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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.

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1398 Fort St George, September 1780

To Major Genl. Sir Hector Munro, K.B.
&c. &c. &c.

Sir

I am directed by the President & Select Committee to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter to the President, & to desire you will encamp the Army Tomorrow Morning on the Ground you recommend.

To Genl. Munro

Fort St George
14th Septr. 1780.

We I am
Sir,
Your most obedt. Servant
Charles Oakeley

To Mr John Turing
Resident at
Ganjam

Sir

We have received your several Letters.

To Ganjam,
To send Treasure by the Nymph.

The Admiral having at our request order'd the Nymph Sloop to call at Ganjam in his Way from Bengal to this place, We desire you will pack up ready to send by her all the Treasure you have on hand & which you do not immediately want for

Your

1399 Fort St George, September 1780

your Civil & Military Disbursements.

The Nymph, when she comes in sight of Ganjam will hoist an union Jack at her foretopgallantmast head, upon which you will send on board the Treasure, that she may not be detained a moment longer than is absolutely necessary.

We are

Sir

Your most obedt Servants

John Whitehill &ca Select Comd

Fort St George
14th Septr 1780.

To Mr Stephen Sulivan

Sir

To Mr St. Sulivan
w/ Dispatches to Bengal

We desire your particular Care of the enclosed Letter to the Governor General & Council of Bengal.

As We have in that letter written them particularly of the State of Affairs on this Coast, & requested they would send us a Reinforcement of Troops with Money to enable us to carry on the War We desire you will enforce our Representations of you are occasion, by such Arguments as your own knowledge of our Situation will readily supply & that you will give the Governor General & Council every Information in your

1400 Fort St George, September 1780

power upon this Subject.

You will take the earliest Opportunity of acquainting us with the Delivery of your Dispatches & of the Intentions of the Governor General & Council, as far as they may come to your knowledge.

We are

Sir

Your most obedient Servants

John Whitehill &ca Select Comd

Fort St George
14th Septr 1780

To Major General Sir Hector Munro, KB.
Commander in Chief of the Army.

Sir

To Genl Munro, with leave to come to the Presidency.

The President having informd us that he has received advice of your Arrival at the Mount & that you are desirous of coming to the Fort, we shall be glad to have the pleasure of seeing You as soon as you can conveniently leave Camp

We are

Sir

Your most obedt Servants

John Whitehill &ca Select Comd

Fort St George
14th Septr 1780

To Mr James Henry Casamaijor,
Chief &ca Council

of Vizagapatam

1401 Fort St George, September 1780

To Vizagapatam, to send Treasure by the Nymph.

Gentlemen,

The Admiral having at our request order'd the Nymph Sloop to call at Vizagapatam in her Way from Bengal to this place, We desire you will pack up ready to send by her all the Treasure you can possibly spare after providing for your immediate Civil & Military Charges.

The Nymph when she arrives off Vizagapatam, will hoist an Union Jack at her Foretop Gallant, mast Head, upon which you will be pleased to send off the Treasure, that there may be no unnecessary Detention of the Vessel.

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

Fort St George
14th Septr 1780.

The same to Masulipatam.

To Edward Cotsford Esqr.
Chief &c. Council
Gentlemen at Masulipatam

As we find it absolutely necessary to reinforce the Army by draughts from the Troops in

1402 Fort St George, September 1780

To Masulipatam, to have the Grenadiers ready to embark.

the Circars, We desire you will hold all the Seapoy Grenadiers of your district in readiness to embark for the Presidency

To supply the deficiency which will be occasion'd by these draughts, We give you permission to recruit as many as may be necessary to complete the Strength of the several Battalions.

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

Fort St George
14th Septr 1780.

To Lieut. Walter Douglas,
Commanding in the
Guntoor Circar.

Sir

To Lieut. Douglas, to give up the Guntoor Circar & have his Sepoys ready to embark.

The Soubah having requested that the Guntoor Circar might be deliver'd up again to Bazalet Jung, We have come to that Resolution accordingly and We enclose you the Nabob's Order to his Manager then to withdraw from all further Concern in that Country. You will in consequence write a letter to Bazalet Jung's Agent if he has any in this Circar, acquainting him that you are authorized by Us, to deliver over the Country to his Master, & desire him to take Charge of it, untill he can receive his Master's Orders.

Having

Having done this you will collect your Seapoys from the different parts of the district, proceed with them to Angole, & use your utmost Endeavors to procure Boats to bring them to the Presidency, where We wish them to arrive with the utmost Expedition

We are
Sir
Your most obedient Servants
John Whitehill, &c. Select Committee

Fort St. George
14th Septr. 1780.

Friday the 15th

At a Select Committee Present,
The Honble John Whitehill Esqr. President,
Charles Smith, Major Genl. Sir Hector Munro Kt.
Samuel Johnson.

Minutes of last Committee read & approved.

The Commander in Chief being return'd from Camp, now resumes his Seat at the Committee.

The Contractor & Ponsborne to be held ready to go to the Northern

Order'd, that the Commanders of the Contractor & Ponsborne be directed to hold themselves in readiness to proceed with their respective Ships to the northern

Settlements

Settlements, to take in Troops.

7th Battalion of Seapoys to be compleated

Resolved, that Captain Edmonds the Commandant at Angole be directed to compleat the 7th Battn. of Seapoys; part of which was in the action of the 16th as fast as possible.

The different Battns. to be completed.

Resolved, also that the Battalions of Seapoys now in Camp be compleated with all Expedition & that orders be sent to the Commandants at Trichinopoly, Tanjore, Madura & Palamcotah to recruit as many Seapoys as possible, & to report from time to time to the Committee, the number they obtain.

Col. Braithwaite appd. Commandant of Tanjore.

The Command of Tanjore being vacant by the Death of Major Macleellan, Col. Braithwaite is now appointed thereto by the President's casting Vote Mr. Smith & Mr. Johnson dissenting —

Received the following Letter from Lieut. Douglass.

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Lt. Douglas, with Intelligence.

In consequence of your Letter of the 26th Ulto, I have applied to the Chief & Council of Masulipatam requesting a supply of Money for the Payment of the

1405 Fort St George 15th September 1780

the Seapoys; from the Intelligence which I now receive I do not apprehend that any Reinforcement is necessary to assist in taking possession of the strong Holds in this Circar Some Parties of Lombady People having lately come this Way, I have reason to believe that I shall be able to procure a Stock of Provisions, which is the greatest difficulty We have had to encounter in this Quarter. — I arrived here this day with the Detachment from Munglegurry & shall send two Companies of Seapoys to Condaveer & two to Bellumcondah, & remain myself at Inconda with the five Independent Companies; of these Posts I mean is in every Respect of the greatest Consequence; having Seapoys in the other two also, will no doubt add much to the Security of the Circar, provided the four Companies which I now send to garrison them are not deemed more necessary elsewhere

Meer Sebo has certainly received Orders to join Hyder's Army to the Southward, but he seems much difficulted how to proceed; He moved down with his Force towards Vincatygurry, but being either afraid of the Rivers or of the Preparations made by that Polygar to oppose him, he returned again to Combum I am now informed that he has begun his March through the Cuddapah Country having left 1000 Horse & 200 Sepoys

at

1406 Fort St George, 15th September 1780.

at Combum. — All Accounts seem to agree that He is very averse to going to the Southward. I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect,

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedt Servt
Walter Douglas

Guntoor
9th Septr 1780.

Charles Smith

Saml Johnston

Dispatched the following Letters.

To Lieut. Colonel Nixon
Commanding at Trichonopoly

To Lt Col. Nixon, to recruit as fast as possible.

Sir We desire you will exert your utmost Endeavors in procuring Seapoy Recruits which are much wanted to supply the Deficiencies that have lately happened in the Seapoy Battalions now with the Army. You will report to Us from Time to Time the Number you may obtain & employ proper persons to discipline them with all Expedition.

We are
Sir
Your most obedient Servants
John Whitehill &c. Select Commd

The same to Tanjore, Madura & Palamcotah. ×

To

1407 Fort St George, September 1780

To Captn James Baldwin
Commander of the Ship
Contractor

Sir

To Captn Baldwin to hold the Contractor ready.

I am directed by the President & Select Committee to desire, that you will hold your Ship in readiness to proceed to the Northward at an hour's Notice in order to take on board some Troops for the Presidency; & that you will furnish yourself with as great a Quantity of Water as possible at this place.

I am, Sir.
Your most obedient Servant
Charles Oakeley

Fort St George
15th Septr 1780

The same to Capt. Le Mesurier of the Ponsborne.

16

Received the following Letter from Col. Lang.

The Honble John Whitehill Esqr
President &ca Select Committee of
Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Col. Lang. Hyder takes Coverypauk & Malapaddy.

By two Tappalmen that say they left Madrass the 31st past; I was the 5th Instant honored with your Commands of the 19th past; ordering a Company of Sepoys to be sent to Coverypauk; That place fell into the hands of Hyder Ally the 24th past; Therefore

1408 Fort St George, September 1780

I shall not call away a Company of Sepoys from Amboor as there is a great Number of Polygars up that Way that are under promise to Hyder Ally to try to take it. They have some time since taken Malapaddy a Fort on a Hill near Kistnagherry, that belonged to the Carnatic.

Hyder Ally with the greatest part of his Army is about five Coss to the Eastward of Arcot. The most of his heavy Guns is at Arnie, & he is making a Glacis round that Fort.

The Battering Cannon are ready for the field agreable to your former Orders. What Bullocks were wanting I got from Arcott. I have applied to the Nabob's Manager there for one Hundred & Sixty draft Bullocks in case the field Artillery that is in this Garrison should be wanted; but I have little hopes of being supplied as I find that the Commander in Chief has sent Orders there for Bullocks & there is not one to be had about this Country

I have the honor to be with all due respect

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your very obedient & devoted Servant
Ross Lang

Vellour
7th September 1780.

This day the following Letters were written.

To Edward Cotsford Esqr
Chief &ca Council of Masulipatam

1409 Fort St George, September 1780

Gentlemen

To Masulipatam Ponsborne proceeds thither, to bring down Seapoys

We now send the Company's Ship Ponsborne to bring up the 8 Grenadier Companies of Seapoys mentioned in our Letter to you of the 14th Instant. We desire you will put them onboard with all possible Expedition & afterwards dispatch the Ships to the Presidency

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

Fort St George
16th Septr. 1780

To Mr James Henry Casamajor
Chief &c. Council
of Vizagapatam

Gentlemen

To Vizagapatam the Sartine goes there for Troops.

The Sartine Frigate now proceeds to your Settlement, to bring up the four Grenadier Companies of Seapoys under the Command of Capt. Lysaught as mentioned in our Letter to you of the 14th Instant. We desire therefore that you will embark them without loss of time.

will embark

We are,
Gentlemen
Your most obedt. Servants
John Whitehill &c. Select Commd

Fort St George
16th Septr. 1780.

To

1410 Fort St George, September, 1780

To Captain Edmonds
Commanding
at
Ongole

Sir

To Capt. Edmonds to recruit as fast as possible

The six Companies of the 7th Carnatic Battalion which were with Lieut. Col. Baillie having been almost entirely cut off in the late Accident which happened to that Detachment, We desire you will use your utmost endeavors to raise Recruits sufficient to replace them without Loss of time & that you will report to us as often as you shall think expedient, the Number you may obtain, taking care that they be disciplined as fast as possible.

We are
Sir,
Your most obedient Servants
John Whitehill &c. Select Comd.

Fort St George
16th Septr. 1780.

17

Received the following Letters

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

Fort St George

From Capt. Gibbings Nabob's Renter attacks Hyder's People, but is repulsed.

I am sorry to acquaint you that at 100 Clock yesterday 5 Companies of Hyder Ally's Seapoys, 300 Horse & a number of Polygars & Colleries, took post near a small fort at Vellampetty

about

one.

1411 Fort St George, September, 1780

about three Miles from Sala Lunthan; where the Nabob's Renter, Mullarow was encamped with all the Troops he could collect in this Country & om Company of my Seapoys. Mullarow advanced to attack Hyder's People, but was most unfortunately repulsed. Mullarow, with one of the Nabob's Commandants & three Zemindars of his Horse were killed, & a number of his people. I fear that both the Subidar & Zemindar of the Company I sent out are killed or taken Prisoners & that some of the Seapoys are lost: I can't yet ascertain the Number. The Nabob's Seapoys &c.a made a very rapid retreat to this Place

I am, with the greatest respect
Hon'ble Sir & Sir
Your most obedient humble Servt.
Robert Gebbings

Madura
12th Sept. 1780

to Bengall.

Wrote the following Letter

William

To the Hon'ble Warren Hastings Esqr
Governor General &c.a Council
of Fort St George

Gentlemen

To Bengal. Two french Prisoners sent thither.

We have embarked on Board the Duke of Grafton two french Prisoners named Dupare & Du Moulins, whom We request you will be pleased to send to Europe by the first Opportunity

The

1412 Fort St George, 18th September 1780

The former was an Officer of the Sartine frigate & was accused by the latter (his Brother in Law) of carrying on a Correspondence with the Enemy, but as the Charge could not be proved & Mr Dupare (tho' possibly innocent in this Case) is a Man whose Conduct in other respects has been very irregular & unbecoming an Officer on Parole they have both been kept close Prisoners for some time past & considerd as very improper Persons to remain in India.

We have the honor to be
Gentlemen
Your most obedt humble Servants
John Whitehill &c.a Select Comd

Fort St George
17th Sept. 1780

At a Select Committee, Present
The Hon'ble John Whitehill Esqr President
Charles Smith, Sir Hector Munro K.B.
Samuel Johnson.

Monday the 18th.

The Minutes of last Committee read & approved.

Read the following Letters from Lieut. G. Mackay, commanding at Chingleput.

To the Hon'ble John Whitehill Esqr
Governor & President &c.a
of Fort St George

Hon'ble

1413 Fort St George, 18th September, 1780

Hon'ble Sir

From Dt. Mackay wth Intelligence

Hyder's Main Army is I understand encamped three Miles on the other side of Conjeveram. His Intentions are, it's said to attack & beseege Arcot, so soon as every necessary preparation has been made. His loss has been very considerable & his Ammunition greatly expended.

Every one of our Sepoys who escaped from his Camp & arrived here, report, that had our Army had seven or eight days Rice in Camp, Hyder would have retreated (after the Action with Col. Baillie) towards Trinomally.

It seems he knew of all our Resources, & of every grain of Rice &c. we had in Camp and thereby acted a more daring part than he otherwise would have attempted.

I was directed by Sir Hector Munro to collect & form into a Body all the Sepoys whether wounded or unhurt of Coll. Baillie's Detachment, who might come to this place. In compliance with his Orders I will do my utmost for the public good, till such time, as I shall be honored with your further Orders upon the Subject. I will advance them some little money & take every care of them in my power, I am

Hon'ble Sir, most respectfully

Your obedt. Servant

Geo: Mackay

Chingleput
15 Sepr. 1780

1414 Fort St George, 18th September, 1780

To the Hon'ble John Whitehill Esqr.
Governor & President &c. &c.

Hon'ble Sir

From do. with Intelligence

I have this instant been informd that Hyder's whole Army is on their March towards this Fort. His advanced Guards with 12 Piece of Cannon are reported to be near Sheveram about 13 Miles off. I have no Arrack, or more than a very few days provisions for the Garrison in its present State; — Of all these disadvantages you Hon'ble Sir, can best judge: as to every other part of my duty, you may ~~not~~ assured of the utmost Exertions of Hon'ble Sir,

Your very obedt. & humble Servant

Geo. Mackay
Dt Comt.

Chingleput
12 Clock at Night, 15th Sepr. 1780.

The President acquaints the Committee, that a Quantity of Arrack & Biscuit have been already dispatched to Chingleput, & it is now Ordered that a Supply of Rice be sent thither by the Way of Sadras

a Supply of Rice to be sent to Chingleput

The Commander in Chief informs the Committee that when he was at Chingleput, he understood from Lieut. Mackay that there were in Store about 1000 Bullock Load of Paddy

Read the following Letter from Captn. Chas. Fraser

To

1415 Fort St George, 18th September, 1780

To the Hon'ble John Whitehill Esqr.
President & Governor &ca Select Committee
Fort St George

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

amongst

From Captn. Fraser for leave to go home & enclosing Certificate.

The weak & precarious State of my health, ever since my expedition among the Circar Mountains, rendering it necessary for me to take the benefit of a cold Climate. I request you will be pleased to grant me leave of Absence to proceed to Europe by the first Opportunity.

I have the honor to be
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedient humble Servant
C. Fraser Captain.

