without your Assistance & Approbation.

1350 Fort St George, 6th September, 1780

Touchonopoly
1st Sept. 1780.

Have the honor to remain
Honble. Sir & Sirs
Your most faithful & obed. Servt.
Eyres Coote

Agreed to write a letter to the Nabob, strongly recommending to him to give orders for the payment of his Artillery in the Garrison of Tauchonopoly.

The Nabob to be wrote to.

Read the following letter from Walter Douglas.

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

Honble. Sir & Sirs

I did myself the honor to wrote to You from Guntoor the 16th informing You of my Situation & of my intention to march to this Place. I must now confess that My dear Wife made their Appearance somewhat sooner than I expected. On the 16th a little after Sun Set, I was informed by a Havildar that Marshall Camps had arrived the Night before at Cotharoo at Stage 10 Cos from Guntoor & soon after Despatches whom I had in his Camp came in one after the other informing me of his hastening forward with the Expedition. On his first information, I ordered the detachment to march at 2 o'Clock next Morning and on the Arrival of the second Dispatch. I ordered them under Arms & waited about an hour until some Tents & some of the Officers Baggage should get on a little in front

From Lt Douglas dated on his March from Guntoor by post of Marshall Camps.

1351 Fort St George, 8th September 1780

Friday before ten o'Clock Sunrise Off and met immediately a Party of Horse galloping through the Village. They were joined by many others that raised us the whole night & Plundered the Baggage which went in front; frequently obliging the detachment to halt, but a Round or two of Grape from our three Pounders made them disperse for a very short; at day light there appeared to be full one Thousand Horse with a few Matchlock People, they then formed into several Bodies very close to us, & seemed as if determined to prevent our proceeding further, about 8 o'clock they made a charge, two of the foremost were received on the Bayonets of our Battle flanking Parties & fell immediately, the rest went to the right about & did not afterwards attempt to cut in upon our Line. We had five Sepoys wounded & several others are missing who attended the Baggage. I am sensible that I ought to have left Guides two Days sooner & by that means have saved two Waggons our Bullocks & Sepoys Arms. I hope however that our having made a March of fifteen Miles with 300 Sepoys without the Loss of one Man when surrounded by at least three Times that Number, may be deemed a Compensation for the Loss. I cannot obtain any Account to be depended on as to the Number of Men & Horses which Hyder lost; the Report of the common People from his Camp makes them a good many. Yesterday & today there appeared (as far as I can judge) to be about 2500 Horse near the Place, the greatest part of which went off this Morning

to

1352 Fort St George, 6th September 1760.

Gentlemen with what Intention I have not yet been able to Learn. It is generally believed that these Troops have been sent with the Consent of all the Zemindars, two of whom have already Join'd & waited on Mr Lally with the usual Salams. Yesterday intended to have push'd on & endeavor'd to cross the Vellaur but as I find there is plenty of Grain in this Village tho' not one Inhabitant I have no Doubt but I shall be able to maintain my Ground Mr Lally has no Guns with him & I do not think his People have Spirit to attempt getting possession of this Place by any other means. I have the Honour to be with the greatest Respect

Honble Sirs &c &c

Your most Obedient

Mongalgurry
10th August 1760

& most humble Servant

Wallon Douglas.

P.S. Since writing the above I have just now received, I have reason to believe that my Letter of the 6th was intercepted. The purport of it was that I had sent two Companies of Sepoys to Permacoil to reinforce the Company & a half there before, but that they had but a small Stock of Provisions That I was prevented from occupying the strong Post of Carnaveer & Pellicondah as Provisions could not possibly be procured, the Inhabitants having run off as soon as it was known that Col. Baillie's Detachment was called away; & that I had determined to take post on the Pagoda of Mongalgurry — I am extremely anxious about the Garrison of Permacoil, least their knowing I should fall back & hoped it is intended that a detachment shall be sent from the Circars

1353 Fort St George 6th September 1708

The Committee have already given orders to Lieut Douglas, relative to the disposition of his force on the Guntoor Circar.

Mess.rs Smith & Johnson deliver in the following Minute.

Mess.rs Smith & Johnson observe that there has been no publick Letter from Genl Sir Wm Lockyer, to the Committee, since he marched from the Mount, but in justice to the General, they acknowledge to have seen three Letters from Him to the President. They therefore think that the President should be desired to mention to the General that the Committee desire he should correspond with them constantly on all material points.

Resolved that the President be desired to write to the General accordingly.

Read the following Letters from Capt Corbet.

To the Honble Thos Pitt Esqr President & Govern.r &c. Select Committee of Fort St George

Hond.d Sir & Sirs

Mr Capt Corbet arrives at Trichinopoly.

I arrived here yesterday & on about two hours after the two Regiments of Cavalry from the Carnatic Country encamped on the plain, the greater part of the Grenadier Sepoys belonging to the Garrison, I found were on Camp at some distance to the Eastward under the Command of Capt Ridcliffe; but

1354. Fort St George, 6th September, 1780

Orders were sent to have to return with all Expedition
this day we have passed the two Regiments of Cavalry
& the Six Sepoys Companies over the Cavery, & shall
beg in early tomorrow morning to get them over the Colle
roon; but as the passage of that River will be attended with
more difficulty than in the Cavery, cannot promise for
their being all over tomorrow night; tho' you may depend
on every possible exertion on my part; being extremely
anxious to get the detachment nearer the Seat of Action
The Intelligence we have here is that the Guns which
Hyder has already sent out of the Carnatick are only
those he took in the forts which have surrendered to
him, therefore the first part of Sir Hectors letter
tion on his last letter. I fear we shall be too late to com
ply with, as to the destroying the Changamah pass, so
as to prevent Hyders retreat that way, presume from
my knowledge thereof (having gone throug it) that it
will require a much longer time to effect than is
imagined: In the first place, the pass tho' known by
that name is above fifteen miles further to the westward
& is the most accessable of any. I have seen the Country
& of such a Nature as not easily to be made much better
or much worse. I shall however march that Way
as my route will lead me first & may have
an Opportunity of falling in with some of the Enemies
Convoys (should they come that road) agreable to my
first Instructions; any Letter therefore that your Honor &
may have occasion to send to me & that may require
Expedition had best be sent so as to meet me at Volcon

1355 Fort St George, 6th September, 1780

or on my March farther North; my movements will shape at any rate endeavour thereby to detach a considerable party against me, & by that means weaken his own Army

It is reported that about two thousand Horse & one thousand Infantry are on their march from Hyder's Army this way, if so, I think it is probable we may fall in with them

I have the honor to remain with the truest respect,

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your much obliged
& most devoted humt Servant
H.. A.. M.. Cosby

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

Honble. Sir & Sirs

I have detached Major Skelly with the Flank Companies of the 73d & 74th Regiments, the Detachment of Artillery with two Six Pounders, & the Corps of Pioneers, to take Possession of the Fort of Sadras, which I am informed is evacuated by the Enemy, & to secure the Passage of the River at that Place, which I hope they will be able to effect this Evening. I have also detached Major Skelly with Orders to proceed to Pondicherry, & endeavour to get possession of that Place, if he finds it practicable, which I have reason to believe he will, as I am informed the Enemy have left but a small Garrison in it, & have sent off their Artillery & Stores. I have also detached Major Skelly with Orders to proceed to Pondicherry, & endeavour to get possession of that Place, if he finds it practicable, which I have reason to believe he will, as I am informed the Enemy have left but a small Garrison in it, & have sent off their Artillery & Stores.