This is to certify that Captain Charles Fraser in consequence of a fever contracted on the Service amongst the Hills of the Circars, is afflicted with Complaints of Obstructed Bile, so as to occasion Inflammation of the Liver & Bowels & being for some time past of a gouty habit, is recommended to try the Benefit of his Native Air for a Recovery of health.

Fort St George
17th Sept. 1780

Jas. Anderson
M.D. & Surgeon

Granted

Agreed that Capt. Fraser be permitted to go to Europe, by the first opportunity, agreeably to his request.

Read the following Letter from

1416 Fort St George, 18th September 1780.

Ensign Baillie

To the Hon'ble John Whitehill Esqr.
President & Governor &ca Select Committee
Fort St George

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

From Ensn. Baillie for leave to go home

Having received a Letter from my Uncle Colonel Baillie, commanding the Artillery with Genl. Goddard's Army, desiring my immediate Attendance on him, & wherein he offers to purchase me a Company in the King's Service, in which I had the honor of being a Lieutenant; I humbly request your permission to resign the Hon'ble Company's Service. Permit me, Gentlemen, at the same time to assure you, that nothing could induce me to quit at this time, but the great Advantage such a Step must be of to me,

I have the Honor to be
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedt. humble Servant
George Baillie Ensn. 21st Battn.

Madras
17th Sept. 1780

Granted

Resolved that Ensign Baillie be permitted to resign the Service

Read the following Letter from Bombay.

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

1417 Fort St. George, 18th September 1780

Gentlemen

From Bombay. transmitting a Packet from the Company

Having this day received a Packet to our Address from the Hon'ble Company by the Way of Bussora; We take the Opportunity of transmitting it by a Country Ship fortunately on the point of Sailing

We have also forwarded to Admiral Hughes the Intelligence therein contained & earnestly recommended to him to bring round his Majesty's Squadron to this Coast as expeditiously as possible, as it might be attended with the utmost Danger to the Company's Possession, should such a formidable french Armament make its Appearance, now that we are engaged in a War with the Marattas.

We have taken a Copy of the Dispatches from the Hon'ble Company which we shall transmit by another Opportunity. The Letter referred to by the Committee of Correspondence in the first part of their Letter, has never come to our Hands

We are with Respect
Gentlemen
Your most obedient
humble Servants
Wm Hornby
Jno. Carnac
D Draper

Bombay Castle
14th Augt. 1780

Sir Edward Hughes has already

1418 Fort St. George, 18th September, 1780

already received Intelligence to the same purport as that contained in the Letter from the Court of Directors enclosed in the above & has informed us of his Intention in consequence to proceed to Bombay early next Month

Read the following Letter from the President at Ganjam.

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

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

From Ganjam with Intelligence

In my last Address of 21st Instant I informed Your Honor &c. that I expected Captain Ewen Baillie would come here from Cuttack in order to return to Calcutta from hence by a Sea Conveyance, but I have just now received a Letter from him telling me that his Business makes it expedient he should proceed to Calcutta, without loss of time or at least to retire from Cuttack untill he receives Answers from Governor Hastings, which he expects to meet at Ballasore.

In my Advices to your Honor &c. dated 16th & 18th June, I mentioned that Chimnagee Boorla's Army consisted altogether of Thirty Thousand Horse & forty, Captain Baillie says that including Western Mahratta, Nagpore Horse, the Rajah's own household Cargeer horse with Burshday Seapoys & Pocket Men they amount to twenty five thousand effective troops, exclusive of a

Rabble

1419 Fort St George, 18th September 1780

Rabble of followers, who are all there, under implicit Orders from Poona & their Operations must depend upon the Terms that may be concluded between our Government & the Bhuslar or Nagpore Rajah, & that from the failure of Rain this Season this army may be able to move a Month sooner than usual.

Under these Circumstances and in this State of Uncertainty your Honor &ca. will judge what is proper to be done. Should these Mahrattas determine to commence Hostilities it will be a matter of the greatest Consequence to keep them out of & Defend this frontier District, but your Honor &ca. must be sensible this requires a larger Force than we have here at present and as the Time & Occasion seems to be pressing I hope your Honor &ca. will take the Matter into Consideration & favor me with your Instructions

I have the honor to be

Honble Sir & Sirs

Ganjam
27th Augt. 1780.

Your very obedient
humble Servant
John Turing

It is impossible for the Committee to reinforce the Troops in the Ganjam District & the only Instructions they can give to the Resident at Ganjam at present, are to dispose of the force he has already got in the best manner he can for the Defence of the District & to put the Fort into the best State of Security, that Circumstances will admit, by making the

1420 Fort St George, 18th September, 1780.

Repairs & Additions, which have been before recommended

Read the following Letter from Captain Eidingtown

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Capt. Eidingtown concerning the Nabob's Artillery

Herewith I have the honor to enclose you a Return of the Troops of this Garrison for last Month.

I am given to understand that half a Company of the Nabob's Artillery is orderd into this fort, which I shall receive, tho' I have had no directions for it, either from your Honors or the Commander in Chief. — And here I beg leave to observe that four out of five Companies, which the Nabob's Regiment of Artillery consist off, have lately been orderd to Trichinopoly by which distribution, and dividing the other Company between Madura and Palamcotah, there are none left to act with the Troops and Polygars, that might be formed for the Protection of the Madura & Tinavelly Districts, & who, would be at hand to cooperate with any Detachment, that at any time might be sent to penetrate into Hyder's Country on this Side.

I have the honor to be

Honble Sir & Sirs

Palamcotah
2 Sepr. 1780

Your respectful & obl. humble Servt
James Eidingtown

1421 Fort St George, 18th September 1780

As the Committee have no Idea at present of making an Attack on Hyder's Country, by means of the Troops employed for the protection of the Madura & Tinavelly Districts, they flatter themselves, there will be no Occasion for a greater number of Artillery than is already stationed in the forts of Madura & Palamcotah.

Read the following Letter from Mr Geo: Baker.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
President and Governor &ca Council of
Honble Sir & Sirs Fort St George.

From Mr Baker concerning a Supply of Water in the Fort

Understanding that you have lately had in contemplation the putting Water into the new Cisterns, I beg leave to inform you now, as I have long since had the pleasure of making known to your Honble Board; that, (though I am neither a competent Judge of the necessity of doing so in the State they now are, of the Expediency of postponing it in the present State of Things, till they are quite finished, or of the greater Importance of either compared to the other) If you shall please to determine on having it set about directly, will please to cause them to be cleaned out immediately for its Reception & favor me with a written Order for either filling them quite, or to such a heighth from the floor as you either present may (after consulting the Chief Engineer; or who else, if any

body

1422 Fort St George, 18th September 1780

Body, you shall please on the Occasion) think necessary, I am ready to begin, and will let Water into some of them, immediately after the Receipt of such an Order: And while these are filling either quite, or to such a degree as you may think proper, I will endeavor to provide some expedient, by way of temporary Substitute for the Groove, or Channel of Communication, which is intended to be made, & which is essentially necessary, but not yet compleated, to those Cisterns lying to the South of the Seagate.

Well informed as your Honble Board is, it may perhaps be needless for me to observe to you that if by any unlucky or unexpected Stratagem or other Event of War, an enemy should unhappily possess itself of the Black Town, it will most probably cut off or break up my Water Course instantly; at least it will in such a Case most assuredly deprive me of all possibility of making any use of it for the Service of this fort; or the Shipping in the Road; And supposing the old Cisterns did not leak at all (which however they all do, more or less, and some of them very much) leave this fort with but about five hundred Tons of our Water or about as much as might suffice for six Thousand men at three Quarts pr. Man per day for about Twenty five days. But as those Cisterns leak so much it is probable that (the means of Supply being cut off) no Water would be found remaining in them after

Twelve

Twelve or Fourteen days Consumption at the Rate above mentioned.

I heard some Months since, that it was intended to have one, two, or more of the new Cisterns filled with Water by way of Tryal, but have had no official Information of such Resolution. If you therefore, Honble, shall decline all thoughts of either filling or partly filling all these new Cisterns in the state they now are, but should at the same Time think it proper & be desirous of having one, two, or more of them filled now by way of Tryal, & shall please to send me written Orders for that purpose, I shall with pleasure execute your Commands.

I presume not, Honble, in respect of the above, to advise any thing; meaning only to shew by this Address, how cheerfully I shall comply with your Requisition, regarding any part of what is here intimated, & how very respectfully I have the honor to be,

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedt & humble Servant
George Baker

Fort St George
31st August 1780

P.S. I hope I shall not be understood to advise filling either one, two, more, or all the new Cisterns, in the state they now are; You, Honble are the only proper Judges, how far the Exigency of Affairs may require it; what the Quality of the Water may be after having been any time in them, in the State

State they now are; or justify any inconvenience that may be suffered; or Risk of injuring them, that may be run, by doing it, either now, or at any other Time before they are quite finished. George Baker.

Orders have been given to Mr Baker, to fill one of the new Cisterns with Water by way of Experiment.

Read the following Letter from Sir Edward Hughes.

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

Sir & Gentlemen,

From Sir Edwd Hughes agrees that the Nymph shall go to Bengal.

In consequence of your Letter to me of yesterday, I have directed Captain Stevens of his Majesty's Sloop Nymph to receive Mr Stephen Sulivan on board the said Sloop immediately, & to proceed with him to Ballasore Road, & to procure him the first English Pilot Sloop or Vessel in that Road to carry him to Calcutta.

I have also directed Captain Stevens to touch at Ganjam, Vizagapatam, & Masulipatnam in his way back to join me here, & to hoist an Union Jack at his Foretop Gallant Masthead, when off these several places as a Signal that he is ready to receive any Treasure the Chiefs may have to send on board,

Fort St George, 10th September 1700

Board; but not to remain at any of those places longer than Twelve Hours of which Circumstances I beg you will acquaint the Chiefs at those Settlements, as the future Service to which the Negotiation is destined will not admit of the least delay. I am with great regard,

Sirs Gentlemen

Your most obedient

Humble Servant

Edw: Harris.

Sepoys be in Madraspatnam Road 11th September 1700

Read the following Letter from the Chief & Council of Vizagapatam.

To the Honble John Whitehills Esqr

President and Governor &c.; Members of the Select Committee

Fort St George

Honble Sirs & Sirs

From Vizagapatnam Detach 2 Companies of Sepoys to Moringy.

We have the honor to transmit you Papers, N° 182. Their Contents have induced us to detach that two Companies of Sepoys be detached to Moringy, a Post on the Plains leading to the Hills of Ysimcotah, and as the Rajah has by our Intelligence 4 Companies of regular Sepoys at Tuniporo, a Fort two Cos from Moringy; we conceive that these Troops when joined with those at Moringy will form a force sufficient to check any immediate attempt of an Enemy, to destroy the Low Country & Plains, from which alone any certain Revenue is drawn. The Affair at

Fort St George, 10th September 1700

at Moringy has Instructions to detach small Guards to Gundaporam and Royagudda; places in the hills near to Ysimcotah, and the Passes leading into this Country; from those Guards the Officer will have sufficient Intelligence of the Approach of the Enemy; either to repel them if equal to the Contest, or take post and actively for reinforcement; — We flatter ourselves this Arrangement will meet with the Approbation of your Hons &c.a and have the preference to adopting the Plan recommended by the Acting Dubash, which we imagine, is by no means eligible at this time, as it may involve us in the attack of other Petty Zemin: Dars who may lend their Assistance, and by that means we may lose a number of Officers and Men; for it can with truth be asserted, that no expedition, even of short duration, has taken place among the Hills, unattended with a decayed Mortality; We have besides Reason to doubt the Intelligence — It is a well known Story that the Zemindar of Ysimcotah, Setanuzy by name, was about a Year since at Vizenagroam with a View of planting some Bell Countries, as it is given out; The Man on the day settled for his departure was seized & imprisoned; and is yet on confinement. Viskoram Dea who sends the Intelligence, rents the Seemna Candy of several Little Subaltern Zemindars among the Hills & is accountable to the Vizenagroam Family, which makes it not improbable, but that his own Views dictated the Information

Information given to the acting Dewan. We beg leave to submit these reflections which have determined our Conduct, to your Consideration, and we wait your orders on the Subject.

We have received your Honor &c.a Commands communicated to us by Mr Secretary Oakeley's Letter of the 22nd Ult.o relative to Captain Brali he is now a prisoner in this place, and we have been induced to allow him 15 Star Pagodas pr Month in full of all Expences on his Account. — By the Snow Indias by which will sail from hence in a few days, we shall lay before you some schemes committed to writing, & seized among his Papers, which display in strong lights his disposition to the prejudice of the English

We are respectfully
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedient
humble Servants
Jas. Henry Casamajor
Wm Crawford
Chas. Maxtone

Vizagapatam
4th Sept. 1780

(Translation)

From Vencata Rauze to the Chief; dated Vizenagram 31st August, 1780.

At Royagudda, Gonepurum, Narrianputnum &c.a Districts, Goosy &c.a did formerly cause disturbances. — Captain Lane and I went there

& reduced them to obedience, & rented out the District to Vickeram Deo; — The Issimcottah Man &c.a appeared before us, and promised to pay their Tribute by means of Vickeram Deo, in consequence of which, we put the Districts into possession of the Issimcottah Man &c.a The Issimcottah Man has not paid his Tribute, but has joined with Gosoy & the Calandy Man; & intends to bring Mahratta Horse into the Country to cause Disturbances, which Intelligence Vickeram Deo has written me, A Copy of which I now send you. — We had best take possession of Issimcottah within fifteen days and put our Troops in it. After they bring horses into the Country it will be difficult to oppose them, therefore I wish you will be so good to send two Companies of Sepoys, & I will send a Serdar & some Troops in the Rajah's Service, and station the Rajah's Troops into Issimcottah & will send the Company's Sepoys back.

A true Copy of the Translation
Chas. Maxtone
Secy

(Translation)

From Vickeram Deo to Vencata Rauze, 28th August 1780

I have twice sent you verbal Messages by the Vakeel Appiah, and also wrote you twice that the Issimcotah Man, Calandy Man, & Gosoy are all in Union; Bimbajee & his brother were at variance before, but they are now good friends; The

Calandy

ession

Calandy Man pays Tribute to them, on which account Bimbagee intends to join the Calandy Man &c. in their Endeavors. Gosoy advised Bimbajee to send some Troops, and in that case the Calandy Man & Issimcotah Man will give Assistance of Troops also & take possession of the Country & pay Tribute to the Mahrattas. The Expence that will occur on account of this Expedition the Issimcotah Man promised to pay, & Bimbajee intends to send horses, & they intend to assemble all these Troops at Issimcotah. At present the Issimcotah Man &c.a have persuaded the Vusladah Man to go against the Coottoopuddy Man; If they cannot take possession of the Country they intend to destroy it, and of this my Country people being acquainted, do not pay the Revenues to me. This Expedition they intend to get ready within fifteen days. If we do not take possession of Issimcotah and put our Garrison in it within this Time they will bring the Mahrattahorses in our Country & cause disturbances. If you make haste & send Sepoys we shall be able to take possession of it easily.

A true Copy of the Translation

Chas. Maxtone
Jr.

For the Reasons given in the foregoing Letter from Vizagapatam, the Committee entirely approve of the Conduct observed by the Gentlemen there in consequence of the Intelligence sent by Vickeram Dee, & would have them continue the same Disposition which they have made of the Troops, [illegible]

Approved

should require a different arrangement.

Read the following Letter from Col. Lang.

To the Hon'ble John Whitehill Esqr
President &c.a Select Committee
of Fort St George

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

From Col. Lang. [illegible] Letter from Cap[illegible]dergrast [illegible] the defeat of Co[illegible]ittee

I have this moment received the inclosed Letter from Captain Pendergrast & shall have the Honor to address you tomorrow. in the mean Time should you have any particular Order for me in consequence of the unhappy accident mentioned by Captain Pendergrast, I beg you will forward them.

I have the honor to be with all due respect

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs
Your very obedient
& devoted Servant
Ross Lang.

Vellore
11th Septr. 1780
10 o'Clock night.

Dear Sir!

A Sepoy is just come in, who says that he belonged to Captn. Nixon's Battalion under the Command of Col. Baillie, and gives the following Account: That the day before yesterday in the Morning, Col. Fletcher with three hundred Europeans, & four Grenadier Company's of Sepoys join'd Col. Baillie at Perembauck; that the whole marched

at

1431 Fort St George, 10th September, 1780

at eight o'Clock at Night to join the main Army. That between Ten & eleven Mahommed Ally attacked the Rear & Continued untill day Break; that about nine o'Clock two of our Tumbrils were blown up; when Tipesaib with a large body of Horse & foot attacked Col. Baillie. They were surrounded on all sides & closing in upon them, when Col. Baillie tied his Handkerchief on the Top of his Sword & held it up, on which they rushed in, cut a number to pieces & took Col. Baillie & many Officers Prisoners: He says Col. Fletcher is killed, & not more than fifty Europeans left alive. That Col. Baillie & all those taken were sent to Tipesaib's Camp. This man made his escape from the Camp of the Enemy

Mr Leighton who delivers you this can inform you of the Situation of this place in regard to the Pettah, & how little service so few Europeans have have can be in defending so extensive a Place; and all probability Hyder will visit it again, should the above news be true

Yr very obedt Servant
J Pendergast

Arcott 11th Sept 1780

The Commander in Chief acquaints the Committee that before he left Conjeveram he wrote a Letter to Capt Pendergast, desiring him to apply to Col. Lang if necessary for a further Reinforcement.

Agreed, that Col. Lang be acquainted with this, & directed to send as large a Reinforcement as he can spare to Arcot.

Col Lang to send a Reinforcement to Arcot

They cut more than that were made his this regard is As in the above

Resolved, that orders be sent to the Chief & Council of Cuddalore, to take the necessary Steps for bringing from Pondicherry, all the Mussoola Boats, & Boat People belonging to that Place.

All Mussoola Boats at Pondicherry to be sent to Cuddalore.

Captain Henry Augustus Montague Cosby is now appointed a Major in the Room of Major Mackellan deceased.

Capt Cosby appointd a Major.

Charles Smith

Saml Johnson

At a Select Committee, Present

Tuesday 19th

The Honble John Whitehill Esqr President
Charles Smith, Sir Hector Munro K.B.
Samuel Johnson.

Minutes of last Committee read & approved.

Read the following Letter from the Chief Engineer.

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

1433 Fort St George, 19th September, 1780

From Chief Engineer with Memorandums concerning the Fortifications.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I herewith take Leave to lay before you a Sett of Memorandums & Remarks thereon respecting what ought without Loss of Time to be carried into Execution. In order to enable you to put the Fort into a State of Defence it has become absolutely necessary that the Black Town should be defended as long as possible, that people, & every means of getting Provisions & Materials may be secured to do as far as possible, what is requisite in the short Space of Time that we have before the Moonsoon; The Troops now in the Black Town, or that could be put to it, in case of the absence of the Army, are surely by no means sufficient to guard the Town against Assault or so far quiet the Apprehensions of the people, that any of them can be kept to do what is absolutely requisite for the Fort; I have for some Time been employing the whole Strength of the People under my Direction to put the Black Town in a State of Defense, much smaller Matter remains yet to be done. All the people there at work shall soon be brought to prosecute what is so much wanted in the fort; But there must be a Force in, or near the Town; to assist in the Collection of Materials & to enable us at all, to keep the Artificers at work. In the Memorandums & Remarks that I have sent you herewith is every thing put down that hath occurred to me. I earnestly beg that the very insufficient State

put

occurred

1434 Fort St George, 19th September, 1780

of the Sea Line, the want of Parapets in some of the Works, & the incumbered State of the North Glacis may meet with primary Consideration.

Were the Bomb Proofs on the East Line cleared of the Earth, that is still in them; & an additional thickness of Brick Work put at Top to secure them from the Weather; they might be used as Barracks & enable you to clear out the King's Barracks for a Granary, so very much wanted in the Fort.

After having thus fully stated what is to be done, I hope your Honor &c will pass Orders that the means may be afforded me of carrying them into Execution; In which I desire to assure you my utmost Efforts shall be exerted. I have the honor to be with all respect.

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedient
humble Servt.
Geo. Maule
Chf Engr.

Fort St George
18th Septr. 1780.

Memorandums of what is to be done at Fort St George.

Remarks

Orders of the Committee

1 The several Guns to be mounted on the Works where Embrasures are prepared for them.

A Body of Lascars acquainted with the Business are necessary & I have earnestly to request that the Lascars now in Camp be order'd into the Fort for this purpose

Order'd accordingly

2

2

1435 Fort St. George, 19th September, 1780

Memorandums	Remarks	Orders of the Commr.
2nd. Platforms to be laid for such Guns as are to be mounted.	Between 30 & 40 Platforms are ready: The Military Storekeeper should be directed to compleat the original Order for 130.	2. Those that are ready, to be laid & the Military Storekeeper to be directed to make up such as are wanting to complete.
3rd. Drawbridges for the several Gates of the Body of the Place, & Outworks. 4th. Compleating the Palisadoes in the Covertway & Sea Line.	These are put in hand by Order of the Governor, some days since, but as the Contractor is in distress for Money, he should occasionally be supplied that these works may go on without Interruption.	3. Order'd accordingly. 4. Do.
5. Compleating the Masonry of the East Line. The unfinish'd Arches of the Casement therein are in their present State weak & not water light.	This is an object of very great Importance, as the Line is at present insufficient either for Defence or lodging of Troops. I take Leave to recommend that the Contractor for Material, (to whose deficiency of Supplies We are indebted for the present Unfinish'd state of the Works) be immediately sent for by the Hon'ble the Committee, & desired to inform them what steps he	5. In consequence of this Parat. Mr. Roebuck the Contractor for Bricks & Chunam is sent for, & questioned as to the Deficiency of these Materials. With respect to Bricks the Contractor says that he has nearly at the Kilns to complete the Fortifications & that more might have

1436 Fort St George, 19th September, 1780

Memorandums. Remarks. Orders of the Committee

he has taken in consequence of the late Advances made to him, & how soon a supply of Materials may be expected The Army remaining in the Vicinity of the Fort is the only Ground whereon we can hope to collect a sufficiency of Materials for this essential Work: As the Brick Cutters are at present afraid to work at the Kilns, I would beg Leave to propose that a Party of Sepoys be posted there to protect the Workmen in furnishing us with as many Bricks as we can expect to receive before the Rains set in. Charcoal should be procured on as large Quantities as possible to burn such Shells as may be received by Water either from Northward or South ward. I cannot express myself too anxiously on this Head, as I am convinced the uncompleated Brick Work of the

have been ready were not his people afraid to work on account of the Enemy's Horse As to Chunam he observes in his Justification that he had collected a considerable Quantity of Shells in the Country which he meant to bring hither by Sea, but as they could not be shipped without an Order from the Nabob to the Manager of that part of the Country where they had been collected. he had applied many days ago for this Order but owing to the delays used at the Durbar it had not been given till a day or two ago. He observes also that he finds it extremely difficult to procure

Vessels

1437. Fort St George, 19th September, 1780

Memorandums. Remarks Orders of the Commd

the Sea-Line cannot with-
stand the shock of any
heavy Rains, & I trust the
Committee will see it in the
same serious Point of View.
All the Carts that can be pro-
cured should be delivered over
to the Contractor for the Works
that he may bring into the
Fort the Bricks that remain
at the Kilns.

Vessels to transport the
Shells which are now
collected to the Nward
partly owing to the
unwillingness of the
Owners to hire their
Vessels for this purpose
& partly to the great
demand of Masoola
Boats for the Squa-
dron, which prevents
the Paddy Vessels now
in the Road from land-
ing their Cargoes &
deprives him of the
Opportunity of employ-
ing several which he
had been promised.

The Committee
are sensible that the
Contractor must have
met with obstructions
from the Causes he men-
tions, tho' they cannot
judge how far they
may have operated to
[illegible]
create

1738. Fort St George, 19th September, 1780

Memorandums Remarks Orders of the Committee

create the Deficiencies
complaind of. He is
however now positive-
ly enjoined by the
Committee to use
his utmost Exertions
to procure the necessary
Supplies mentiond by
the Chief Engineer, in
which he is told he
will have every Assis-
tance that the Govern-
ment can afford with
respect to Boats, &
every other Article.
He is also directed
as soon as he can
get Boats, to go
himself down with
them to the Northward
and see that no time
be lost in putting
on Board the Shells
which may have
been collected by him.

6.

1439 Fort St George, 19th September 1780

Memorandums	Remarks	Orders of Comm^d
6. Stockades of Red Wood at the N.E. & S.E. Angles of the Fort.	The Red wood is ready, but Lascars are wanted for the purpose of driving the Piles.	6. Requires no Order.
7. Esplanade to be entirely clear'd of all the Buildings & Lum ber.	The Red Wood is now moving but there are some Banksals &c. that should be also removed.	7. The Chief Engineer is to be directed to take down immediately all the Banksals &c on the Esplanade
8th. The Buildings on Hog Hill are only from 230 to 250 Yds or thereabout, from the foot of the Glacis of the N.W. Works the Houses ought I think to be clear'd to 400 Yards from the foot of the Glacis & the Ground so far levelled as to admit of no cover.	The Select Committee having referred this Subject to the Court of Directors, I know not how far they may think what I propose eligible. If any serious Attack is apprehend ed it is of the utmost Conse quence to the fort that this Ground should be levelled.	8. This Para^t to be taken into Consideration at a future time.
9. The Hulls, Houses & Horse Stables, at the foot of the Island Bridge to be removed, &	These are now increasing daily, & the Island is so cover'd with Habitations that we should be in the utmost	9. Order'd accordingly

are

moving

Should

Memorandums	Remarks	Orders of Comm^d
& every thing on the Island as far back as the Burying Ground. The Play-house & Powder Plat forms should be demolished.	utmost Danger of hurting our own people, were we under the Necessity of firing the Guns of the Fort.	
10. All Cover on the South Front should be removed.	The Boatmen who have now Possession of the South em Bank should be removed to the Nevard, beyond the Boundary of the Esplanade	10. Order'd accordingly
11. There are a Quantity of Gabions & Fascines in Store, these are so old as to have become entirely rotten, & useless but as Firewood. A fresh supply of these Articles should, with Quantity of Piquets Party & to make up there be immediately pro the number that may be cured, as well as the necessary for the Fort. Time & Circumstances will admit.	As the Provision of Gabions & Fascines will be tedious unless more than ordinary means be used, it should be considered whether it would not be advisable to send an Officer with a Party into the Pollams to the North West to collect a working Party & to make up there the number that may be necessary for the Fort.	11. The Chief Engineer to send a proper person to the Pollams on this duty.

North

1441 Fort St George, 19th September 1780

Memorandums	Remarks	Orders of ye Committee
12. A Body of Gabion Makers to the Number of 60 or 80 should be immediately collected & kept in pay in Case of Exigency		12. Approved, & ordered accordingly
13. Three Hundred Hurdles should also be procured.		13. Do.
14. Besides the Palisadoes for the Covert Way there should be 5 or 6000 Spare ones made of the Stoutest Palmiras, or such other Stuffs as can be procured.		14. Ditto.
15th There should be immediately made up 10 or 15,000 Wicker Baskets.		15. Do.
16. Ten Thousand Coats load of Clay should be brought into the Fort.	The Carts of the Inhabitants might be pressed to bring this essential Article into Store. We have no	16. Do.

hurdles.

made

17

17

1442 Fort St George, 19th September 1780

Memorandums	Remarks	Orders of ye Commd
	no means of supplying ourselves within the Fort.	
17. Entrenching Miners Carpenter's Smith's } Tools Sand Bags Crows feets Spare Timbers for Stations of Gallaries should be provided, if there is not sufficient in Store.		17. To be referred to the Committee of Works who are to report the Deficiency there may be in these Articles.
18. A Calculate of Provisions Firewood, Straw Potts &c. should be made & proper Places provided for lodging them. Fort St George 18 Sepr. 1780.		18. The Resident is requested to enquire into this Matter.

George Maule
Cf. Engr.

Read the following Letter from Ensn. Brunton.

To Major General Sir Hector Munro K.B.
Commander in Chief of the Forces &c. &c.

Sir

About three Months ago

From Ensn. Brunton for permission to resign the service.

I received a packet of Letters from my Friends in Europe in particular one from an Uncle, my most particular friend who

1443 Fort St George, 19th September 1780.

(who first sent me to India) requesting I would on receipt of his Letter return home, as he anxiously wished to see me before his Death, being now far advanced in years, That it was his Intention to settle the small Estate he is possessed of same; As the promise he has made me is an object well deserving my Attention, not doubting being favord with your permission I in consequence settled a passage for myself before the present Troubles commenced.

I now request I may be favord with your Permission to proceed, which if you are pleased to grant me, I shall be happy on every Occasion to testify my Gratitude to you for so kind an Indulgence. I have the honor to be with the most perfect Respect,

Sir

Your most obedt. & very humble Servant

Ja Brunton

Camp at Mannelong 18th Sepr. 1780.

Granted

Agreed that Ensign Brunton be permitted to resign the Service & go home agreeably to his request.

A Company of Sepoys to be ordered from Cuddalore to Wandiwash.

Resolved that the Chief & Council of Cuddalore be directed to send one Company of Sepoys from thence to Wandiwash.

Charles Smith

Saml. Johnson

1444 Fort St George September 1780

19th Dispatched the following Letters

To Mr William Cuming
Chief &ca Council
at Cuddalore.

Gentlemen

To Cuddalore to send up all the Mussoola Boats from Pondicherry.

As it may be detrimental to Us at this time to allow of any Mussoola Boats at Pondicherry. We desire You will take the necessary Steps for bringing to Cuddalore all the Boats and if possible the Boatmen belonging to that port without loss of time.

We are
Gentlemen
Your most obedt. Servants
John Whitehill
&ca Select Committee

Fort St George
19th Sepr. 1780

To Mr John Turing
Resident
at Ganjam

Sir

We have received your Letters of the 27th Ult.

To Ganjam — to make repairs at that Place.

As it is impossible for us to spare any additional Troops for the defence of Your District, We hope by a judicious Disposition of what you now have that no material Injury will arise even should an Incursion take place. We give You permission to

do

1445 Fort St George September 1780

be what you have represented to be absolutely necessary to the Fort of Ganjam trusting you will be as frugal in the Expence as possible.

We are

Sir

Your most obedient Servants

John Whitehill

&c. Select Committee

Fort St George
19th Sept. 1780.

To Lieut. George Mackay
Commanding at
Chingleput

Sir.

We have received your Letters of the 15th

To Lt. Mackay Biscuit & Arrack sent to Chingleput

We doubt not you will have exerted your utmost to supply your Garrison with Provisions. We shall however send a Supply of Rice to Madras, which you will endeavour to convey to Chingleput by the most secure Method. Arrack & Biscuit have been already sent, and as we understand from the General that you had 1000 Bullock Load of Paddy when he was at Chingleput we trust you will be able with good Management to hold out (should the Place be attacked) until the Monsoon.

We are

Sir

Your most obedient Servants

John Whitehill

&c. Select Committee

Fort St George
19th Sept. 1780.

1446 Fort St George September 1780.

To Col. Ross Lang
Commanding
at Vellore.

Sir

We have received your several Letters the last dated the 11th Instant.

To Col. Lang desiring a Detachment to Arcott, if practicable.

The General, supposing, after the Disaster which befel Col. Baillie's Detachment, that Hyder might renew his Attempt against Arcot, wrote to Capt. Prendergast to apply to you for a reinforcement. Should none have been yet sent, We desire that you will detach (if not attended with too much Risk) such a further force to Arcot as Capt. Prendergast may require, or as you may think expedient for the Defence of that Place.

We are

Sir

Your most obedient Servants

John Whitehill

&c. Select Committee

Fort St George
19th Sept. 1780

To Mr George Mowbray
Superintendant of the Diabolis Accounts.

Sir,

The Governor having transmitted

To the Superintendt

to Mr Ogilvie the Paymaster of Vellore Orders on some Sowcars at Arcot for 5000 Pags and 15000 Rupees to defray the Charges of his Employ, and Mr Ogilvie having informed the President & Select Committee

1000

that these Orders have been duly paid, I am directed to desire you will carry the Amount to his Debit

I am
Sir
Your most Obedt Servt
Charles Oakeley Jun.

Fort St George
19th Sept. 1780.

20th Wrote the following Letters

To Mr William Cuming
Chief &ca Council at
Cuddalore

Gentlemen

To Cuddalore to send a Company of Seapoys to Wandewash

We desire on receipt of this, You will send One Company of Seapoys from Your Garrison to Wandewash

We are
Gentlemen
Your most Obedt Servts
John Whitehill
&ca Select Committee

Fort St George
20th Sept. 1780.

To Mr John Huddleston
Resident
at
Nagore.

Sir

To Nagore to procure Boats for the Troops coming from the Southd

Orders have been sent to Trichinopoly for two Companies of the Nabob's Artillery and some

some of his Troopers at Trichinopoly to proceed to Nagore to be embarked from thence for Madras. We desire in consequence that you will procure Boats or such other Vessels as can be had to convey them hither with all Expedition

We are
Sir
Your most obedient Servants
John Whitehill
&ca Select Committee

Fort St George
20th Sept. 1780.