I have the honor to remain with the truest respect,

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your much obliged
& most devoted humt Servant
H.. A.. M.. Cosby

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

Honble. Sir & Sirs

I have detached Major Skelly with the Flank Companies of the 73d & 74th Regiments, the Detachment of Artillery with two Six Pounders, & the Corps of Pioneers, to take Possession of the Fort of Sadras, which I am informed is evacuated by the Enemy, & to secure the Passage of the River at that Place, which I hope they will be able to effect this Evening. I have also detached Major Skelly with Orders to proceed to Pondicherry, & endeavour to get possession of that Place, if he finds it practicable, which I have reason to believe he will, as I am informed the Enemy have left but a small Garrison in it, & have sent off their Artillery & Stores.

From &c. advising of his having crossed the River & joined the Army Detachment

guns.

entirely crossed the River & I shall march early tomorrow Morning to Mentoor & endeavour the Roads intended, with also practicable dispatch to execute all or any part of your Honour's the Detachment is of very respectable, one Thousand consists of the two Regiments of Horse, who, although somewhat fatigued on their late long March, are yet in high Spirits four of the Cavalry Guns, the six Twenty Four Pounders Company's, the four Bombardier Grenadier Companies & three Battalion Companies which I have taken

1356 Fort St George, 6th September 1780.

taken as Lt Col. Nixon thought he could spare them/hav-
-ing found very good Artillery Companies of Seapoys to
supply their place) and being already, with the Grenadier
in Camp to the Westward, as I informed your honour
in my letter of yesterday, they joined me here about four
hours ago, under the Command of Capt. Biddulph.

I remain, Honble Sir & Sir.

Your much obliged

& obedt Servant

L. A. Mc. Leay

Pondicherry
29th Augt 1780.
7 o'clock P.M.

Read the following letter

from Mr Thomas Parker, Paymaster at Pondicherry.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq.

President & Governor &c. &c. Select Committee,

Fort St George.

Honble Sir & Sir

I have now the honor

to transmit you a list of Stores, that have been this

day condemned, on their Examination of the Commis-
-sary, Inspector & myself. Having no more convenient
Vouchers in my Stores, I have been obliged to supply
the Seapoys which have marched from hence with Capt.
Baby with Receipts, & shall continue to do so, until
your Honr &c, direct to the Contrary. I am destitute
of many other Articles which are daily indented
for, that I shall not provide without your Authority

I have the honor to be with

the greatest respect,

Honble, &c. &c.

from Paymaster of Pondicherry with list of Stores that were condemned.

No 357 Fort St George, 6th September 1780

Hon.ble Sir & Sirs

Your very obed.t
humble Servant
Tho.s Palk
Secretary

Fort St George
6th Sept.r 1780.

List of Condemned Stores

Stands of Arms		42
Double Cartouch Pouches	Country	500
Firelock Slings	do.	512
Bayonet Scabbards		512
Cross Belts		336

Fort St George
20th August 1780.

Tho.s Palk
Secretary

Read the following Letter
from Mr. Lowrie

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

Hon.ble Sir & Sirs

I have the honor to inform
you that in pursuance of your Commands signi-
fied to me under date of the 23d of last Month, I proceed-
ed to Tanjore, and on the 4th Instant delivered the
Company's Letter to the Rajah with every formality
usual upon such Occasions

I am with the greatest
Respect

Mr. Lowrie
delivers the Compas
ny's Letter to the
Rajah of Tanjore

1358 Fort St. George, 6. September 1780.

Read.

Fort St George
27 August 1780

Sir

Your most obedt.
humble Servant
Tho.s Swan

Read a Letter from the Bobb dated the 10th Ulto (as entered in Country Correspondence N.o 83) requesting to be supplied with 3,000 Firelocks with Accoutrements & Ammunition for a Body of Sebundy Sepoys, which are raised for the protection of the Districts in the Nellore Country. — Ordered that the abovementioned number of Firelocks &c.a be supplied from among the French or old arms in Store.

From the Nabob requesting to be supplied with 3,000 Firelocks &c.a

to be supplied

The President lays before the Committee, the following Extract from a Letter from Capt.n Gubbins Commanding at Bandora

Capt.n Gubbins begs the favor that you would let him have five or six trusty old Gunners if you can possibly spare them, to show his People how to lay the Guns, this being absolutely necessary even if part of Gallaways Artillery men should be sent. He hath at present only twenty Lascars & a prodigious deal of Business to do, if you would please to allow him, to add twenty more to the Number it would expedite his Work, much & they shall be immediately discharged again as soon as his Affairs will permit.

From Capt.n Gubbins Requesting 5 or 6 Gunners may be sent him, & that he may have some more Lascars

If you would please to give an Order for him to have the immediate direction

of)

1359 Fort St George, 6th September 1760.

Of the Artificers and Lascars as he made with Observations from those who are totally unacquainted with this kind of Business. at with not only prevent Alterations & interruptions, but will enable him to be on a proper State of Defence on half of the Same He wishes to have nothing more to do with the Artificers & Lascars than to carry on the Company Business with Expedition & this only so long as he is making the necessary preparations.

The Garrison not to be sent

Captain Polhill suggests that he be allowed to raise 20 more Lascars, instead of repairing the Fort; as the respect to the Artillery which he desires over the Artificers & Lascars as those people are placed under the Direction of the Engineer he must intend to have for the Number he wants for any particular Service, after which they come from Fort St. George under his Orders, which is inconsistent with Military Rules.

Extract of the Resolution

The Board entirely agree in Opinion with the Directors having on the 30th January 1759 been pleased to direct "that Lieutenant Colonel Way should enjoy the usual Pay & Allowances of a Lieutenant Colonel upon this Establishment for such time as General Draper should continue in the Command of the Army." and the same having never yet been carried into Execution, altho' a considerable Time has elapsed

Pay to be paid to said Lieutenant Colonel Way

The Honble the Court of Directors having on the 9th Augt 1758 of their Consultations

1360. Fort St. George, 6th September, 1760.

since the Colonel arrived here from Europe. The President is of Opinion that in pursuance of the before recited Orders, the Military Paymaster should be forthwith instructed to proceed to Lieutenant Col. Hay the Arrears now due to him, as well as the future progressive Account of such Emoluments as come under the description contained in the Company's Letter, & the President accordingly moves that it may pass into a Resolution of the Committee.

The President does not conceive it necessary to touch upon the Merits of Lieut. Col. Hay in his Military Profession, as the Company themselves have in the Orders herein referred to, exhibited sufficient Testimony in his favor upon this Head, but it may not however be amiss to observe that the Colonel has not to this Time received any Kind of Advantage or Subsistence from Government since he Arrived here from Bengal the 22d January 1759

John Call Secretary

Granted

Ordered accordingly

The following Appointments are now made

Ensign Johnson Kennedy

6

1361 Fort St George. 6th September, 1700.

Ens. Kennedy appd Town Adjt. on the Black Town Pay. Durand Adjt. to the European Black & Town Militia Ensign Ryfoot allowd Adjutants Pay.

to be Town Gentlemen in the Black Town Ensign Durand to be Adjutant to the Europeans of the Black Town. Militia

Agreed that an Allowance of Adjutants Pay be made to Ensign Ryfoot Adjutant of Cuddalore for the trouble of performing the Duty of Adjutant to the Native Militia.

Received the following Letter.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs,

Town Gent. Bailiffs.

I engaged a great part of the Day Ally's Army, commanded by his Son Prince Cleven with two thirds, & have had the fortune to beat them. The Loss on either side cannot yet be ascertained. I have the Honor to be with Respect

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

Your humble & most obed. Servant

Ft St. David.