To Lieut Col. Nixon
Commanding
at Trichinopoly.

Sir

To Col. Nixon to send two Companies of Nabob's Artillery to Nagore, & directing the Nabob's Sibbendy to be incorporated with the Company's Seapoys

As it is necessary We should have two Companies of the Nabob's Artillery with all his Troopers now at Trichinopoly, We desire you will send them accordingly to Nagore that they may be embarked from thence. The Nabob himself will dispatch Orders to Trichinopoly upon this Subject.

The Nabob has acquainted us with his firm Intention to pay up the Arrears due to his Sibbendy at Trichinopoly, and when this is effected he consents that they be immediately taken into the Company's Service and incorporated with the regular Seapoys. You will in this Event avail yourself of the Opportunity of strengthening the Establishment by receiving these people as Recruits & forming them as fast as possible that they may supply the Deficiencies which have lately happened in the Seapoy Corps.

Fort St George
20th Sept 1780

We are
Sir Your most Obedient Servants
John Whitehill
&c. Select Committee

21st

Messrs Smith & Johnson delivered in the following Minute.

Minute of Messrs Smith & Johnson, desiring that the Returns of the Army may be laid before the Committee

We have waited for these six Days past, with the greatest impatience for a general Return of the Troops on this Coast, being made by the Commander in Chief, and laid before the Committee: as by this, we must be guided in drafting Troops from different Stations, to enable our Army to take the Field again—. we also expected a Return of Military Stores, that those, which have been expended and lost, might be replaced;— but, as no such information has been given to the Committee, however disagreeable it may be to us, we deem it our indispensible Duty to require it.

We are also desirous of having a Journal, of the General's Operations, from the day he left the Mount, until his return, which we hope will include all Orders issued by him, to Lt Colonels Baillie and Fletcher, and to Captain Cosby; as it is undoubtedly absolutely necessary necessary that the Committee should be minutely acquainted with all these Circumstances, to enable them to form an Opinion on the melancholy Disaster which has befallen our best Troops, and on the Reasons which urged the General to return for a Reinforcement.

Hitherto we have had no Particulars, but

by public Report, and we think no further Time should be lost in taking into Consideration the present actual State of our Army, and what means can be used for prosecuting the War with Vigour.

21st September 1780.

Sir Hector Munro's Reply to the above.

General Munro's Reply to the above Requisition.

Fort St George 21st Sept 1780

I cannot help observing to Messrs Smith & Johnson that their Minute of this Day is rather premature, as the Requisitions they now make from me have taken up a great part of my time. For some Days past preparing to lay Returns, as well as an Account of the Motions of the Army since we left the Mount properly before them: and tho' the whole is not compleat as yet, they shall be sent to the Committee in [illegible] hours time.

Received the following Letter from Sir Hector Munro.

Fort St George 21st Sept 1780

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Genl Munro containing a Journal of the occurrences that happened during the Campaign with a detail of Stores

The Difficulty of conveying Letters from the Army to Madras, owing to the numbers of the Enemy Horse, prevented my sending You exact accounts of the Motions of the Army, and I was obliged in general to confine myself to small Notes wrote to the Governor which I desired he would communicate to You: I therefore take this Opportunity of acquainting You of the several particulars about

-ing the March of the Troops, that I think worthy Your Considerations, from the Day we left St Thomas's Mount, till our Return.

After having with the greatest difficul-ty got as much Rice as would serve the Troops for eight days, I was obliged to order the Sepoys to carry four Days Rice each, and with the utmost Difficulty got Bullocks sufficient to carry the Remainder. Hyder Ally having besieged Arcott, and the Chief of that place being consi-dered of the greatest Consequence, as the Nabob's Capital and a Place in which there was great Quantity of Military Stores, as well as Provisions, I was willing to move as quick as possible towards Conjevaram, imagi-ning that an Army advancing towards Arcott might be the Means of raising the Siege, which in fact hap-pened. Lieut Col Baillie with a large Detachment from the Northward, was advanced so far that I had concerted Measures, so that he would arrive at Conjeveram the day after we got there. The 25th August I went to St Thomas's Mount, where the Army was encamped, Captain Campbell's Regiment belonging to His Highness the Nabob, was with the Troops, but refused serving any longer, unless they received all their Arrears of Pay; which the Ameer who was there in person, not consenting to, their Arms & Horses were taken from them. About 56 of them including 17 Black Officers, offered to serve, and Lieut James Campbell took the Command of them. Lieut Young with 33 European Troopers dismounted, got some of the worst Horses to mount them — These were all the Cavalry I had; the dismounted Troopers of Capt Campbell's Regiment were marched Prisoners to Madrass, and

and I have been informed that the Ameer enlisted them all into his own Body Guard the next Morning. The 26th August, The Army consisting of His Majesty's 73d Regiment, the 2d Battn of the 1st Regt the Grenadier Company of the 2d Battn 2d Regt with 5 Battalions of Sea-poys and a Company of Marksmen, the two Troops of Cavalry with a large train of Artillery, amounting in all to 5209 Men including Officers (as the Corps were not compleat) marched from the Mount to Podeapire 11 Miles

27th To Tripamadore, 8 Miles

28th To Mourtinaick Choultry, 8 Miles

29. To Camp near Conjeveram, 11½ Miles

During these four Days nothing very particular happened, The Enemy's Horse followed us in great Numbers, and wounded & took a few Men — The Night we were at Tripamadore the Weather changed, and it rained most violently, this sort of Weather continued till our Arrival at Conjeveram, by which the Roads became very bad & the Country was all under water. I was obliged to deliver to the Troops, the four Days Rice that I had brought with me. The Nabob had sent a Person from the Durbar, who I understood was to attend & assist me, till I met with Niseph Cawn at Arcott. I sent for him and told him he must immediately get Provisions for the Army & Lieut Col Baillie's Detachment that I expected the next day; and I also desired he would use his utmost endeavours to get Intelligence of the Enemy's Motions. His Answer was that he was ordered by the Nabob to attend me, but had no powers given him to procure me either Provisions or Intelligence. I had now no hopes of Pro-visions but from the Paddy that might be found in

and

and about Conjeveram, which Ordered the Cutwal to collect, & gave him Guards of Seapoys to assist him in bringing it to the Pagoda.

30th The Army remained on the same Ground expecting Lt Col. Baillie's Detachment which was to have joined this day— The rains still continued with great Violence.

August 31st We were this Day informed by two Deserters that Hyder had left Arcott, and was crossing all his Army over the Palar and marching towards us. His Cavalry were in large Bodies all round us. The Rains still continued both Night & Day. I received Accounts from Lt Col. Baillie that his Detachment was stopped about 5 Miles North of Trepasore by a Small River that was so Deep that he could not pass it.

Having information that Hyder had got possession of a Mud Fort at Mussalpauk, about 6 Miles in our Front on the left, where he had some Horse and Infantry & some Rocket Boys near it, a Detachment of two Battalions of Seapoys, the Company of Marksmen and a Grenadier Company with scaling Ladders, marched at 7 this evening to surprise them under the Command of Lt Col. Harper. But the Man who undertook to shew the Road, missed his way in the night, and after marching all night returned in the morning without having effected any thing.

Sept. 1st The Ground was so covered with water that I was obliged to change my Camp near to Conjeveram.

2 & 3d We remained on the same Ground but the rains still continued most violently. This Day

I received a Note from Capt. Prendergast that Hyder quitted his ground before Arcott on the 29th August. The Enemy were encamped at Ball Chitty's Choultry about 5 Miles in our Front. I was obliged to give Paddy to the Battalions to beat it out into Rice themselves; as the Quantity beat out in a Day by the Followers of the Army was not sufficient for more than one Days Consumption for all the Troops. 4th This Evening it rained extremely hard. Lieut Croker with the 8/ 4th Batt. marched and attacked an advanced Post of the Enemy in a Tope in our Front, he returned to Camp in the Morning having killed several of the Enemy and brought back two Horses.

5th The Troops remained in the same Encampment. I received a note from Lt Col. Baillie informing me that he had crossed the River the 3. The Rains still continue very violent.

6th The Enemy moved their Camp this Day to the N.E. We struck our Tents and marched to a height Ground about two Miles on the Road to Trepasore, where we encamped. The Enemy's Camp was about two Miles to our left. They had sent forward a very large Detachment which attacked Lt Col. Baillie at Perambaucum, who repulsed them. It rained most violently this Day.—

7th & 8th I received a Note from Lt Col. Baillie informing me, that on a review after the Action with Hyders Detachment, he found it was not in his power to join me, but hoped to see me at Perambaucum. I found myself now in a very critical Situation. The only Hopes of Provisions were from the Paddy I had collected in the Pagoda. The Enemy was encamped

within

within two Miles of me, Had I marched with my whole Force he most certainly would have possessed himself of my Ground & Conjeveram, and thereby cut me off from all Provisions. In this case we must have been starved. I therefore with the Concurrence of the principal Officers in the Army with me, resolved to send a strong Detachment to Lt Col. Baillie who was still at Perambaucum, 18 Miles from me on the Trepassore road, & to remain with the rest of the Troops to watch the Enemy's Motions. At nine o'clock at night Lt Col. Fletcher marched with the Grenadier & Light Infantry Companies of the 73d Regt Two Companies of European Grenadiers, one Company of Sepoy Marksmen, and ten Companies of Sepoy Grenadiers. It was my Intention that this Detachment should have taken with them four 6 Pounders, but Lt Col. Fletcher observed, that he should be better able to cross the Country without Artillery. The Men left their Knapsacks and Sent with them 2 Days Rice, Ammunition on nine Camels, & Biscuit, and a Arrack, on Bullocks on Coolys Heads. I flattered myself so strong a Detachment when joined to Lt Col. Baillie's Corps, would enable him to join me, and I desired Lt Col. Fletcher to tell him to begin his March in the Evening of the 9th September, & march all Night towards me, but if any thing happened, that he thought might impede his March, I then desired he would march with the Detachment to Trepassore, which was twenty Miles in my Rear, and inform me of it.

10th Our Army & the Enemy's remained on the same Ground; This Evening the Tents were struck and

and we lay on our Arms all night, about 12 o'Clock we heard some Cannon & Musquetry which soon ceased and every thing remained quiet.

10th A little before Daylight we heard a heavy firing of Cannon & Musquetry at a Distance. The Enemy's army I understood had moved. I also at Daylight marched by my right on towards where we heard the Firing. When we had marched about 4 Miles, I ordered 3 Guns to be fired, as Signals of our approach and observing the Smoke of the Guns to be to our left, moved in a direct line towards them. After marching about 1/2 Mile more, I repeated the Signals but had no return. We saw a great Smoke and of a sudden all the firing ceased. We continued our march to the Right towards the Trepassore road again; expecting to meet Lt Col. Baillie, not doubting but that he had repulsed the Enemy. After marching near two Miles we met one of our own Sepoys wounded, who told us that Col. Baillie had been attacked & entirely defeated. Tho I could not depend upon this Information, yet not meeting the Detachment & the firing having totally ceased, gave me too much reason to suspect some Disaster, the Security of the Army determined me therefore to return to Conjeveram, where we arrived about 6 in the Evening. Several other wounded Sepoys came in this Night, who confirmed the defeat of the Detachment, The reports of the Sepoys differed so much as to Particulars, that no Credit could be given to them on one Circumstance only they seemed all to agree, which was that two or three Tumbril blew up and then the Horse broke in upon the Detachment.

This

This is all the information I got of this most unhappy Disaster.

I found there was barely one Day's Rice for the Troops, and I considered that if I remained at Conjeveram, I should soon be surrounded with all Hyder's Cavalry, so that I should be every Day more distressed for Paddy & Sheep, and the Horses & Bullocks must have starved; nor had I any hopes of Relief. I resolved therefore to fall back to Chingleput, where I hoped to find Provisions. I ordered all the Baggage out of the Pagoda which was not in a State of Defence, and threw the heavy Guns & Stores that could not be moved into the great Tank.

11th At three in the Morning we left Conjeveram; we marched all day. Our Flanks & Rear were continually harassed with not less than 6000 of the Enemy's Horse; who wounded several Men, and cut off several Carts of Baggage; a deep Nulla near Sheveram retarded our March much, & the Followers of the Army with the Baggage pressed so close on the Line on this narrow Pass that many of the Sepoys threw down their loads and left them on the Ground. We arrived at 11 at Night at a River within a mile and a half of Chingleput, so deep that the Rear of the Army did not passit till 9 o'clock next Morning.

12th I was much disappointed on being informed by Lieut. Mackay, who commands at Chingleput, that I could not get any Provisions for the Troops, and that the Nabob's Havildars had all run away from the Country. After every endeavour we could only get Paddy sufficient for one Days Rice, and some

some Sheep for the Europeans. Col. Cosby joined us here with his Detachment from the Southward, consisting of 11 Companies of Seapoy Grenadiers, 3 Batt.n Comp.s of Seapoys, 2 Regiments of His Highness the Nabob's Cavalry, with 6 of his Light Infantry Companies & 2 three Pounders. Had we had Provisions, I could have remained at Chingleput with this Reinforcement till I had heard from Madras, but Necessity obliged us to make another forced March to St Thomas's Mount 13th

We left all our Sick and some of the Baggage at Chingleput, & began our March at six in the Evening, and arrived at the Mount on the 14th about 2 o'Clock in the Afternoon. The troops were quartered in the Barracks & Houses. And the 15th the Army marched to Manneling, where they are now encamped.

I have now, Gentlemen, in plain Terms informed you of every particular relative to the Army that I can recollect worthy your observation; and give me leave to assure you that in the short time we have been from Madras, I have had more Difficulties to encounter, than ever I experienced since I have been at St Peter. I imagine it will appear that the unexpected as well as uncommon Quantity of Rain that fell from the 26th August to the 6th September has been the Cause of our Misfortunes, by swelling a Small River so as to prevent Lt Col. Baillie's Detachment from passing, from the 27th August to the 3d September, and what still adds to the Distress, I understand it is a River that has scarce ever been known to be impassable for any length of time. Had Lt Col. Baillie joined

me

on the 29th August at Conjeveram (which nothing but the Rains could prevent) I should have had it in my power to have attacked Hyder's Camp at Ball Chitty's Choultry - His Situation favoured the Attempt; being encamped in a Wood, which would have given our Infantry the Advantage over his numerous Cavalry I should also have had provision sufficient to have served the Army to Arcott, where we expected an ample Supply; But the necessity I was under of remaining at Conjeveram, deprived me of these Advantages. - The quantity of Paddy I had collected in the Pagoda was our only Support, & had I quitted Conjeveram, the Enemy would immediately have occupied it & we must have starved In the unfortunate Affair of the 10th as I am certain Lt Col Baillie, his Officers, and the whole Detachment would exert themselves to the utmost, I am of opinion that the blowing up of the Tumbrils was the ruin of the Detachment The number of Lives that must have been lost by the explosion, the Confusion it must have created in the Ranks, and the want of Ammunition might have been the cause of the Defeat of a much larger Body, and I fear it was at this moment of their Distress that Hyder's multitude of Cavalry fell on them - The want of Intelligence was a circumstance in which I was much distressed; I found myself in a Country ravaged with fire & Sword, and so surrounded with Horse, that Hircarrahs could with Difficulty go out or return to Camp without being wounded by them. The Inhabitants mostly fled, and the few that remained, seemed more in the Interests of the Enemy than of their proper Master. It was to Capt. Pringle who is Captain of the Guides, that I was

was obliged in this particular; whose unwearied Diligence procured me all the Intelligence I did receive.

Great as the misfortune is in the loss of so large a Detachment, I hope we have still resources to bring a strong Army into the Field; but in particular give me leave to fix your Attention to Cavalry. The Oppression on the Artillery and Infantry for want of Horses is too great; the numbers of Detachments obliged to be sent out for Provisions, harrasses the Troops severely; whereas a certain number of regular Cavalry would cover your Troops on all Marches; provide Escorts for Convoys; keep your Camps quiet by Patroles, and give relief to the Artillery and Infantry so as to enable them to act with full Force, when actual Service requires their Exertion.

I beg this Letter may make a Number for Europe.