7th

Dear Farrembacham

Fort St. David 6. September.

½

Received the following Letter

To the Honble. Johan Whitehall Esqr.

President & Governor &c. & Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs

Fort St George

Accompanying this I have the honor to transmit a General Monthly Return

1362 Fort St George. September 1780.

From Capt. Gibbings with Intelligence

Sir

I have the honor to acquaint you that I have completed the 8 Companies here with the Additional Seapoys to Company & that I will endeavor, as fast as possible to complete the Deficiency in the Battalion occasioned by the detachment arriving at Tellicherry. I am sorry to acquaint you that 300 of Hyder Ally's Horse & 2000 Cavalry Seapoys & Peons have entered the Madura Country & have burnt 11 Villages. They have not (as yet) done much more damage. The Renter of Madura with what Troops he could collect, attacked them; he killed 5 Horse, wounded 2 more & killed some of their Peons. I have sent one Company of my Seapoys to reinforce him, & hope to have good Accounts from him this Day or tomorrow. I hope my sending the Seapoys to assist him will meet with your Approbation.

I am, with the greatest Respect,

Honble Sir & Sir,

Your most obedient

humble Servant

Robert Gibbings

Madura

2 September 1780.

Honble Sir & Sir,

I received Mr Bakeley's Note

From Lt Brown with Intelligence

the Naboob's Letter to Rajah Barbur, Col. Baillie has crossed the River. I will not remain 24 Hours on this Ground after he arrives, but shall march to attack the Enemy who are encamped about 5 Miles on our Front. You will perceive by the enclosed Copy of Capt. Bridgeats Note to me the

1363 Fort St George 2 Septr 1760

for

Cause of Hyder's leaving the Siege of Arcot. I have the honor
to be,

Hon'ble Sirs

Camp at Conjeveram
5 Sept. 1760.

Your most obedient Servant
Hector Munro

To the Governor & Select Committee.

2

To the Hon'ble Thos Saunders Esq.
President & Governor &c. Select Committee
at Fort St George

Hon'ble Sirs

Form'd Col. Cosby
with Intelligence

I had the honor of addressing
you twice on the 31st Instant, the last of which would inform
you that I had laid aside my first intention of marching
to Changama as I found I could not get there but by
passing close to Trinomally which I should be obliged to
leave in my Rear & leave the Enemy having a Garrison
& the Country all about it professed by them, I could have no
hopes of subsisting any of those Troops, & as I should also be
very far advanced to the Westward by doing it, & having
no Information of either ours or Hyder's Army, I thought it
almost advisable & for the good of the Service not incumb to
harrass & fatigue the Detachment already made so, by their
long March, but to take such Ground as was most likely
to procure a Junction with the Army / as to hinder such a detach-
ment as Hyder would be considerable Inconvenient if he
was fully persuaded that I did so, - on the contrary the

Prince

1364 Fort St George, September 1780

Provisions that come to hand are not in any large Quantities at Time, & the Loss of a few Bullocks load of very little consequence to hand as I am confident of soon getting plenty from the Country, he has now got his People in, & unless I could have remained there, may barely going & returning would have been of little or no Consequence, at any Rate by no means equal to that of any Journey the Army should what I am told here to true which is that it has yet got no farther than Conjeveram, my marching to the place will therefore I presume give me the best Chance of hearing from the General & forming a Plan for joining him.

I omitted to acquaint you Honr &c. in my Letter from Tiagar that a Hircarr who came to me from Changamah informed me that some Days before, six Large Guns which he understood was all Hyder had with him for breaching went past that place either way to Bangalore, as also some sick from his Army & that within the course of a few days, four or five thousand Horse have left his Service on some Disgust & that his Army is in general very sickly.

At my leaving Tiagar I was informed that Hyder's People had possessed themselves of Trav-elore, & on my Arrival near it found it to be true & by pushing on some of the Cavalry we surrounded the place before the whole had time to get off, the Number of Thirty Seapoys & Peons with five Horses were taken in the little Road but that joins the Pagoda. I brought them to this place & have delivered them

1365 Fort St George 5 September 1780

Have now to the Hollidays they had been very troublesome Sorts
Sent to the Poligars have many of our Draft Cattle they had plund.
Pammelled many Coolies. There is no doubt but that Hyder
has by some means greatly attached the Inhabitants of the
Sugar & Tocalore Countries to him inasmuch that my
Hircarrahs left me, the hours of my marching from Sugar
was communicated from Village to Village all the Way
to Trinomally, for me three expresses were sent to Hyder, &
in my March yesterday from Tocalore the Country
being extremely woody & entersected with high Rocks
the Line was several times fired upon by Matchlock fellows
collected together. Expresses from the Different Villages by
Hyders Armed Band some of us have left my approach were
sending their Orders continually on the Line. I have sent off
people in search of the Army I hope soon to hear from the
General, but as they may miscarry your Honor & will no
Doubt think it proper to inform Lord Macartney, as the
mountains I shall be forced to act as occasions may present

I have the Honor to remain with the
greatest Respect, Honble Sir & Lord.

Your very obed.t & Humble Serv.t
H. A. M. Cathy.

Sugar
5 Sept.r 1780
6 P.M. Cock Pike.

I send this by way of Cuddalore as the
safest Road.

Wrote the following Letter to
the Commander in Chief

Sir

1366 Fort St George, September 1780

To Sir Hector Munro

Commander in Chief of the Company's Troops on the Coast.

Sir

We have three Letters from Lt. Col. Munro. Capt. Cosby; the last dated the 5th Instant at Gongee; We enjoin you of this, that you may send such Orders to them as you shall judge proper.

We are happy to hear of Col. Baillie's Success against the Enemy in an Action on the 6th the particulars of which have not yet come to our hands.

We have received your Letter of the 5th Instant & are confident that no Exertions will be wanting on your part to put a speedy end to the present Troubles

We are
Sir
Your most obedt Servants
John Whitehill & Co Select Comm.

Fort St George
8th Sept. 1780.

To the Hon.ble John Whitehill Esqr.

President & Governor &c. Select Committee of Fort St George

Hon.ble Sir & Sirs

From Ensign Macaulay with Intelligence & Letter from Capt. Cosby.

I have the Honor to enclose You a Letter I received from Colonel Cosby at 6 o'Clock this Evening Just as he was leaving the Ground I ordered all the Camp Equipage to be brought immediately into the Fort & the Troops to march to Chetteput, where there is every Reason to expect he would meet

with

1367 Fort St George, September 1790

e Nabob.

been

with Success. One or two of the neighbouring Polygars Colonys
to his Highness taking advantage of the present Troubles
send their People to plunder all the Villages around, they
carried off several Bullocks, that had been sent out by the In-
habitants of this Place, & cut some of her Bullockmens throats
&c. I had intelligence a few days ago that one of these Polygars
had come into a Village a few Miles from Here, Some what about
about seven in the Evening for an Expectation of worrying Some
with my Company, but he had unluckily got of every Ap-
proach & made off out of the Jungal with great Precipitation

George
6. Sept. 1790.