I have the honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient
& most humble Servant
Hector Munro

Honble John Whitehill Esqr President
& Governor &ca &ca Select Committee
Fort St George

An

Fort St George September 1780

An Account Remains of Ordnance Ammunition and Stores under the Charge of the Commissary of Stores to the Army Camp 16th September 1780

Quality of Stores	Remains 16th Sept. 1780
Brass Guns	
12 Pounders	4
6 Do	16
3 Do	7
Brass Howitzers	
5½ Inch	4
Field Carriages with Limbers Boxes &c.	
12 Pounders	4
6 do	16
3 do	7
5½ Inch	4
Round Shot fixed to Flannel & Serge Cartridges	
12 Pounders	290
6 do	1712
3 do	1120
Shells fixed to Flannel & Serge Cartridges	
5½ Inch	139
Grape Shot fixed to Flannel & Serge Cartridges	
12 Pounders	115
6 do	381
3 do	241
5½ Inch	30
Empty Flannel & Serge Cartridges	
12 Pounders	69

Fort St George September 1780

Quality of Stores		Remains 16 Sept. 1780
6 Do		1066
3 do		119
5½ Inch		50
Filled Flannel & Serge Cartridges		
12 Pounders		108
6 do		252
3 do		147
5½ Inch		80
Spunges with Rammerheads		
12 Pounders		8
6 do		39
3 do		18
5½ Inch		3
Ladles with Wadhooks		
12 Pounders		4
6 do		16
3 do		7
Filled Tubes		
12 Pounders		1769
6 do		5832
3 do		3235
Cordage		
4½ Inch Country	Coils	
3½ do	do	27
1½ do	do	2
Small Coir	bundles	
Spun Yarn	rolls	
Iron Flat	bars	12
Square	do	2
Bolt	do	4
Rod		40

Carried

Fort St George September 1780

Quality of Stores		Remains 16th Sept 1780.
Europe Steel	Tons	26
Pioneers Tools		
Mamoatty's		201
pick Axes		69
Bill Hooks		148
Wards Hatchets		108
Broad Axes		93
Felling Axes		22
Artificers Tools		
Cross cut Saws		
Hand Saws		5
Planes		3
Augurs		16
Chissels		12
Compasses	pairs	2
Grindle Stone		
Beak Iron		2
Anvils		2
Files of Sorts		300
Vises		
Standing		1
Bench		2
Hand		2
Screw-plates		7
Sledge Hammers		7
Hand Hammers		1
Shears Tinman		1
Gimblets		12
Soldering Irons		3

Beef

Fort St George September 1780

Quality of Stores		Remains 16th Sept 1780.
Brass Adze		1
Copper Dryers		2
Vises Copper		10
Coopers Adze		1
Drawing Knives		5
Carpenters Adze		5
Tumbrils		37
Artificers Carts		2
Gun Powder Europe bolt	barrels	20
Artillery Stores		
portfires		2346
Match Cotton	Skains	57
Match Country	do	159
Europe Twine	lb	148
Bengal do	do	182
Flamborough Line	do	11
Musket Cartridge Paper	Quires	253
Tin Tube Boxes with Straps		
12 Pounders		8
6 do		16
3 do		20
Paw Hammers		34
pincers for Tubes	pairs	31
D. for Fuzes	D.	14
Portfire Sticks		33
Lints Sticks		9
Hand Spikes Traversing		
12 Pounders		7
6 do		31
3 do		14

Fort St George September 1780

Quality of Stores		Remains 16th Sept 1780
5½ Inch		8
Hand spikes purchasing		62
Haversacks		58
Tarpaulins large		16
Turnbul		34
Gun 12 Pounders		8
6 do		16
3 do		7
5½ Inch		4
Padlocks with Keys		90
Priming Irons		44
Steel Bits		47
Gun Flags		2
Tar	½ Dupper	8
Grease	do	4
Wax Candles		1500
Wax Cloth		1
Canvas	piece	3
Gunny Bags for Musket Ammunition spare	Bolts	17
Rattan		2
Chalk	bundles	
Coconut Oil	lb	
Muscovy Lights		
Santhonns		
Tin		
Copper Funnels	Sheets	45
		3

Artillery Stores

Sal Ammoniac	lb	8
Borax	lb	8
pewter Solder	lb	9
	Copper	

Fort St George September 1780

Quality of Stores		Remains 16th Sept 1780
Copper do	lb	12
Rosin	lb	8
Camphire	lb	2
Marline	Skains	11
Tanned Hydes		
Country do		
Lead Aprons		31
Quick Match	Skains	6
Mealed Powder	lb	8
Copper		
Spunge Tacks	lb	6
White Lead	lb	2
Rasps		12
Dredging Boxes		5
Knives		24
Scissars	pairs	24
Sail Needles		100
Hour Glasses		2
Gunny Needles		100
Scales & Weights	Set	2
Calliper Compasses	Pair	2
Boudge Barrels		2
Saws for Fuzes		7
Engine for Sawing Fuzes		1
Perpendiculars		2
Spirit Quadrants		1
Common Do		5
General Williamson's Instrument		1
Drivers & Setters 5½ Inch	each	2
Shell Gauges	Set	1
	Volume	

Fort St George September 1780.

Quality of Stores			Remains 16th Sept. 1780
Palms			15
Drag Ropes	12 Pounders	Setts	4
	6 do.	do.	14
	3 do.	do.	7
	5/2 Inch	do.	4
Hand Jack			1
Leather Buckettes			59
Gunspikes	Round		28
	Ragged		30
	Spring		30
Relievers for Spring Spikes			31
Tompions with Collars	12 Pounders		4
	6 Do.		16
	3 do.		7
	5/2 Inch.		4
Artillery Stores			
Flyers			2
Musket Ammunition			
English Shotted Cartridges			81000
Carbine do.		do.	23200
Pistol do.		do.	
Blunt Musket Cartridges			3000
Loose Musket balls			
Flints			
Musket Field			11000
Carbine do.			
Pistol do.			
Quarter Masters Stores			
Muskets with Bayonets			28
Carbines with do.			

Bayonets

Fort St George September 1780.

Quality of Stores		Remains 16th Sept. 1780
Bayonets Spare		
Brass Swords Serjeants		
Drummers		
Shoulder Belts		170
Bayonet Scabbards		
Lock Cases		
Steel Ramrods		
Hammers		360
Pickers		2600
Worms		1200
Log line	Skains	68
Drum Heads		370
Cords		
Braces		
Snares		100
Hoops & Butter		
Lining		
Flesh		
Sticks		48
Double Musket Cartridge Pouches		65
Europe Single do.	do.	

Joseph. Moorhouse
Commissy of Stores

Dispatched the following Letter

To Capt Hugh Robert Alcock
Commanding at Tanjore

Sir

To

To Capt Hinde, desiring him to forward the Tents belonging to the Tanjore Sibbendy to Nagore

We desire in case the Tents belonging to the Sibbendy Corps are in Store at Tanjore, that You will send them immediately to Nagore to be shipped from thence on board the Elizabeth Snow which is going down there, as they are much wanted for the use of the Army. If the Tents are in use with the Sibbendy in the Country you will forward a Copy of this Letter to Capt Barrowes that he may comply with our Orders respecting them. The Resident at Nagore must be advised when they are despatched, & for what purpose they are sent.

We are
Sir
Your most Obed Servants
John Whitehill
&c Select Committee

Fort St George
21st Sept 1780

To Mr William Cuming
Chief &c Council
at Cuddalore

Gentlemen

To Cuddalore on the same Subject

As We are very much in want of Tents for the use of the Army, We desire you will send us such as you have in Store, by the Elizabeth Snow, which is going to Nagore, and will call at Cuddalore in her way thither.

We are
Gentlemen

your most Obedient Servants
John Whitehill
&c Select Committee

Fort St George
21st Sept 1780.

22d The following Minute of Messrs Smith & Johnson, was this Day sent round for the Perusal of the Gentlemen of the Committee

Minute of Messrs Smith & Johnson relative to the Advance of Money made to the Nabob on acct of his Cavalry —

When we consented that Seventy five thousand Pagodas should be issued from the Company's Treasury, for the payment of His Highness the Nabob's Cavalry, we were given to understand that his Highness would assign over to the Company, Districts for the Security and punctual repayment of this Sum, and we expected that the President would lay before the Committee a particular Account of the Expenditure of this Money, and of the Security given by his Highness the Nabob.

We also consented to a further Advance of Eighteen thousand Pagodas, to be made to his Highness the Nabob's Regiment of Cavalry, commanded by Captain Dugald Campbell, as we were assured that these Troopers absolutely refused to march from the Mount without receiving this Sum, but they mutinied before the money could be sent to them.

Nothing but the Dangerous Situation of Affairs, and being fully persuaded that his Highness the Nabob could not make these advances, would have induced us to give our Consent to the Measure — we are sensible that necessity is our only Justification on this Occasion and therefore are of opinion that an exact Account of what has been already advanced, should be laid before the

the Committee, and that measures should be taken, without further loss of time, for procuring from his Highness the Nabob, Assignments of the Tinnevelly and Madura Countries, not only to secure the speedy repayment of this Advance, but also for aiding us to carry on the War with Vigour.

The executive part of Administration being vested in the Majority of the Committee, we can only record our Sentements, and thereby clear ourselves from all responsibility for such Measures as have met with our approbation on being first proposed, but have not been afterwards carried into execution in the manner agreed on in Committee.

22d September 1780.

Dispatched the following Letters

To Mr John Huddleston
Resident at Nagore

Sir

To Mr Huddleston, directing him to forward the Tents from Tanjore immediately

The Company's Snow Elizabeth is now dispatched to Nagore with sundry Stores for the use of the Southern Garrisons. The Commanding Officer at Tanjore has directions to send some Tents to you which are to be shipped on the Elizabeth when she returns hither, which must be as soon as possible with a Cargo of Grain if it can be procured. You are to give orders to her Commander to call at Cuddalore also for some Tents to be put on board at that place. Enclosed is a copy of our

our Orders to Capt Kirton

We are
Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
John Whitehill
&c. Select Committee

Fort St George
22d September 1780

To Capt Edward Edmonds
Commanding at Ongole

Sir

To Capt Edmonds to afford Lt Douglas with Boats &c. towards embarking his Detachm.

We have desired Lt Douglas to proceed to Ongole with the Troops under his Command, in order that they may be embarked for the Presidency. The Contractor Indiaman is dispatched to Tumbla Pundee to receive them. You will give information of this to Lt Douglas and get ready the necessary Assistance of Boats &c. to embark the Detachment without loss of time

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

Fort St George
22d Sept. 1780

To Lieut Walter Douglas
Commanding in the Guntoor Circar

Sir

To Lt Douglas to embark as soon as possible.—

We hope this will find you with your Detachment at Ongole agreeably to the Directions sent you under date the Instant (in Duplicate). We have dispatched the Company's Ship Contractor to Tumbla Pundee to take you with the Detachment on Board, and we desire the Embarkation may be made as soon as possible

Fort St George 23d September 1780.

possible.

Fort St George
22d Sept 1780.

We are
Sir
Your most Obed.t Servant
John Whitehill
&c.a Select Committee

Saturday the 23.d

At a Select Committee Present
The Honble John Whitehill Esq.r President
Charles Smith, Sir Hector Munro K.B.
Samuel Johnson.

Minutes of last Committee read and approved.

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

Minute of Mess.rs Smith & Johnson in reply to the Generals last, & bearing a more Circumstantial Account of the Proceedings at Camp

We are concerned that the General should deem our Minute of the 21.st Instant, premature; as we had waited six Days, after his Arrival, before we mentioned the Subject; although it was of the highest Importance, and what we might have expected from him without any application.

We appeal to the General himself whether we had not reason to expect it, and we doubt not but on a reference to our Minute; his Candor will induce him to allow that the papers he has since delivered in, do not contain the information we were so desirous should be laid before the Committee.

C. Smith
Johnson

23.d Sept.r 1780.

Fort St George 23.d September 1780.

Read the following Letter from Sir Hector Munro

From General Munro on the present State of the Army, & Disposition of the 21 Battalions

Honble Sir & Sirs

The loss we have sustained in the unfortunate Defeat of Lieut.t Col.o Baillie's Detachment, both in Europeans & Sepoys, calls upon us to exert ourselves to strengthen the Army as soon as possible, so as to enable us to oppose the Enemy. As Commander in Chief, I therefore consider it incumbent upon me to point out the best mode I can so as to answer the end required. The loss of the Europeans is the most difficult to be repaired; the large Detachment sent to the Malabar Coast is a great Distress to us at present, & till the Communication is open with Vellore, we cannot avail ourselves of the Service of the 1.st Batt.n 1.st Regt now there. The only Resource we have is to strengthen the European Batt.n now in Camp with as many men as can be got from the European Batt.n now in Garrison at Fort St George. His Majesty's 73.d Regt besides the loss of their Flank Companies, are much reduced by Sickness; I would hope, that as the Weather is growing cooler, that and Rest may recover them. The Companies of Invalids, the Recruits, & such Sick who are not equal to Field Duty, will form a body of Europeans sufficient for Fort St George while the Army is in the Field. The Artillery cannot at present be augmented, unless there can be found Men equal to that Service among the Recruits in Madras — I would therefore recommend, that His Highness the Nabob

Nabob be applied to for 200 of his Artillery Corps now at Tritchinopoly; and let them do Duty with the Corps of Artillery in the Field; there will still remain enough for Tritchinopoly; and the Commanding Officer at Tanjore should have Authority to raise a Black Company of Artillery there, which with a proper Officer and some Invalids, may strengthen that Garrison greatly.

The Battalions of Sepoys that suffered with the Detachment, should be recruited as soon as possible. An Officer should be appointed to the Command of each for the time being, and an Adjutant on the same terms, and the most proper Places should be chosen for their recruiting Quarters. I would also recommend the augmenting the Sepoy Battalions, to One hundred Sepoys to each Company. The Detachment now at Tellicherry should be sent for and landed at Anjengo; & march to Palam Cottah, and remain there in Garrison, or for further Orders. But as this will take time, I therefore propose that Orders should be sent to Palam Cottah for 5 Companies of the 10th Battn to march to Madura, & the 3d Battn now there to march to Tanjore, there to be joined by the 9th Battn now in Garrison there; & both to march to Nagore and come by Sea to Madras, or their March may perhaps be secure by the Coast as far as Cuddalore — In order to strengthen the Garrison of Tanjore, I would have 500 of the best Men of Capt Burrows's Zebundies, for the present to do Duty in Tanjore & receive full Pay. If the Nabob has any Sepoys at Tritchinopoly, the 3 Companies of Capt Bilcliffe's Battn

now

now there, may be ordered to Tanjore. Besides the 12 Companies of Grenadiers sent for from the N. ward, I would propose that 2 Battns more should be ordered from the Circars to join the Army. The 5 remaining Battns together with Capt Powel's Battn which will be recruited, knowing that they will not be moved from the Northward would soon be complete to the new Establishment of 1000 Sepoys each Battn — I propose this as the only Means of strengthening the Army immediately; but as I have no knowledge of the Circars, the Gentlemen of the Committee who have been there, will best judge if they can be spared: I should imagine 2 Battns in the Masulipatam, 2 in the Vizagapatam, and 1 in the Ganjam Districts, with Capt Powell's Battn recruiting, might answer as their numbers will be daily increasing — The 2 Battns of Sepoys now in Madras, should be ordered to Camp, and the two weakest Battns be ordered from Camp to Garrison. Numbers of Sepoys who were in the Action of the 10th September are daily coming in and will form a Corps in Madras for the present, but should join the Battns they formerly belonged to, as they are recruited. The Army then would have the 73d Regt, 2d Battn 1st Rt, 7 Carnatic Sepoy Battns, 2 Circar Battns, 12 Companies of Circar Grenadiers & 10 Comps of Carnatic Sepoy Grenadiers, the present Corps of Artillery, & 200 of the Nabob's from Tritchinopoly — To this Body of Artillery and Infantry, Cavalry must be added. The Europeans are a very small body, only 33; they may be encreased to 40 — The Nabob has two Regiments; but unless the Government of Madras see that they are satisfied as to their Arrears of Pay they may refuse to serve (as Capt Campbell's Regt did)

the

the moment you want them. The Nabob should form two other Regiments out of his own Guards & Recruits. The Horses that the Europeans have are the Nabobs and very bad, they might be returned & Horses purchased from the Gentlemen of Madras for them. The Rajah of Tanjore should on this Occasion be required to raise a Regiment of Cavalry, the Expence of which should be allowed in his Kists. If they have not Horses enough in the Tanjore Country, Horses might be purchased of the Gentlemen at Madras, as I am informed they are willing to assist all in their power towards the Public Cause. The Rajah of Travencore should be wrote to, to know if he will join us against Hyder; in case of his so doing, the force from Tellicherry with the Troops the Nabob is raising in the Tinnevelly Country, may join with the King of Travencore and the friendly Polygars; & may under proper Officers attack Hyders Settlements to the Southward. We should know what part the Nizam & Bazalet Jung mean to take in this War. We have reason to expect Men & Money from Bengal; if Troops can be got, it is on the Malabar Coast that Hyder should be attacked; it is there he is most vulnerable. If once his Coast is attacked, he will have the Carnatic to protect his own Country; & had we no war with the Morattoes, they would gladly have assisted. The places I imagine the most likely to recruit the 1st. 3d. & 4th. Batts. of Carnatic Sepoys, & the 2d. Batt. of Circar Sepoys are as follows; the 1st. Batt. to be recruited to the Southward; the 3d. at Ongole, there being four Companies of that Batt. there already; the 4th. about Arcot & Vellore; And as the Enemy at present are

are in possession of the Country round these places; Letter should be sent by the Nabob to Rajah Beerbul, and from the Committee to Col. Lang & Capt. Prendergast, and I imagine many men may be had. The 2d Circar Batt.n will of course be ordered to recruit in the Circars. In all cases where Men are immediately required to be raised for the protection of a State, and to oppose an Enemy; in proportion to the exigency of Affairs certain Advantages are offered to Men to enlist. I would therefore recommend some Plan to be adopted for this purpose; either more Bounty money to Recruits; or perhaps an Increase of a Sepoys Months pay would be most effectual. It is true that the Companys Sepoys receive more pay, and are more regularly paid than any of the Black Powers; but still the encrease of Expence in our Settlements, makes their pay by no means adequate to the general Expence of Provisions. I must own I imagine that an Increase of their monthly Pay would get you many Recruits; and would be the means of Sepoys leaving the Enemys Service to enlist in yours. The encrease of Expence cannot be avoided; tho' Oeconomy should be attended to in every Department, yet the Articles absolutely necessary must be found. It is in Peace we should prepare for War. After the Siege of Pondicherry I had the honor of addressing the Select Committee by Letter, wherein I stated the Defects in their Garrisons Stores, & pointed out the necessity of putting them in such a State as to be ready on any emergency; & I frequently have recommended that the Troops should always be ready for the Field. I am

Sirs

sorry to say that any Observations of mine had not effect I could have wished. I shall say no more on what is past; it is our business now to use every endeavour for the public Good. We should have one Voice & one hand, and if the Ruling Power is steady and determined in its Resolutions, the executive part must and will be properly attended to; nor can your make yourselves more formidable to your Enemy than by Unanimity in your Counals

I have the honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedient
& most humble Servant
Hector Munro.