I have the honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedt humble Servt
Colin Macaulay

To the Honble Sir Thos Wm Hodelston Esqr
President & Governor &c. Select Committee
Honble Sir & Sirs
Fort St George

As some Some information I
have rec'd from Chittapet there is reason to think a sudden &
unexpected attack upon it may be attended with Success
as Spies come, should we succeed, it will be an acceptable
piece of Service I have prepared Ladders &c to carry my Cart
landing shall march from Here soon after Dark &
expect to arrive there about one o'Clock in morning Should any
in case of Alarm or Resistance not practicable I shall be obliged to return
Here, but I mean if possible to proceed on to Vandewash as

a

1368 Fort St George, September 1780

Situation nearer our Army greatest Respect,

George

6 Sept.r 1780, 5 o'Clock P.M.

I wrote to Your Honor &c.a Yesterday acquainting of my arrival here.

I have the honor to be with the Honble Sirs Your most Devoted Servant

H. A. M. Cosby

Wrote the following Letters.

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

Gentlemen

We have the honor to enclose To Bengal; w.h You a Letter and a Copy of Your Address from the Honble Court of Letter from Court of Directors Directors, received by the way of Bussorah.

We are Gentlemen Your most obedient humble Servants Fort St George 9 September 1780. Hector Munro &c.a Select Comm.r

To Mr James Stevens Cannonier Chief, &c.a Council of Vizagapatam Gentlemen,

We have received your Letter To Vizagapatam regarding the Artillery Corps. Regarding the Artillery Corps.

Agreeable to your Desire We have to inform You, that We do not mean to allow any additional

Pay

1369 Fort St George, September 1700

Pay and Emoluments to the European Officers of the Militia belonging to your District, & We have come to the same Determination with respect to the same Corps at Fort St David & Masulipatam.

We are

Gentlemen

Your most obed.t Servants

John Pitt Richard Portman Robert Cowan

Fort St George
9.th Sept.r 1700.

To Captain Robert Gibbings

Commanding

at

Madapollam

Sir,

To Capt.n Gibbings

The President having signified to Us that you wished to be allowed 20 more Lascars for expediting the Work, We consent to that Number being employed in addition to what you now have. We enjoyne us also that you think it would tend much to facilitate the Business of the Lascars & Artificers were that under your Orders but as by the Regulations, those people are placed under the Storekeeper, the proper Mode to be observed in this Case is for you to indent to him for the Number you require after which they are properly under your Orders untill the Service for which they are wanted be finished

We are

Sir

Your most obed.t Servants

John Pitt Richard Portman Robert Cowan

Fort St George
9.th Sept.r 1700.

1370 Fort St George, September 1700

To Lieut Walter Douglas

Commanding at the

Guntoor Circar

Sir,

We have received your

To Lt. Douglas. Letter of the 29th Ult.

In our former Letters to you we have clearly explained our Intention with respect to the Guntoor Circar. It is not possible for us to spare a sufficient Force to protect the whole Country, & we can therefore only desire you to keep Possession of the Strong holds, particularly Innacondah & Mungalgurry. We desire you will proceed speedily with the principal part of your Force to Innacondah, & after providing for the Place & Mungalgurry, if you can spare the remaining Seapoys of Lieutenant Lowdes & Brodyes Batt Talians We would have you send them to the Circars & to Conjeveram.

We are

Sir

Your most obedient Servants

John Whitehill &c Select Com.

Fort St George

& 9. Sept. 1700.

Received the following Letters.

To

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr

President & Governor &c. Select Committee

Fort St George

Bombay

1371. Fort St George; September 1760

Honble. Sir & Sirs,

From Capt. Carby
inclosed from Chittapet

I had the honor of addressing
you yesterday & informing you of my intention of surprizing
Chittapet on this night; — in consequence of it, I left my Camp
standing, & marched last night at seven, & about half past
two this morning reached it, & having previously made
the Disposition for the Attack with the particulars of which
I shall not here trouble your Honours; we had the good
fortune to find the Ditch & ravelin with the Faussebraye
but little over difficulties commanded, the Faussebraye
from the bottom of the Ditch to the Top, is at least thirty
Feet; so that it proved a most laborious Business to
get the Ladders (which being made for two abreast were
heavy) over; & the great crowd which ensued to get into
the Faussebraye after their Companions kept constantly
getting on them, it was half an hour before they could
be got over; & even then damaged, they were however
planted against one of the Bastions, by this time
the Enemies whole force were collected to oppose us
. Hundreds of Musquet balls all along the face & rows of Pikes
presented through every embrasure, so that it was
impossible to get the people (excepting a few who were
with them) although fixed on the Ladders, tho' many examples
were shewn them by their Officers & by Mr. Montgomery
& Ballyguard in particular, the first. being the Commands

Officer of the Leading Party who got to near the Top of the Ladder, but were obliged to come Down again by the num bers that oppos'd them; The Enemy also kept up a very heavy, tho' not a well directed, Fire; for finding that the Attack on the Pettah side was only a false one, they assembled in great force to the real one. The Troops however in the Forlorn Hope shew'd the best Countenance imagin able & though they could not be prevail'd on to mount the second Wall, shew'd no inclination to quit the Ground they had got, so that they were a full hour & half at work Some, I was in hopes something might at last be done, but after hoping every thing & being repeatedly assured by the Officer in the Forlorn Hope of the impossibility of getting Men to Mount the second Wall, & the day beginning to Dawn, I order'd a retreat which was scarce cover'd by the fire of the Troops on the Glacis, that we brought over were one Killed & wounded & marched off in good Order.

The false Attack carried the Pettah & penetrated to the great Gateway where they killed upwards of forty of the Enemy, who hoped to have got at our Heels into the Place. The fort naturally a very strong one, has been greatly improved by Hyder's orders, the Ditch deepened & pots dug all over the Glacis, & there is in it for certain at least six hundred men, notwithstanding which I am persuaded we should have succeeded, had it not been for the information sent from hence to the

Chuttopt

1373 Fort St George, 8ptember 1780

Chillapuk Killedar, by a Subadar of the Nabobs whose
family was at Chillapuk, to be under Guard for that
Ladder was making, & the imagined designd for an
Attack upon them, & this very man was one of my
Guides; he is now missing which confirms the Report
. Flattering myself your Honor, V.C. will think it was
worth the Trial as, had it succeeded it must have
been a great Check on Hyder & afforded me an excellent
Station to make Excursions from towards the North
of Arnee, Trichanopoly, Poloor &c., now in his Possession.

Our Loss considering what might
have been expected, is very trifling, being certainly (Killed
& wounded) under forty, the not having yet got on the Returns
I don't know the exact number, amongst the wounded
is Captain Baldeffe shot in the Arm & Ensign Parkland
badly wounded in the head.

I have the honor to remain,

Honble Sir &c.

Your most obliged & obed.t Servant

H.. A.. M.. Cosby

Camp near Pongee
7.th Sept.r 1780.

Should I not receive orders to the Contrary, I mean to
march for Wandewash this Afternoon, as I am told a
heavy firing was heard towards Conjeveram yesterday
about 11 o'Clock.

P.S.

1374 Fort St George, September 1760.

To the Honble. John Whitehill Esqr.

President & the Select Committee

of Fort St George

Honble. Sir & Sirs

From Lt Roberts with Intelligence

I have the honor to inclose you a Return of the Strength of this Garrison & its Sick Colonel Cosby with his detachment of two Regts of the State by Cavalry, 2 Companies of Grenadiers & 3 Battalion Companies of the Company's Seapoys arrived here the 2d Instant & marched the 3d by the Road of Gingee to join Genl Monroe's Camp.

Nothing extraordinary in this part of the Country, nor any of the Enemies Forces, except about 3 or 400 Horse in the Neighbourhood of Cuddalore & also in most of the Villages in this part of the Country, collecting the Grain, there being no Troops of any kind of the Nabobs to prevent them.