Fort St George
22d Sept. 1780

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

Present Disposition of 21 Carnatic Battalions
21st Sept. 1780

of Sepoys		
1st Battn	—	Lt Col. Baillies Detachment
2d Battn		Fort St George
3 Battn	—	Madura — Two Grenadier Compts at Tellicherry
4th Battn	—	Fort St George Two Grenad. Compts at Tellicherry
5th Battn	—	Amboor & Vellore
6th Battn		Trichinopoly. Two Grenad. Compts in camp
7th Battn		6 Compts with Lt Col. Baillies Detachment 2 Companies at Ongole 2 Companies Guntoor Circar
8 Battn		At Surat

9th Battn	Tanjore. Two Grenad. Compts in camp
10th Battn	Palamcotah
11th Battn	Lt Col. Baillies Detachment
12th Battn	Nagore & Cuddalore
13th Battn	Tanjore. Two Gren. Companies in camp
14th Battn	in camp. 1 Compy at Wandewash
15th Battn	in camp. 1 Company at Wandewash
16th Battn	in camp 1 Company at Permacoil and half a Company at Chingleput
17th Battn	in Camp
18th Battn	Tanjore. Two Grenadier Compts in camp
19th Battn	5 Compts in camp 1 Compy at Gingee 1 Compy at Seigur 3 Compts Trichinopoly
20th Battn	Tellicherry
21st Battn	Camp

Ordered that the above and the Generals Letter of the 21st Instant do lye on the Table for further Consideration —

Mr Johnson delivers in the following Minute.

Mr Johnson's Minute relative to the Guntoor Circar

21st August

The Letter of the 21st Ultimo just received from the Governor General and Council of Bengal evinces the bad Consequences which will probably ensue from the Committee having delayed answering their Letters to them of the 12th of June relative to ceding the Guntoor Circar to the Soubah. I have already recorded my Opinion of this important Subject, and cannot but regret that it was not adopted instead of writing a vague answer to them of our being obliged to wait

for

for his Highness the Nabob's Determination on the business — the Governor General & Council must be convinced that this was an evasive Answer to an explicit Requisition, and will hold us responsible for the Consequences. It was highly impolitic and dangerous to delay gratifying the Soubah in so reasonable a request — we may possibly feel the bad effects of it now when Hyder Ally has proved so successful and as it affords the Soubah so fair a pretence for breaking with us.

I am very apprehensive that Hyder Ally will take possession of the Guntoor Circar on its being evacuated by Lt. Douglas, & I greatly regret that we did not advise Bazalet Jung, of our Orders to that Officer, so that his Troops might have been ready to take possession of it the moment the Company's should march from it.

To remedy, as far as in us lies, the Evils which may result from the inattention shewn by the Committee to this important Business, I move "for "writing immediately to the Governor & Council that we "have obtained his highness the Nabob's consent for "ceding the Guntoor Circar, and in consequence have orden"red our Troops to be withdrawn."

I also move that Letters be written to the Soubah & Bazalet Jung acquainting them with all we have done in this Business

23d Septr. 1780.

Mr. Smith's approbation of the above

I subscribe to the Sentiments expressed by Mr. Johnson in the foregoing Minute and

and second his Motions

23d Septr. 1780.

Resolution in Consequence

Agreed that a Letter be written to the Governor General & Council, that We have ordered our Troops to be withdrawn from the Guntoor Circar, & the Country to be delivered to Bazalet Jung; & that a Letter be written to the Nizam in the most friendly terms, that his having interested himself in the Restitution of the Guntoor Circar to his Brother, We have out of respect to him ordered it to be given up.—

Mr. Smith's Motion

Mr. Smith moves that his Motion of the 6th Instant "That all Papers relative to "Mr. Davidson's Admission into the Select Committee, may be transmitted to the Governor General and "Council" — be now taken into Consideration.

Mr. Johnson's Opinion

Mr. Johnson seconds the Motion.

Genl. Munro's do

General Munro is of opinion that the Governor General & Council, have no right to be informed of any Matters relative to this Government, in which their Controuling Powers do not intervene.

The President's do

The President against the Motion

Carried against Mr. Smith's Motion

Carried against the Motion by the President's casting vote.

Read the following Letter & Minutes of the Committee of Stores.

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

Honble

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Honble Sir & Sirs

Herewith we have the Honor to lay before you our Proceedings of the 20th Instant

We are

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedt Humble Servts

Hector Munro

Geo Maule

B Scottney

Fort St George
22d Sepr 1780

Report of the Commte of Stores - Orders of the Select Commte thereon

Fort St George 20th September 1780

At a Committee of Stores Present

Major General Sr Hector Munro K B

Major George Maule

Mr Bryan Scottney

Resolutions thereon

Par 1st Agreed to recommend to the Honble Select Committee to direct that the undermentioned Gun Carriages, Mortar Beds, Platforms &c wanting to complete the Statement for Fort St George be made up with all possible expedition.

Par 1st Approved & Ordered accordingly

Gun Carriages

36 Pounr	4
12 Pounr Medium	24
12 Pounr Short	5
Platforms	110

Mortar Beds

13 Inch	4
10 Inch	9

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8 Inch	10
5½ Inch	18

Howitzer Carriages

5½ Inch	2
Blinds of Sorts	33
Frontlets of Sorts	35
Baskets for Mortars	1000
Mamoties	691
Pickaxes	396
Spades	838
Shovels	795
Broad Axes	39
Hand Hatchets	385
Sap Hooks	40
Hand Bills	210
Sand Bags small	3000

2d The Military Storekeeper begs leave to enter the following Minute

"When the Agreement for "making Carriages by Mr Scott"ney was accepted, the Price of "of the Carriages for 10 Pounders to the "lowest Calibre was fixed at the medium "Price of 73 Pars 10 each, there were 123 "of 6 lb and upwards 125 of smal"ler, the Board having directed a "Stop to be put to the making of the "smaller, Mr Scottney hopes it will "appear reasonable to the Committee

2d Agreed, that Mr Scottney be allowed for the 9 Pounder Carriages now ready the lowest Rate that any offers were made by others, as recommended by the Committee of Stores, but if Mr Scottney shall hereafter make up the smaller Carriages, the present Allowance [illegible] - ducted from his Accot

calibr

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"that he be allowed for the "9 Pound^r Carriages now rea-"dy, the lowest Rate for "which any Offers were made "by others for providing of "those kind of Carriages." —

As the making up of the Small Carriages was stopped by order of the Honble Se-lect Committee and as they would have compen-sated for the Expence of making up the larger — The Committee are of opinion that Mr Scottney's Request is reaso-nable, Agreed therefore to recommend that it be complied with

5. The Commissary of Stores lays before the Committee the following List of Gun Carriages Mortar Beds &c^a received from the Military Storekeeper.

Trail Garrison Carriages 9 Pd^s		41
Track Carriages 18 Pd^s with Beds		22
Transporting Carriages		7
Money Tumbrel		1
Mortar Beds 4½ Inch		4
Platforms	Sets	10
Spare Trucks	Pr^s	8

Hector Munro
Geo. Maule

B. Scottney

Read

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Read the following Letter from Col. Brathwaite.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr Governor And the Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Col. Braithwaite relative to the Powers of the Command at Tanjore —

I return You my sincerest thanks for your Appointment of me to the Command of Tanjore, which I consider at this time as a mark of your Approbation and Confidence in me which I shall study to deserve. I shall hope to be honoured with a Letter of Instructions for my Conduct before my departure, & I beg leave to represent that in times like these when Communication with the Presidency may become precarious, whether it may not be prudent to augment in mere mili-tary Matters the Powers of the Commanding Officer there which as I am informed are particularly con-fined, so that he may be allowed to turn his thoughts toward the general Protection of the Country, and the defence of the smaller Forts as well as the immedi-ate Defence of the Fort of Tanjore. And I should flatter myself this may be done without in any way lessening the Consequence of the Rajah, who may be advised to do in these Matters, as from himself whatever may be suggested to him from the Com-manding Officer. We have seen that such of his Highness the Nabob's Forts as were not defended by any Officer of Honble Company's or by any of their troops have uniformly surrendered to the Enemy almost as soon as he appeared, there is reason there-fore to apprehend that the same might be the case with these

these of Tanjore if not timely attended to.

The present Military Force in that Country it is true does not admit of our extending our views much beyond the immediate defence of Tanjore itself, but as the Season for Military Operations is a little distant, there is time both to augment and improve it, at present the three Sebundee Battalions which constitute more than half the military Strength of the Kingdom as to Numbers are almost without Officers, and as I am informed totally without Discipline, and are so managed and disposed of that those Officers who should have commanded them have assured me that they scarce know of their Existence. I should hope therefore that the Regulations and Establishment for those Battalions, which were planned in profound peace, may merit some farther Consideration now, more particularly as there has been a necessity for withdrawing from Tanjore the best of the Hon.e Company's regular Battalions, I mean their Grenadier Companies. Heretofore the Rajah of Tanjore was famous for his Horse, and maintained so large a body as four thousand which were called Regular Horse, most of which for want of Service at home have been obliged to seek it in the Service of Hyder, no doubt much against their Inclination as these people have strong local Attachments and Prejudices. I should imagine that were the Rajah now to exert himself he might collect at least six hundred horse to be officered and paid

by

by the Hon.ble Company — five hundred of them to be formed into a Regiment ever to act with the Army when in the field, the other hundred as a separate Troop for home Service and that of recruiting in Order to keep those in the field compleat. And I should think that these six hundred in peace time if kept up, might answer all the Revenue purposes of the three Sebundy Battalions which may be put on the establishment now without any additional Expence, as three Battalions have actually been lost from it — and this Body of Horse will I am sure prove the best and surest Basis thereon to form a larger body if future Exigencies should render it necessary. I shall only add to the liberty I have here taken, and which I trust you will excuse, that as I have nothing but black Troops to depend upon, that they may be as much as possible completed with Officers and Serjeants as on their alertness we must repose our Chief Confidence. Indeed if time is permitted, it would be well to change the Battalions now there, as they are now rather too much composed of Tanjore people. And as I have certain information that Captain Noodler from his bodily infirmities is at present quite incapable of Field Service, and not likely soon to recover, that he may be permitted to go home to superintend all the Ordnance Department, and with powers to raise two black Artillery and Lascars for that particular Service

Service.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect

Fort St George
Sept 23d 1780.

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your faithful & Obedt Servt
John Braithwaite

Resolution thereon

On his arrival at Tanjore, he will receive such Instructions as have been sent to former Commandants, should he then represent any Deficiency in his Powers as Commandant, the Committee will take the subject into Consideration. Agreed in the mean time that he be directed to put the place in the best Posture of Defence.

Read the following Letter from the Officers of the Tanjore Sibbendy.

Honble Sir & Sirs

From the Officers commanding the Tanjore Sibbendy - complain of being circumscribed in the Command of their Battalions.

The Officers appointed in General Orders to the Command of the Sibendy Battalions in the Tanjore Country think it their indispensible Duty to make known to the Honble the President & Select Committee that their Appointments are by no means on the footing they humbly conceive the Honble Board intended them. Could the Sense of the Order be possibly construed into any other meaning than that Lieuts Marishall, Baillie, & Knox were appointed each to command one of those Battalions, they would not presume to trouble the Honble Board especially at this time. But as the Order is suffi-

-ciently

sufficiently clear, and the Words of it can admit only of one meaning, they should think themselves more than remiss were they to submit to its being infringed without acquainting the Honble Board, that it has been so in a very material point by their being deprived of the Regimental Command of their respective Battalions must be obvious to every person who reads the General Orders for forming those Corps. Yet Lieuts Marishall, Baillie & Knox were willing (notwithstanding the great hardship they suffer from this infringement) to wait a favourable Opportunity. Their being now at the Presidency induces them to lay before the Honble the President & Select Committee the footing those Battalions are on at present which they humbly conceive (as beforementioned) is materially different from the intention of the Honble Board in many points. In the first place their being sent on the Country duty without being first practised in the firing even of blunt Cartridge must prevent them from being able to act in cases of Emergency for the Defence of the Country - at least it cannot be possible they can act in a manner that can gain the smallest degree of Honour to those that command them. But waving this as a matter of little Consequence they will venture to affirm that in many cases from the want of proper Discipline those Corps will be unable to awe the refractory Colleries who constitute a very valuable part of the Rajahs Subjects and this they humbly conceive was one of the chief purposes

intended

intended by the Sibendy Establishment Lts. Marshall, Baillie, & Knox will not pretend to point out any new mode or method of managing those Corps, but only mean to represent some things in the present management which evidently could never be the intention of the Honble Board. They are / with respect to the Rights of the Officers appointed to command them / so contrary to common Justice In short the Youngest Ensign of a Sepoy Battalion has more to say in the Corps he belongs to than they have been allowed to have in the Battalions they were appointed by the Honble Board to command.

Agreeable to General Orders Subalterns of Sepoys sign the Muster & Pay Rolls of their Companies But Lieut.s Marshall, Baillie & Knox are deprived of even priviledge & Right whatever and cannot possibly have the smallest knowledge respecting the Battalions they were appointed to command. In case the Service required that any part of those Corps should take the field either for the internal Defence of the Country or otherwise as the General Orders particularly specify what could possibly be expected from raw undisciplined Men Their Behaviour would surely be more apt to encourage than intimidate an Enemy. It is indeed certain the Situation of the Tanjore Country at this present time prevents a Body of Horse from acting But so soon as the Rivers fall which must inevitably happen in the course of very few Months that then they humbly presume there is a very

very great probability of the Enemys Horse entering the Rajahs Country. Lieut. Marshall, Baillie & Knox have only now to mention that on the present footing of the Sibendy Corps in the Tanjore Country it plainly appears that Capt.n Burrowes commands one Battalion of Eighteen hundred Men and not three separate Battalions as particularly specified in General Orders. If this really was and continues to be the Sense of the Honble. Board notwithstanding the Words of their own Order Lieuts Marshall, Baillie & Knox must of course submit to their Disappointment though particularly severe on account of the very different light these Appointments were held out to them by their Friends Yet they cannot help still having the greatest hopes that the President and Select Committee have not the smallest Idea that Matters could possibly be carried on in the manner they have represented nor can they suppose it was the intention of the Honble Board that the Officers commanding Sibendy Battalions in the Field should be on a more eligible footing than those in the Tanjore Country yet it plainly appears that their Appointments are far preferable. With the hopes that this fair & candid representation of Facts will appear only to the Honble Board as an honest endeavour to vindicate their just Rights They subscribe themselves with the greatest respect.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient and

Fort St George
22d Sept. 1780

and most humble Servts
Da. Marshall Lieut.
Baillie Lieut.
Thomas Knox Lieut.