I have the honor to be

Honble. Sir & Sirs

Your most obedt. humble Servant

George Roberts

Fort St George
7th Septr 1760.

P.S. I was so ill about ten days ago that I requested of Engineer Higginbotham to write to the Honble Board for permission for me to go to Cuddalore for my health, but I am since so much recovered that I hope I shall not be under the necessity of leaving this.

Received the following letter

from Sir Hector Munro?

1375 Fort St George, September 1780

(Sent by Express)

Sir & Hble Sir & Sirs

From Genl Munro
The Arrangement of
Provisions

Colonel Baillie informs me that I must join him before he can move from his Camp at Perambaucum. I shall march a Detachment from the Army towards him this Evening, & remain with the rest of the Army here to watch the Enemy, & cover Conjeveram near 200 Europeans sick. There is an absolute necessity for your sending 200 Ready men of the European Regts now in Madras, & one Battalion of Sepoys to Conjeveram to march there with my Baggage. If the Provisions are not sent they may meet them to there. I cannot send an Escort from the Army & nothing can be sent Madras at present. I foresee that want of Provisions will soon end this Campaign, & the want of Carriage Person from the Malabar Coast and the Camp will speedily dock. Under the Contents of the enclosed Letter (it is a Duplicate of one sent to the Governor) to Change Packs to march there with the Detachment & Provisions. The Enemy 2 Miles from us. We are watching each other. I have the honor to be

Camp near Conjeveram
9th Sept 1780

Hble Sir & Sirs
Your most humble Servt
Hector Munro

To The President & Select Committee

1376 Fort St George, September 1780

We have no Arak, Ghee, Oil, Curry Stuff, or Goats on board, Send some with the other Stores for the whole Army.

82 Received the following Letter

To the Honble. Sr John Whitehill Bart.
Governor &c. Select Committee
Fort St George

Honble. Sir & Sirs

From Lt Col. Braid with Intelligence.

The Return I sent you the 5th of the Month, not being very correct owing to my not having received that of the 19th Battalion in due time occasions my troubling you with the accompanying which is very exact.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you that I have this day heard from Lieut. Fraser of Capt. Cobbs Detachment having surprized & taken a Convoy of Rice & other Provisions at a place called Tricalore with Bullocks & every thing ready to convey it onto Hyder's Camp: my Reports represent it as very considerable, I have the Honor to be,

Honble. Sirs
Your most Obedient Faithfull Sert.
Eyre Coote.

Southonoby
8th Sept. 1780.

To

1377 Fort St George, September 1780.

To the Hond.e John Whitehill Esq.r
President & Governor &c.a &c.a &c.a
Fort St George.

Hon.ble Sir & Sir

From Lt. Mackay enclosing Note from Genl. Monro.

By the enclosed note by order of Genl. Monro, you will perceive how unwilling we do not he will particularly explain the Situation of Affairs to you so soon as he arrives here. I will add no more at present than that those fresh provisions for the Camp to be had on this place, & that unless Rice & other is sent by Sea to Sadras for them without loss of time the Consequences may be fatal; wherein of every Assistance is immediately given in the Way I have taken the Liberty to mention, we will soon be in a situation perfectly to revenge ourselves for the unavoidable Accidents that have happened.

I am Hon.ble Sir
Your most obed.t Servant
Geo.r Mackay
Lieut. Comm.g

To
Lieut.t Mackay
Commanding Elephant
Sir,

I am directed by the Commander in Chief to inform you that he is anxious to

1378 Fort St George, 13th September 1780.

Mules of your Garrison with the Army, & that he intends to encamp near the Walls of it during this Night

We desire you will order Pots, Straw & Firewood ready for the Troops on their Arrival

I am, Sir
Your humble Servant
Ja: Campbell

Both the Marches over
Arrive 15th Sept. 1780
Past 2 at Night

At a Select Committee, Present,
The Honble John Whitehill Esq: President,
Charles Smith, Samuel Johnson
Alex: Davidson

Wednesday 13th September 1780. } Minutes of last Committee read & approved.

Read the following Letter from the Commander in Chief.

(In Cypher)

Dear Sir & Sirs

From Genl. Smyth concerning the defeat of Col. Baillie's Detachment.

You probably will have heard of the unfortunate defeat of Col. Baillie's Detachment. I know not the particulars; till then must be silent on the Subject. The Troops now at this Post have been under Arms 2 days past, from Day Light till dark, the first Day; & the Second

1379. Fort St George, 13th September 1700

Second late day. Lay bt this Morning. No Rice here, there
Soon they must beat Paddy into Rice. Please on Receipt
of this to send Rice to meet us at the Mount, Some
on Boats to Sadras, as I cannot Determine the Route
I shall take, tho some Thorcarrahs come from the
Enemys Camps, or near it who are gone to bring
Intelligence of their Motions. I will march on their Arrival
or as soon after as I can: get two days Rice beat out
of Paddy.

Ensign Chalmers is here.

Colonel Cosby arrived here this Morning with his
Detachment. I have the honor to be,

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most obedt Servant

(sign'd) Charles Munro

Chuing Depot
12th Sept. 1700.

* Mr Smith thinks it incumbent on him, on the present alarming Situation of affairs, to Submit the following Reflections to the Consideration of the Committee.

* Mr Smith proposing a letter to be wrote to Bengal, stating the Situation of Affairs & requesting an immediate Supply of Men & Money

A particular Statement of our dangerous Situation, should be immediately transmitted to Bengall, acquainting the Governor General & Council in plain and unequivocal Terms, that we conceive the Company's Possessions, on this Coast, in imminent Danger, unless they resolve they resolve to send to our Assistance

a Large body of Europeans & Seapoys, with all sorts of Military Stores, and, at least, 30 Lacks of Rupees for the Support of the War:— that these Succours should be sent to Us without a Moments delay, that they may if possible, be here, before the Setting in of the Monsoon, or as early as they can be sent on the Coast. When we reflect on the large Armament expected from France, even these Succours, we fear, will be ineffectual, unless Matters are accomodated with the Mahrattas.

Shipping should be immediately procured to bring from the Northern Circars all the Troops except such as are absolutely necessary for the defence of Masulipatam, & for the protection of Vizagapatam and Ganjam; all other places must be left to take at present, & the Presidency secured:— by these Vigorous Exertions, we may still be enabled to take the field after the Rains & to make head against Hyder. Sir Edward Hughes, in my Opinion, should be instantly requested to permit two of his Ships to proceed to the Northward to bring up the Grenadiers, & as many more Seapoys as they can take on board; by the Time these Ships can get to the Northward, the Northerly Winds will be setled in, & therefore it is probable they may have a short passage back again, they may also bring up what Money they can at Masulipatam, Vizagapatam & Ganjam. Should Sir Edward Hughes deem it improper to divide his Squadron;

it should be considered whether some of the Company's
Ships now on the Road, should not be ordered out the
Service, & whether private Ships cannot be freighted.
Captain Cosby should be ordered to take the most effectual
Method of making good his way to the Presidency, or to
join the General; but if no particular mode or route can
be pointed out to them, it must be left to his own Discretion
only recommending the utmost expedition — it may be
intimated to them that if the Seats it impracticable to make
his Way good by Land he should push down to Cuddalore
& endeavor to procure Vessels & Boats to bring his Detachment
to Madras: such as cannot absolutely be brought
either must necessarily leave.

Any interfering of the utmost
importance to the Welfare of the Company, should, if possible
be strengthened, & for this purpose Sepoys ought to be raised
in the Madura and Tinnevelly Countries; It may not be
prudent, at this Juncture, to treat too much to the Sepoys near
hand to raise them on other places. The Polygars might be
induced to furnish our recruiting in their Districts.

The Gentlemen at Madura
& Tinnevelly should be cautioned to be on their guard, in case
the Polygars take up Arms against the Land, on their
hearing any probable Report thereof, to detach the Assis-
tant Resident to secure the Company's Investment &c

cia

in Bank or otherwise. It may also be necessary to give Orders for raising Seapoys in lieu of those they may send hither.

It may be proident to order all the Boats from Pondicherry to Madrass, & to use means for preventing the French from procuring Boats at Porto Novo. — it may also be necessary to take Measures for searching all Vessells going out of Negapatam Tranquebar, Carical, Mont. Lally, or some other Portes should be dispatched to the French Islands.

The proper disposal of the French Prisoners is a Matter deserving the immediate Consideration of the Committee

The 13th Sept. 1780

Various Reports have been brought by Mercarrahs & Seapoys relative to the defeat of Lieut. Col. Baillie's Detachment on the 10th; but no accurate Account has yet been received concerning the Manner in which it happened. The Reports however in general agree that the Accident happened by the blowing up of three or four Tumbrils nearly at the same Time, which occasioned some Confusion in part of the Detachment & gave the Enemy's Horse an Opportunity of cutting in among them. The Reports further add that the detachment had been joined by the Grenadiers of the Army at Conjeveram before this misfortune happened, & that Lieut. Col. Baillie

was

1383 Fort St George, 13th September, 1780

was attacked by the whole or the greatest part of
Hyder's Troops.

The Committee cannot avoid
expressing the Sincerest Mortification & Concern at the
loss of so considerable a Detachment as that commanded
by Lt Col. Baillie; which after the Junction of the Grena-
diers of the Army must have consisted of between 5 & 600
Europeans & upwards of 3000 Seapoys; of whom, not a
single Officer, very few European Soldiers & few Seapoys
that We are yet know of have escaped, being either killed or
taken Prisoners.

As this misfortune has reduced
the Army on the Coast to a very weak State, it is absolutely
necessary that We should reinforce it without loss of
Time. Resolved therefore that a Letter be immediately
prepared for Bengal representing our Situation in the
strongest Terms to the Governor General & Council & requesting a Reinforcement, if possible, equal to the Number lost
by the defeat of Lt Col. Baillies Detachment.

A Letter to be written to Bengal, informing them of the Loss of Col. Baillies Detachment

Resolved also that Orders
be sent to Masulipatam & Vizagapatam to hold
the Grenadier Companys of the Seapoys in those Districts
in readiness to be embarked for Madras.

The Grenadier Seapoys to be held in readiness at Masulipatam & Vizagapatam

Agreed that the Admiral be
requested to spare the Nymph Sloop to carry Dispatches

to

1384 Fort St George, 13th September 1700

to Bengall.

Read the following Letter

from Mr Stephen Sullivan.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq^r

President & C^o Select Committee

& Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Sr Sullivan offering to carry dis patches to Bengal.

As the Ship Neptune on which I have taken a passage for Bengal will sail for that place tomorrow, I think it my duty to inform you that any Packet you may judge immediately necessary to transmit to the Governor General & Council relative to the present State of Affairs on this Coast will be delivered by me with the utmost Care & Fidelity, & any instructions which you may deem expedient to give me in consequence, will be punctually attended to.

And in the Event of your not being able to have your dispatches in readiness before my departure, I trust you will do me the honor to enclose them to me under Cover to the Governor General, assuring you at the same time that no endeavors shall be wanting on my part to approve myself (as I hope I have hitherto done) a diligent observer of your Commands

1385 Fort St George, 13th September 1700

Commanders.

Sam, most respectfully
Honble Sirs

Your most obedient,
humble Servant
Stephen Sulivan
Secry

Resolved that Mr Sulivan
Lacarry the dispatches be charged with a Dispatch to the Governor Council
Council of Bengal & Instructions given him accordingly

The President Says before the
Committee the following Letter given to him by Captain
Baldwin of the Contractor relative to Mr George Wilson
a Recruit Lately arrived.

To Captain James Baldwin
Commander of the Contractor
Sir

The Friends of Mr Geo.
Wilson a Recruit on board the Contractor under your
Command have represented that Mr Wilson is a young
Gentleman of Family, has had many Liberal Education
Designed for the Church, & has likewise been
informed that Mr Wilson altho he entered voluntarily
in his present Rank so much beneath his Expectations

Took

From Mr Eggan to Capt. Baldwin concerning a Recruit.

took this Step in order to avoid the Consequences of a Debt he had imprudently incurred, & now wishes to be discharged; it has also been mentioned with pleasure that you have behaved very polite to him, & that he is greatly indebted to you for many Courtesies his Station did not entitle him to expect. Upon the whole I am directed to desire you will confer with Mr Nelson & submit to him either to proceed to India on his present Station under the Expectation of his being made a Cadet immediately on or very soon after his Arrival at Madrass, which I am authorized by a Gentleman in the Direction to encourage him with the Hopes of, or to be discharged from the Ship, his Friends having on this Case to defray the Expences the Company have been at on his Account. If the Latter should be his choice you will please to permit him to go on Shore with his Chest & Bedding at such Place as he desires, & consider this Letter as sufficient Authority from the Committee of Shipping for your so Doing.

I must desire you will favor me with Mr Nelsons Determination at an early Opportunity for the Information of the Gentlemen who have interested themselves in his behalf.

I am Sir
Your most obed. Servant
Chas. Fbd. Coggan

East India House
5th. Feby 1780.

&c

1387 Fort St George, 13th September 1780

Mr Wellbore appeals
a Cadet.

The Committee take of
Opinion that in Consequence of the foregoing Letter
Mr Wellbore be put on the Cadet List, which is resolved
accordingly.

Read the following Letter from
Mr Sadlier.

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

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Mr Sadlier
concerning his
Suspension.

Notwithstanding this strong
Impressions of Surprize and Indignation which I have
unfeignedly entertained at the arbitrary & unjust Conduct
of the President who ventured to move and Sir Hector
Munro who thought proper to second a Motion for
my Suspension on no other Ground than for having
exercised that Freedom of Debate which is inherent
in every Counsel under the British Constitution I did
not intend to have addressed the Honble Committee
on this Subject, had not Mssrs. Lord M & Johnson
entered their Protests so strong by against the Resolu-
tion of Council of the 1st August, & had not the
Remarks of Mr Johnson in particular suggested
the Necessity of this Address by asserting on the Illegal-
ity of

Fort St George, 13th September 1790

of the Measure, as well as that glaring Contradiction
in the President and General in venturing to take
Act on Record towards effecting any Suspension of
Line of Conduct so diametrically opposite to their
own Sentiments delivered on Committee during
the Residency of Sir Thomas Rumbold. In that Board
the Powers of the Select Committee were discussed
and Mr Westcombe as well as Sir Hector Munro
assented to the following Opinion of Sir. Thomas Rumbold
namely, that the Power of Suspension and restoring
again, is left entirely to the Select Committee on
every Occasion. That Opinion was founded on the
words of the 6th Para, of the General Letter of the 10th
April 1778, which established the Select Committee
& which words are as follows.