Capt. Burrowes to be furnished with a Copy of the above, & to be informed, that it was always the Intention of the Committee, that the Officers commanding those Battalions, should have the Regimental Detail of their respective Battalions, the same as in other Corps.

Capt. Burrowes to be written to in consequence. —

Read the following Letter from the Resident at Nagore.

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

The two Companies which your honor &c. ordered to be detached to Cuddalore sailed for that place the 7th Instant, and I have been since honoured with your Letter of the 6th authorizing me to detain one of them. I dispatched immediately a Letter express to Mr Cuming informing him of the same, and requesting as one of the Boats that conveyed the Companies is to come back to this place for Grain, that he would let one of our Companies return on her, or if he should entertain any doubt of that measure being agreable to the Spirit of

From Nagore

sting

of your Ordrs. in that case to detain the Boat untill he should hear from Your honor &c. on the Subject. The Winds are now variable, and Vessels can sail either up, or down the Coast, so that the Boat would not probably be more than a couple of days on her passage back to this place. —

This morning three Stout Seamen were brought to me by our Guard near the Dutch Bounds. They made their Escape from a Dutch Indiaman in Negapatam Roads, and offer either to enter on board any of His Majestys Ships of War, or our Indiamen. one of them is an Irishman, and tells me he was taken with General Burgoyne in America — of the other two one is from Norway, the other from Jutland. I expect a Letter every moment from Mr. Van Reysengen to reclaim them, but as I am uncertain whether or not Seamen are included in the Cartel, I shall detain them here until I am favored with your Orders on the Subject. The Irishman declares he was pressed at Rotterdam, or he never would have served a foreign Nation.

From four Bells past Six o'Clock this Morning, a great deal of irregular firing was distinctly heard from the North East. By the Sound we judge it to have been from heavy Cannon, & about 10 or 12 Leagues distant.

I think it necessary to inform your honor &c. of the improper, & suspicious Conduct of Mr. D'aubigny, one of the French Gentlemen at Tonjore, who receive pay from

from the Company. This Man has twice broken his Parole to the English, once during the last War, to Colonel Monson, & since the taking of Carical to Mr. Petrie, by residing at Negapatam during the Siege of Pondicherry, and not complying with Mr. Petrie's positive requisitions for his return to Carical — within these few days he has paid several visits to Mr. Van Vlissingen at Negapatam, conveying himself thither privately without my permission, which 'till the commencement of the present troubles he has never omitted to ask, when he wished to go any where beyond the bounds of Carical — connecting this with his former conduct, and known character for Intrigue, I sent for him from Carical intending to detain him here, but on his representing to me the great Inconvenience of removing his family, and offering to give me a written parole for not stirring out of his house without my leave, I have consented to his remaining at Carical till I am favored with your orders concerning him, he assured me his only business at Negapatam was to get a watch mended

I find Mr. Van Vlissingen has applied to Colombo for 1500 Europeans instead of 200, or 300, as I mentioned to your honor &ca. in my Letter of the 6th Instant.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect,

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient humble

Nagore
10th Augt. 1780.

humble Servant
J. Huddleston

P.S. Since writing the foregoing I have received a Letter from Mr. Van Vlissingen of which the enclosed is a Copy. I shall inform him in reply that I must wait your Orders on the Subject. The Man Mr. Van Vlissingen calls Jacob Lucas of Christiansand is evidently an Irishman.

To John Huddleston Esqr.
Chief of Nagore, Carical & Dependencie
for the honorable English East India Company &c.

Nagore.

Sir,

Last night three persons in our Sea service absented themselves out of our Hospital Vizt. Jan Steevens of Marse — Quartermaster
Cornelius Jansan " Anderschans, Sailor
Jacob Lucas " Christiansand Sailor

Should they be found in your District or any of the Honble English East India Companies Territories I request that You would be so kind & order them to be arrested, that they may be delivered out to Us according to the Cartel settled between both Companies.

I remain most Sincerely
Sir, your most humble
obedient Servant
R. V. Vlissingen

Negapatam
10th August 1780.

a true Copy
Wm. Oram

Ordered

The Deserters to be sent back to Negapatam & a watchful Eye to be kept over Mr D'Aubigné

Ordered, that Mr Huddleston be directed to send back the Deserters to Negapatam, & to keep a watchful Eye over Mons. D'Aubigné

Read the following Letter from Mr George Baker.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr.
President and Governor &c. Council of
Fort St George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Mr Baker with regard to providing Water.

Under Date the 31st of August last past I took the liberty of addressing Your Honble Board respecting filling one or more of the new Cisterns in the Sea Line, representing the Condition of the old Cisterns in other parts of the Fort &c. relative to my Contract. That Address has been, I am informed, though not officially, layed before Your Honble Board.

On the 17th Instant I received an Official Letter from Mr Secretary Oakley, directing, that I should immediately fill one of the new Cisterns in the Sea Line to the Southward of the Seagate, by way of Experiment. And also, that I should fill the Cisterns under the Nabob's Bastion.

As to the Cisterns under the Nabob's Bastion, there is one, and but one (which is a small one too) that was originally such. This Cistern was filled by me seven Years ago, and has been from that time to this day, kept as nearly

nearly so as the Leakage of it allows of.—

There are indeed in the Nabob's Bastion certain old large and small Bombproof Guddons, which the Governor and Council in the Year 1775 directed Colonel Ross & myself to examine, & report to them, whether they could be made to hold Water. We examined them together accordingly; but did not so far agree in our Opinions as to make a joint Report on the Occasion. I made a separate one, intimating my doubt that they could not be made water tight; but told the Board at the same time, that if they should effect that, I would fill them and keep them so, while they continued staunch & sound. The Purport of Colonel Rosses Report I never knew, nor am sure that he did, but think he must have made one. From that Day to the 17th Instant I never heard a word more officially on the Subject. But some time after the Report was made Colonel Ross put people to work on those Bombproofs, and when he had done, both he & Governor Wynch intimated a Wish to me, that I would try if they were watertight. I did so. The Event proved that they leaked out more Water in twenty four hours, than would serve the Garrison (at the ordinary Rate of Estimation) three times twenty four. And of this (beside what I have for many Years past, so often, and so earnestly urged in my several Addresses to Your Honble Board) Governor Wynch was not only personally but repeatedly informed, but every (of his Successors to the Chair, Vizt Governor Lord Pigot, Governor Stratton, the Present Governor soon after his Arrival from England in 1777, and Sir Thomas Rumbold soon after

were

?

after his Arrival here in February 1780.

In or about the Month of June 1778, when an Apprehension of a War with France seemed to privail here, I have reason to believe, though no Authority to assert, that the Subject of Lodging some Store of Water in the Fort came again under the Consideration of Your Honble Board. Major Stevens told me so, and said that he had been directed to try again to make the old Guddens in the Nabobs Bastion Water tight. Adding that he had great hopes of succeeding, if I would try them when he had done. I promised to do so. He had just finished what he meant to do before he left this for Pondicherry, and fixed a time when he supposed the Work would be sufficiently dry for me to make the Experiment. I with no small degree of trouble & expence, made it accordingly. The Event proved what the former experiment had before done, and Governor Rumbold was fairly and fully informed of it. But as most Men were then sanguine in their Expectations of Success as to the Siege of Pondicherry, and the event of that Siege proving favourable, there the matter ended. In August last past, previous to the Date of my last Address to your Honble Board of the 31st of that Month, more by from a Desire of adding any little that I possibly could, to the present State of Publick Affairs, to the small Stock of Water in the Fort, I did in the course of that month let as much Water into those Guddons or Cisterns, as would, had they held it, have served the Garrison, at seventy two Hogsheads per twenty four Hours, two Compleat Calendar Months. But

But this served only to prove that the Defects were encreased, and that they now leaked out much more Water than before. Some few of the small ones do indeed hold a little in the Bottom, that little we will, as far as we can, endeavour to keep up; and this, together with what may be contained in all the rest of the old Cisterns, is taken into the Estimate of the whole Store contained in the Fort as represented in my Address to Your Honble Board on the 31st of last Month, and to that Address I therefore beg leave to refer you. As the letting more Water into those very leaky Guddons is altogether useless, Your Honble Board will not therefore expect it of me.

As to the new Cistern in the Sea Line to the South of the Seagate, it was agreeably to your Directions of the 17th Instant filled in the Evening of that Day. In the first twenty four Hours, the Masonry absorbed, or the Cistern leaked out, about eight Hogsheads of Water. Which, had the whole seventy four new Cisterns been filled, and each absorbed or leaked at the same rate, would have amounted to about one hundred forty eight Tons in twenty four hours, or as much as would suffice for the Garrison for seventy two Days or Eighteen Tons a Day for upwards of a Week. At the end of the first twenty four Hours this Cistern was filled again, and in the second twenty four the Loss was but about half as much Water as in the first. Or Supposing the whole seventy four Cisterns to have been filled and each to have absorbed or leaked out in the same proportion about as much as would at the before mentioned rate

rate have sufficed the Garrison for about three Days & a half. What the Excess of the first Days loss compared to the second may be ascribed to, I do not take upon me to determine, but it may perhaps be attributed to the Absorption of the Water by the Masonry. I had intended to have extended the Experiment to a third Days tryal, but as the Water passed in a certain Degree through both the end, and both the Side Walls, Major Maule, apprehending that the Leakage might affect the Mass of Masonry, thought it necessary to empty the Cistern before that days Experiment was compleated.

For my part, Honble, I know of no means by which you can so speedily, and effectually lodge a Store of our Water in the Fort, as by setting about chunaming or plaistering those of the new Cisterns that were first built immediately. They may be begun on and finished one by one, and filled as soon after as they may be ready to receive the Water. Or two or three may be begun one together with but one or two hundred Parrah of Chunam, and I think you have now two, three, or four hundred Parrah in and about the Fort, beside a Quantity of Shells ready for burning. I presume that three thousand Parrah would plaister the whole seventy four. There are now a great number of small trading Craft in the Road, a Part of which might be freighted to get Shells &ca While Chunam cannot be had from Inland, and there is about a month to spare before those Craft usually retire to Port for Security against the approaching Monsoon.

I

1502 Fort St George 23d September 1780

I know indeed that you want Chunam for other uses. It rests with you, Honble, to determine, what use that which you now have, or may hereafter procure, shall be applyed to.

I am most respectfully
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedr and
most hble Servt
George Baker.

Fort St George
22d Septr 1780

To lye on the Table

Ordered to lye on the Table.

Read the following Letters from Capt Edmonds, Commanding at Ongole

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Capt Edmonds several Sepoys from Col. Baillie's Detachmt arrive at Ongole.

I have the honor to write to you in consequence of my having taken up as Deserters a number of Sepoys belonging to the different Battalions that composed Col. Baillie's Detachments. The report they have spread through this Country is too unaccountable for me to give it the least Credit, and has only served to create great uneasiness among the Sepoys families which Col. Baillie's Detachment left behind them.

This moment are brought to me a Subadar & some other of Capt Powell's Battn in all eleven seven of them very badly wounded

these

Fort St George 23d September 1780

these confirm the above Report / that the whole Detachment is cut off / I shall detain those and every one I can catch, as prisoners, till I am honoured with Your Instructions how I am to dispose of them — with the greatest Respect

I am Honble Sir &c

Jour most Obed & most Hble Servt

Edwd Edmonds

Capt Commandg

Ongole
19th Sept 1780

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Capt Edmonds on Detachment

I am honoured by the receipt of your Letter dated the 16th By my letter of Yesterday you will perceive this to be the only authentic Account I have received concerning Col Baillies Detachment and have in consequence released a Subadar & thirty Sepoys that I had taken up on suspicion of Desertion mostly belonging to Capt Powells Battn I have given them Subsistence and every other Encouragement. the Subadar commanded his first Grenad Company, and has promised on his arrival at Allore to collect the scattered Remains of the Battn for which I promised to recommend him to your favor - as a man of good Character and deserving encouragement You may depend Gentlemen, I shall lose no time in endeavouring to raise Men for the 7th Battn - you can have

Fort St George 23d September 1780

strangers to the Objection the Men of this Country have to go to the Southward, more especially since the report of this Affair, as I imagine some Commissioned or Non Commissioned black Officer of the six Companies may have made their Escape to Madras, were they to be ordered here, it might greatly facilitate the Business and as small promises of Promotion have great Weight on these Occasions, I hope I shall have your Approbation for granting such in Moderation also for receiving all men that may come this way of the different Battns to pay them any Arrear that may be due — an Order to the Paymaster of this Garrison for that purpose may be necessary.

I have the honor to be with much Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Jour most Obed & most Hble Servs
Edwd Edmonds
Capt Commandg

Ongole
Sept 20th 1780

As Lieut Ashby was sick here behind Col Baillies Detachment and as he belongs to the 7th Battn I shall detain him in order to assist in the receiving business till I hear from you concerning him

The Committee approve of the Allowance, he has made to the Sepoys of Lt Col Baillies Detachment.

Capt O'Hara is appointed to Capt Powells Battn & to proceed to the Northward

Capt O'Hara is now appointed to the Command of the 2d Europn Battn in the room of Capt Powell & is to proceed to the northward with such Black Officers as

as are remaining, to recruit that Battn.

Ensign Godfrey to act as Adjutant to the Battalion

Ensign William Godfrey to act as Adjutant to the above Battn.

Lieut sent to Ganjam & another Engineer to Chingleput

The Committee thinking it necessary, to have an Engineer at Ganjam, Lieut Gent to proceed thither, & the Chief Engineer to be directed to send another Engineer in his Room to Chingleput.

Cadets in Camp ordered to do Duty as Ensigns —

The Commander in Chief represented the want of Officers — all the Cadets in Camp are appointed to do Duty as Ensigns till further Orders — upon their Present Pay & Batta only.

Permanl private Seapoy made an Invalid Jemidar

Permanl private Seapoy in the 21st Battalion in Saib Meer's Company, having suffered much in the Execution of his Duty, is, at the strong Recommendation of the General appointed an Invalid Jemidar.

Mr Davidson appointed a Cadet in the Artillery

Mr John Davidson Cadet is now appointed a Cadet in the Artillery.

Read the following Letter from Col. Lang.

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

Honble

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Col. Lang — sends a Reinforcement to Arcott

I had the honor to address You the 12th & to enclose You a letter from Captn Prendergast Commanding at Arcott.

Finding that the Nabob's Seapoys at Arcott have been much dispirited at the late Accident to Colonel Baillie's Detachment, and that many of them behaved very indifferently when Hyder Alle was before that place before, and having been informed that he is determined to return there very shortly — I have thought it highly proper for the good of the Service to send a Reinforcement there yesterday of a Captain, two Subalterns, and fifty Rank and file. I have also sent fourteen private in the room of their Sick, and ordered them to be sent here this Night to the Hospital where they will shortly recover — all which I hope will be approved of.

The Officers and Soldiers that were made prisoners in the Action of the 10th are now at Arnee (except four) they are in Hyder Alle's Camp, and one of them is said to be Colonel Baillie — they have Arnee for Bangalore tomorrow — they have all been exchanged, well treated by every Account I have had.

I

1501. Fort St George 23d September 1780.

I have the honor to be with all due Respect,

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your very Obedient
and Devoted Servant
Ross Lang.

Vellour
17th September 1780.

Charles Smith

Lam. Johnson

1502 Fort St George September 1780.

22d Read the following Letter from Bengal

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

Gentlemen,

Secret Dept.

From Bengal – respecting the Differences with the Nozam –

We have received the Letter which you have written to us under Date the 26th Ultimo, and shall take the subject of it into early Consideration. On the 12th of June last we informed you of the Arrangement we had resolved on for a Settlement of the Dispute with Nozam Ally Cawn, respecting, in particular, the Guntoor Circar; but to this Letter, of which a Duplicate goes enclosed, we have yet had no Answer, and, as a Knowledge of the Resolution you may have taken respecting it is at this time necessary to our Determination on the general Measures to be adopted in consequence of your Letter now before us, we request that you will send us immediate Information of it.

We are
Gentlemen
Your most Obedt Hble Servt
Warren Hastings
Edward Wheler

Fort William
21st August 1780.

23d Wrote the following Letter to Bengal.

To

1509 Fort St George September 1780

Select Committee

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

Gentlemen

We have had the Honor to receive your Letter of the 21st Ultimo

To Bengal – acquainting them, Orders have been given to deliver over the Guntoor Circar.