"Paragraph 6th. If our Select Committee
shall think fit to suspend any Person or Persons
from our Service, such Person or Persons shall not be
restored otherwise than by the said Committee, except
by Orders of the Court of Directors."—

Now Sir. Mr Westcombe
& Sir Hector were wholly grounded in adopting such an
Opinion, it is not now my Business to discuss it—
& sufficient to observe, that as they had adopted such
an Opinion they were bound to act up to it, and

not

1389 Fort St George, 13th September 1780.

not to follow a Line of conduct diverse to it, as if
Determined to shape their Conduct to their Inclination
without regard to Justice, Consistency, or the Power
wherewith they are vested, & without considering that
by so manifest an encroachment on their powers
& so direct a Violation of the Orders of their Superiors
from whom they derive their Authority as denied, they
in a very high Degree run the risk of not entirely subverting
the Constitution of that very Government which they
are called upon, & bound to support. To their Reflec-
tions I leave them, & have only to request that our
Honble Employers at home should experience
such inconsistency from their Servants in whom
they reposed so high a Trust, & whose Situation
called upon them for a due Exertion of Deliber-
ation & sound Policy & substantial Justice, in lieu
of which they have followed the hasty Dictates of
Passion, Prejudice and Resentment.

The Hostile Situation to
which I have been called, and of which I have
been divested in so unconstitutional a manner
calls upon me now to make the Appeal to the
Honble President and as Mayr Sworth and Johnson
who are the only effectual & Constitutional Members
of the Select Committee now at the Residency &

lieu

1390 Fort St George, 13th September 1780

to request you to consider of the merits of my Suspension
and to exercise that Authority wherewith you are vested
by the said 6th Para of the General Letter of the 15th April
1778.

If in your Judgement,
or in the Judgement of the Majority of you, I shall
appear to deserve that Vote of Suspension, I must submit
to all the Hardships of my Situation till the Pleasure
of a superior Power is known. But if, on the Contrary, the
Voices of the Honble Board or Mssrs Smith & Johnson
or of the Majority of you should go hand in hand with
my own Feelings on this important occasion, by
acquitting me of every Charge to my Prejudice should
restore me to my Seat at the Board, I shall endeavour
to discharge the Duties of my Station so as to merit
the Countenance of your Esteem and the Approbation
of my Superiors.

I have the honor to be
Honble Sirs
Your most humble &
most obedient Servant
Anthony Sadleir

Fort St George
13th September 1780.

Agreed that the foregoing Letter
be referred to the Consideration of the Honble Court
of Directors.

To be referred to the Court of Directors

Charles Smith
P. Auc. Coote

1391. Fort St George. 13th September 1700

H
13

Wrote the following Letter to Sr
Edward Hughes.

To Sir Edward Hughes, Knt.
Rear Admiral of the Red
& Commander in Chief of his Majestys
Ships in
the Indian
Seas

Sir

Sr Edw.d Hughes, to spare the Nymph to go to Bengal.

We wish to send some Dispatches of Importance to Bengall, We shall be much obliged if you will spare us the Nymph Ketch for that Service, We request of Captain Stevens to give a Passage to Mr Leighton Labourer whom We propose to entrust with our Letters.

We request also that you will direct Capt.n Stevens in his Return from Bengall, to call at Ganjam, Vizagapatam & Masulipatam to buy up some Goods in those places to Madraspatan as may be wanted here.

We have the Honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servants
John Woodhull Robt Commins

Fort St George
13th Sept.r 1700

Mr Thos

1392 Fort St George, 1st September 1780

Army arrives at this 12th. This day the Army arrived at the Mount. Mount from being left.

Wrote the following Letters.

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

Gentlemen,

We have thought it
to Bengall informing necessary to request of Sir Edward Hughes to spare Us the
of our Situation; & Nymph Sloop, to convey to you with all possible Expedi
requesting to be supplied from the State of Affairs upon this Coast.
with Troops & Money. You were advised in our
Letters of the 27th July & 15th Ultimo that Hyder Ally had
entered the Carnatic with a very considerable Force & that
We were preparing as far as our Means would permit,
to repel this unprovoked Hostility.

The greatest part of the
Army intended to act on this Occasion was accordingly
assembled at Conjeveram & waited only for a Detachment
of Troops coming from the Circars under the Command
of Lieut.t Col.o Baillie.

This Detachment arrived
on the 6th Instant at Parambaucum, a place about
fifteen Miles distant from Conjeveram. Hyder Ally
having

1393. Fort St George, 8 September 1780

having Intelligence of its March, sent a large Body of Troops to attack it, but Lieut. Col. Baillie, though much inferior in point of Force, had the good fortune, after an Engagement of three hours, to defeat them. This Action however was so severe upon his Troops, & the Number of the Enemy, which were not thus found to have been reinforced, so very superior that Lieut. Col. Baillie deemed it impossible without powerful Support to effect a Junction with the Main Army at Conjeveram. I having communicated this opinion to the General, a considerable Detachment was sent to his Assistance. The General himself remained with the rest of the Army near Conjeveram to watch the motions of the Enemy's main Body which was encamped at the Distance of 2 Miles from him.

Lieut. Col. Baillie being thus reinforced, continued his March on the 9th Instant at night towards the Army, extremely harrassed the whole time by a large body of Cavalry with Infantry & Guns. On the 10th Instant in the Morning by some accident Some of his Ammunition Waggons blew up nearly at the same time & the Enemy (as We suppose for we have yet no authentic Account) taking advantage of the Disorder which must have been inevitably occasioned by this Misfortune, broke in upon the Troops & entirely defeated

defeated them, having killed or wounded almost every man
of the Detachment.

Nothing could have been more
severe or unexpected than this stroke. Lieut. Col. Baillie's
Detachment before it was reinforced, consisted of about 130
European Infantry & Artillery and afterwards of 2000 Sepoys
& the Troops sent to his Assistance were composed of the
Grenadier Companies of the Army, so that We imagine
our Loss upon this Occasion cannot be less than 500
Europeans, & from three to four thousand Sepoys, besides
Officers. General Munro has been under the necessity
in consequence of retreating with the Army to Chinglepat
She have inclosed this
Fortune will We think be sufficient to give you a
true Idea of our Situation. It was with the utmost
Difficulty that We could draw the from our Garrisons a
sufficient Number of Troops to meet the Enemy in the field
& We cannot now without exposing our Possessions to
the greatest hazard recruit our Army in any degree
equal to the loss it has sufferred. We must therefore
have immediate Recourse to your Honble Board for
Assistance, & We trust that the Exigency of the Case
will induce you to grant it speedily. Four or five
hundred Europeans with three Battalions of Sepoys
& one Company of Artillery may We hope be dispatched from
to

1395 Fort St George 5. September 1780

the Force of your Establishment, and We request the Number or such part of it as you can absolutely spare may be sent us if possible in December.

But besides Troops, our Necessities for money are extremely pressing. We have no means whatever to answer the extraordinary Expences of this War, & it would be totally impossible for us to carry it on, unless We can be sure of receiving Supplies of Money from You. We earnestly request your immediate Attention to this Object, & that you will do us the favour to inform us to what extent We can be assisted. It would be a great Relief to us if a Sum of Money could be sent immediately after the Receipt of these dispatches.

In a former Letter We took the Liberty of suggesting to you, the Advantages that might result from an Attack upon Hyder's Possessions on the Malabar Coast. A Diversion on that Side would be the most probable means of forcing him out the Carnatic, and We sincerely hope you may have come to some Resolution upon it, in which We should be happy to contribute all in our Power. As the Squadron is going round to that Coast the Opportunity will be extremely favorable & the Success of such an enterprize cannot be doubted.

But exclusive of this Advantage

Advantage which would arise from a Diversion of Hyders
Force, if you could acquire Possession of the Forts of Man
galore & Cadcoats; the French would probably be disappointed
in their views of aiding Hyder or the Mahrattas by Landing
their Troops at those Places, If this is indeed an Object
of the first Importance, for We have already experienced
how much Hyder Ally has benefited by his Connexion
with the French of whom there are four or five hundred
now serving in his Army & a considerable part of them
as We are informed were with the Troops that defeated
Lieut. Col. Baillie's Detachment.

We Stephen Sulivan the
Secretary to the Civil Department having our Permission
to proceed to Bengal, We take the opportunity of sending
this Dispatch by Land If We beg leave to refer to them
for any particulars You wish to be acquainted with
Which We may have inadvertently omitted in our
Letter.

We the Admirals wrote the
Nymph only as far as Balasore Roads, We request
the favor of You to communicate your Sentiments
& Resolutions to us upon the Subject of this Letter by any
express Boat Vessel, or by such other means as you
shall deem most expeditious, We are

Gentlemen

Your most obed.t Humble Servants

John Whitehill & Select Comm.e

Fort St George
11th Sept.r 1780

1397 Fort St George, 14th September 1790

To Lt. Col. James Henry Casamajor
Chief &c. &c. Cannanore

at Vizagapatam

Gentlemen,

To Vizagapatam

to hold the Grenadiers

ready to proceed to

Madras.

Accounts which have happened to reach us, of Col. Baillie's Detachment in its march to join the Army, We think it expedient to draw a Reinforcement from the Troops on the Coast. We desire therefore that you will hold the Grenadier Companies of the two Battalions in your Garrison in readiness to embark upon Captain Lysaught that he is to proceed with them on the Arrival of the Vessels appointed to bring them up.

To supply the Deficiency which will be occasioned by these draughts, We allow you to recruit as many as may be necessary to complete the Strength of the Battalions.

We are

Gentlemen

Your most obedient Servants

Holm Maclellan Jos Sheldon

To

1276 Fort St. George: August. 1700

We are
Gentlemen
Your most obedient Servants
John Wheldeville &c. Select Com.

Fort St George
26th Augt. 1700

To Lieut. Walter Douglas
Commanding on
the Pantaloon Bercan.

Sir,

We have received your Letters
of the 16th and 18th Instants
We approve of the march
of the Troops to Mungalegary, & are glad to find your
conducted it with so little loss.
We have written to the
Chief & Council of Masulipatam to give you all the
assistance on their Power, & we desire you will acquaint
what reinforcement you require to keep possession of the
strong holds, which is all we can propose, until Cir-
cumstances will admit of your having a sufficient Force
to act upon the offensive. It will be proper that you corre-
spond with the Chief & Council of Masulipatam frequent
them from time to time with your situation
The Gentlemen at Masuli-
patam have directions to give money for the Payment
of your Seapoys. You will in consequence advise them
what manner it may be remitted to you with least

Sol. Douglas
acquainting them
with the above.

keep.

risk.

We are Sir
Your most obd. Servants
John Wheldeville &c. Select Com.

Fort St George
26th Augt. 1700.

1272. Fort St George. August 1760.

24th Wrote the following Letters.

To Captain Knight Alcock
or Officer commanding at
Tanjore

Sir

I am directed by the
President & Select Committee to desire you will
Order Mess.rs Gallaspie & Watson Surgeons Assistants at
Tanjore to join Col. Corbyn's Detachment with all
possible Expedition

I am
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Charles Berkeley

Fort St George
24th Augt. 1760.

Letter to Capt.n
Alcock, to send 2
Surgeons Assis.ts to
Col. Corbyn's Detach.t

To Captain Tongue

Sir

As the Select Committee
intend moreover about thirty Sepoys, for the Field
they request, in case the Accoutrements arrived safely
from Cuddalore are your Property that you will
spare them sufficient for that number, or if you rather
wish to dispose of them a reasonable Compensation
will be allowed you.

I am
Sir
Your most obed.t Servant
Charles Berkeley

Fort St George
24th Augt. 1760.

To Capt.n Tongue.
desiring he will spare
Accoutrements for 30
Cavalry.

1273 Fort St George 1 August 1700

24 A Letter from the Nabob

From the Nabob desiring a further advance may be made to the 1st Regt of Cavalry

dated this day & entered in C C (No 84) was read desiring that the Money agreed to be advanced by the Company on account of the Arrears due to his Cavalry was not quite sufficient, & that it would require eighteen thousand (18000) Pagodas more to pay off the 1st Regiment to the Beginning of this Year & put them on an equality with the other two Regiments, who had been satisfied to that Period requesting therefore that this additional Sum might be advanced by the Company on the same Terms as the former.

The foregoing Letter from the Nabob being written in consequence of the first Regiment of Cavalry, having positively refused to march with the Army, unless they were first satisfied as to their Arrears, and the same paid for the Army's leaving the mount, being this Evening, the Nabobs Letter was sent round, & the Committee agreed to make the advance required, by giving Notes to Captain Dugald Campbell, Commanding Officer of the Regiment, for the Amount.

His Request complied with.

25 Received the following Letters from Lt Col. Braithwaite

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr

Governor & President &c. Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs

We encamped at Arnée, four Miles south of Gumrah yesterday about an hour ago

Fort St. George, August, 1780.

ago; I march on tomorrow morning for Conjeveram by the Route of Periaballam & Soliapore, agreably to orders of Major Genl Sir Hector Monro. I have the honor to be

From Col. Baillie arrives at Arcot to-morrow for Conjeveram.

Camp
24 Augt (Noon) 1780.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most humble &
obedient Servant
Wm Baillie.

25 Augt

Wrote the following Letter to

Mr R. D. Munro.

To. Mr. Robert Duncan. Munro

Sir,

I am directed by the Presidt & Select Committee to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter & to acquaint you that as there is no further occasion for a Paymaster to Col: Braithwaite's Detachment, they desire you will repair to Madras.

From Mr Munro, dated on Board the Bombay.

I am Sir
Your most obedt Servt
Charles Oakeley

Fort St George
25 August 1780

26

Wrote the following Letter

To Captain Hugh Robert Arbuckle
Commanding at
Tanjore

Sir

I am directed by the Council

8

1275 . Fort St George, August , 1780

To Capt.n Alcock
refer'd to orders
sent to Major Mac
Allan relative to
the Subsidy.

4 Select Committee to acknowledge the Receipt
of your Letters of the 27th & 28th Inst.: & to desire, that
you be entirely guided, with respect to the Subsidy
from the Subsidy Corps, by the Letter to Major Mac=
Allan on that Subject; of which we have furnish'd
Captain Barrowes with an Extract

I am
. Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Charles Oakeley

Fort St George
26th Aug.t 1780

. To Edward Cotsford Esq.r
Chief Ye Coast
at
. Masulipatam

Gentlemen

. For order to strengthen
the Army in the field as much as possible We thought
proper to withdraw Col.o Baillie's Detachment from
the Guntoor Circar, & Lt Douglas who commands there
at present being too weak in Troops to garrison some
of the strong holds We desire you will give him such
Assistance as he may require, or as you shall think
yourselves able to spare from the force in your District
We have directed him to correspond with you on this
Subject, & to represent his Situation from time to
time to You. You will observe that whatever Troops
you may be able to send Lieut. Douglas, We give
you permission to recall upon any Emergency

To Masulipatam
directed to afford what
Troops they can spare
to Lt Douglas.

We are