We had before the Receipt of it given Orders to our Commanding Officer in the Guntoor Circar, to deliver over that Country to Bazalet Jung's Agent, we procured an Order also from the Nabob to his Amildar to relinquish all Concerns in the Management of the Revenues. And the President now writes a Letter to Bazalet Jung acquainting him with the Resolution that had been taken, and requesting him to give the necessary Orders to his People in consequence. Copies of the Letters to, and from the Nabob on this Subject – of the Letter to our Commandd Officer in the Guntoor Circar directing him to restore that District and of the President's Letter to Bazalet Jung are herewith enclosed for your Information.

We are
Gentlemen
Your most Obedt Hble Servts
John Whitehill &ca
Select Committee

Fort St George
23d Septr 1780

24th Received the following Letter from Lieut Douglas

To

1510 Fort St George September 1780

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Lt Douglas – Man Sail goes off to Cambum.

I am honoured with your Commands of the 9th Instant.

Your Letter of the 26th Ultimo did clearly explain to me your Intention with respect to this Circar – and in consequence thereof I informed you by a Letter of the 9th from Gunton of the Disposition which I had made of the Sepoys under my Command, and which I hope has met with your Approbation. I shall now send a Company of Seapoys to Munglegery which will establish a Chain of Communication from one extremity of the Circar to the other; there are two Villages of the name of Munglegerry adjoining to each other. The one in which the Pagoda is belongs to the Nizamhatam District, but is entirely surrounded by the lands of the Guntoor Circar which extend to the Banks of the Kistnah.

Mung

I arrived here yesterday Morning without meeting with any interruption on the March. In this Quarter which has suffered more particularly from the frequent Incursions of the Horse, there is not an Inhabitant to be seen in any of the Villages, but in the more interior parts of the Circar, the People have returned again and are cultivating their Lands as usual, if the Horse do not again renew their Visits I should imagine that the Revenues may be collected without any material Loss

I

1511 Fort St George September 1780

I have agreed with the Lombady People to bring a quantity of Rice to this Place, and I must request Your permission to purchase on the Company's Acct. a Stock of Provisions for six Months or whatever time You shall think proper, for the different Posts where the Seapoys are stationed.

Meer Sibe has drawn all his Hor. from Combum except a few hundred, he has himself, I imagine, by this time arrived at Cuddapah.

I have the honour to be with the greatest Respect,

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedt. & most Hble Servt.

Walter Douglas

Ineconda
14th Septr. 1780

The following Letters were this day written

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

Gentlemen

To Bombay – enclosr. Letter of Contractor

We transmit here enclosed a Letter received from the Court of Directors by the Contractor, under Your Address, also a Letter for You & one for Genl. Goddard, which were received a few days ago from Bengal.

We are
Gentlemen
Your most Obedt. Hble Servts.
John Whitehill &ca.
Select Committee

Fort St George
24th Septr. 1780

1512 Fort St George September 1780

To Mr. William Cuming
Chief &ca. Council at
Cuddalore

Gentlemen

To Cuddalore – to send 50 barrels Gunpowder to Wandewash.

We desire you will if it be practicable send immediately to Wandewash 50 Barrels of Gunpowder for the use of that Garrison.

We are
Gentlemen
Your most Obedt. Servts.
John Whitehill &ca.
Select Committee

Fort St George
24th Septr. 1780

To Mr. John Huddleston
Resident at
Nagore

Sir

To Nagore – to send the Deserters to Negapatam

We have received your Letter of the 16th Ult. and desire that the Seamen therein mentioned may be returned to Negapatam.

It will be proper that you keep a watchful Eye over Mr. D'Aubigné, and if you have any reason to suspect him of intriguing to our Prejudice or acting contrary to his Parole in any Respect he must be put under Confinement.

We are
Sir
Your most Obedt. Servants
John Whitehill &ca.
Select Committee

Fort St George
24th Septr. 1780

To

1513 Fort St George September 1780.

To Major Maule
Chief Engineer

Sir

To Major Maule — to send an Engineer to Chingleput

I am directed by the Rese- =lent & Select Committee to desire you will order Lieut. Gent to Ganjam and send another Eng- =gineer to do Duty at Chingleput

I am
Sir
Your most Obd. Servt
Charles Oakeley.

Fort St George
24th Sept. 1780.

To Lieut. George Mackey
Commanding at Chingleput.

Sir

To Lt. Mackey — to send an Indent for Stores.

We desire you will send us an Indent of such Military Stores as may be immediately wanting for the use of your Garrison.

We have ordered an Engineer to be sent to Chingleput to do Duty there

We are
Sir
Your most Obed. Servts
John Whitehill &c.
Select Committee

Fort St George
24th. Sept. 1780.

To

1514 Fort St George September 1780.

To Colonel John Braithwaite

Sir

To Col: Braithwaite respecting the Powers of the Commanding Officer at Tanjore.

We have received your Letter of the 23d Instant.

With respect to the Military Powers of the Commanding Officer of Tanjore, We have endeavoured to make them adequate to the impor- =tance of that Trust, but if upon your arrival there and after perusing the several Letters & Instructions which have been written on this Subject, and com- =paring them with the actual State of things in that Country, you shall find the Powers confined- or the Regulations that have been issued either res- =pecting the Troops in the Garrison or the Sibbendy Corps not properly observed, you will inform us that we may give the necessary Orders in consequence. In the meantime We have only to desire that you will attend particularly to the Security of the Fort by putting it in the best posture of Defence that your means will permit — applying to the Raja as often as may be requisite for his Assistance or Concurrence.

We are
Sir
Your most Obed. Servants
John Whitehill &c.
Select Committee

Fort St George
24th Sept. 1780.

At

Fort S.t George 25th September 1780.

Monday the 25th

At a Select Committee Present
The Honble John Whitehill Esq.r Presid.t
Charles Smith Sir Hector Munro K.B.
Samuel Johnson

Minutes of last Committee read & approved.

Read a Letter from the Nabob dated the 21st Instant, with Indents of Stores wanted for the use of the Cavalry, which are ordered to be complied with.

Read another Letter from the Nabob dated this day as entered in C.C. N.o 95 enclosing Copy of a Letter from Raja Beabur at Arcott and requesting in consequence that every possible Measure may be taken to succour that Place

Minute thereon

There are now at Arcot 150 Europeans and three Companies of Sepoys belonging to the Company besides five or six thousand Armed People belonging to the Nabob These appear to be very sufficient for the Defence of that Place, but if they were not, it would now be impracticable to send a Reinforcement as the Enemy have invested the Fort — As soon as the Army is in a condition to take the field it will immediately proceed to the Relief of Arcot

Agreed to write a Letter to the Nabob to the above effect.

Read the following Letter from Capt.n

Fort S.t George 25th September 1780.

Capt.n Baldwin of the Contractor

To the Honble President & Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Capt.n Baldwin — Contractor cannot go to Sea for want of Men.

In Compliance with your Honors Orders I just now am come on board, finding the Ship not unmoored I enquired the Cause the Chief Officer told me, the Officers in general as well as the people refused to unmoor, or go to Sea I examined the Officers they pleaded the Inability of working the Ship with so few Hands & the Danger attendant on going to Sea with so many Spaniards who have been exceeding troublesome ever since they have been on board, and will do no work, but as they please and do not hesitate to strike & beat our people. I then called the Ship's Company who make the same Objections at same time declaring their Willingness to go to Sea, whenever I thought proper, and had people sufficient. I shall wait your Honors further Commands. and am with all due respect Honble Sir & Sirs

Your Most Obed.t hble Servt
James Babbaen

Ship Contractor
Sept.r 23. 1780.

The Master Attendant being sent for, and giving it as his Opinion that with the Assistance of 20 Lascars, Capt.n Baldwin would be able to proceed on his Destination it is agreed that he be furnished with that Number accordingly

Ordered that 20 Lascars be sent on board.

do.

Read

Read the following Letter from
Brigadier General Stuart

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

Gentlemen

Letter from Genl Stuart offering his Services

In the beginning of last ~~f~~ I left Madras with the view of acquiring (during my involuntary Leisure) Local Information in the line of my Profession. I have visited every Place of Consequence in these Circars, and arrived here within these few Days after having obtained to the utmost of my Abilities the End proposed.

It was in the first Week of August before I heard of the Incursions made by Hyder Ally's Forces into the Carnatic; and at the same time I received the Account of the Principal Officers appointed to command the Army. I will not now say all I felt on the Occasion — It is repeatedly on Record that I was at your Call.

The Disaster which I this moment hear has befallen us, fills my Soul with Grief inexpressible, and without waiting for Orders I lose not a Moment to repair to the Presidency again in person to offer you Gentlemen every aid, which my poor Abilities or my Life can administer towards the public Service at this alarming Crisis

I have the honor to be
Gentlemen

Your

Masulipatam
18th Sept. 1780

Your most faithful
& Obed. hble Servant
James Stuart

Ordered to lye on the Table
Read the following Letter from

Lieut. Flint

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

Hble Sir

From Lt. Flint — complains of the Hellidar of Wandewash & represents the Sepoys want of Pay.

I understand Col. Baillie, Capts Nixon & Lucas, Lieut. Fraser & Smith, Ensign Turing & a Mr. Baillie Cadet are wounded & prisoners with Hyder, a great number of Sepoys are gone into Arnee the wounded remains of Col. Baillie's Detachment — By some Accounts Hyder is determined on returning to Arcott — by others that he intends taking this place in his way, the Country people are alarmed at the latter News, and I believe the Sepoys are equally so. Yesterday the whole of the Nabobs people were very clamorous, and insisted on being paid; the Application being made to the Hellidar, he told them if they did not chuse to continue they might go away, as they were going out of the Gates, I got intelligence of what was going forward & ordered them to be stopt, & sent for the Black Officers to know the Demands of the Sepoys they were moderate — for the present they required three Colomn of Paddy each and a Money a Rupee

Fort St George 25th September 1780

Rupee, the Paddy was instantly served out by my Order they agreeing to wait till you should return an Answer to this for the Money & Arrears. The Killidar instead of endeavouring to appease these people is striving to drive them away – he never made the smallest preparation for the Defence of the place – on the contrary had determined on delivering the Fort up on the Enemy's appearing before it – While he continues in Office all the people in the fort are dependant on him and wave his Orders for executing, what I may think necessary and he has constantly objections or prevents as much as possible. I hope you will be convinced of the Necessity of taking the power out of this mans hands and how unbecoming he is of continuing in any Employ under the Nabob.

I am informed the Killidar of Carnatic Gur has promised on the fall of Arcot to deliver that place to Hyder – Lt Parr has made an offer of going in Disguise if you approve of it and obtain an Order from the Nabob for his Admittance.

I am
Honble Sir
Your most Obedient
& very humble Servant
W Flint

Wandewash
14th Sept. 1780

The Committee much approve the Conduct of Lieut. Flint in regard to the Na-

Fort St George 25th September 1780

bob's Seapoys – and it is Agreed that he be desired to promise them that they shall be paid, what they have desired, by the Company.

Agreed also that he be directed to take the Command of the Fort & the Keys of the Garrison entirely out of the hands of the Killidar & keep a watchful Eye upon him.

The President is desired to apply to the Nabob for an Order to admit Lieut. Parr into Carnatic Gur.

Read the following Letters from Capt. Alcock Commanding at Tanjore.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
President & Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Capt. Alcock – is taking every Step for the Defence of Tanjore;

For many reasons suggesting to me in the present Situation of Affairs, I am prosecuting every Step that appears necessary for the Defence of this Place, I shall immediately require every Assistance from the Rajah, and in case of his non-compliance I shall use the mildest Methods of supplying what I can from the Country, and pledge myself for giving a just Account of what I may have occasion to collect. As the Rajah intimates he has no Cash to advance, I may be under the necessity of levying Contributions. In case I should have reason to suspect any Disaffection on his part I beg to have your Instructions how to act. As there may be a Necessity for calling in the Subsidy of

1521 Fort St George 25th September 1780.

Corps, I beg you will be pleased to send pointed Orders for their being under my Command, the same as other Troops, and that you will during their serving as Regulars, have no objection to their receiving such pay, to be drawn as Additional. I have the honor to be, with respect,

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt Hble Servant
Hugh Robert Alcock

Tanjore
17th Septr 1780

Considering the great Expence I am at as Commanding Officer, and no Allowance being given as such as in in other Garrisons I hope that this Honble Board will not object to my drawing Batta as Major.

Minute thereon

The Committee do not approve at all of the Methods proposed by Capt Alcock for providing for the Defence of Tanjore, and it is agreed to desire he will take no extraordinary Steps on that Account, as Col. Braithwaite who is appointed to the Command of Tanjore, will shortly arrive there.

The Committee do not think to make Captain Alcock the additional Allowance he has requested as Commandant of Tanjore.

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

1522 Fort St George 25th September 1780.

From Capt Alcock — with Estimate of the Expence of erecting a Powder Magazine.

I have the honor to acknowledge Your Commands of the 9th Instant — and herewith to transmit an Estimate for building a Magazine, of which Dimension, two will be necessary. One sufficiently large, would be too high for the Works of the little Fort — the reason is evident.

I have the honor to be
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your respectful &
most Obedt Servant
Hugh Robert Alcock
Capt Commanding

Tanjore
19th Septr 1780.

Estimate of the Expence of a Magazine to contain 1500 Barrels of Powder.

To 1090 Cub. yards of plain Brick Work with Chunam including Foundations & Counterposts at 1½ Pag. p cub. yard	1635
To 384 Cub. Yards of Arch Work at 3 Pags p Yard	1152
To 184 cub. yards plain Work to enclose the Magazine @ 1½ Pag.	276
Plaistering, Flooring, Doors &ca about	350
Total Expence Pagodas	3413

Jas Johnston
Sub Dr of Engrs

Tanjore 14th Sept 1780

N.B. Near a third of the above expence will

will be saved as part of the Materials are now in Store.

Minute thereon

Agreed that Orders be immediately sent to Tanjore for erecting two Powder Magazines if one sufficiently large cannot be built without the Inconvenience mentioned by Capt Flock

Read the following Letter from the Resident at Nagore.

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Nagore Packet Stores landed from the Squadron with Intelligence from Tranquebar.

Agreeable to your Orders of the 27th Ult I received from Sir Edward Hughes the 990 Barrels of Powder on board the Squadron belonging to the Company, and despatched with as much expedition as was possible 890 Barrels to Tanjore, detaining 100 for our own use. The lead I had dispatched before, and the Storekeeper at Tanjore has acknowledged the Receipt of it. The Powder has been detained on the Road by the Rivers, but I am in hourly expectation of hearing of its safe Arrival. At this Critical period I will not trouble your Honor &c with a Detail of the several temporary Buildings I have found it necessary to erect in the Redoubt.

I have heard with extreme grief of the Misfortune that has befallen our Army in the loss of Col Baillie's Detachment, and of General Munro's consequent Retreat to Chingleput

Chingleput, and as I fear that by the Enemy's having the command of the open Country for ever so short a time our Army, as well as Madras itself may be straitened for Provisions, it has occurred to me that I may be of some Service in sending to the Presidency whatever Provisions this Country can supply — I have therefore written to the Dumbdars in the Districts to send to Nagore with the utmost Expedition all the Sheep & Bullocks that can possibly be procured, and as fast as they arrive before the Monsoon I shall dispatch them to Madras in Boats ballasted with Paddy.

I have received Intelligence which is also confirmed by Letters from Tanjour that a Body of the Enemy to the Number of 4,000 are on the Bank of the Coleroon ready to enter the Tanjour Country as soon as that River is fordable, and as they cannot be intended against Tanjour itself, not having Guns with them, I think it probable that this Place may be their immediate Object. We are accordingly doing every thing in our power to render our Redoubt tenable, and I have desired the Commanding Officer to move the Sepoys into it and to withdraw our Outposts leaving a Naigue and Six Sepoys at Carical with Orders to retreat to Nagore on the approach of the Enemy taking care to bring the Colours with them. There are in the Redoubt two 12 pounder Guns and 4 Six pounders but only two Invalid Artillery Men to work them, on which account I believe I shall send the 12 pounders to Madras. We shall try to make the most of our small

change the

try

1525 Fort St George 25th September 1780.

force and as a last resource in case the Commanding Officer should be of opinion that we cannot defend the Redoubt with any prospect of Success, we shall endeavour to effect our retreat to to the Sea in Boats kept in readiness for that Purpose.

I think it right to acquaint Your Honor &ca that the Governor of Tranquebar has declared that in case any of Hyder Ally's Troops should come to attack him he will make no resistance but give them whatever they may ask this it may be of consequence for Your Honor &ca to know as the Danish Company have in Tranquebar a considerable quantity of Arms, and other Military Stores which may probably from the above Declaration fall into the Enemy's Hands unless Your Honor &ca should be able to dissuade Mr Abestre from his purpose.

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt humble Servant
J. Huddleston

Nagore
19th Septr 1780.

The Committee approve of Mr Huddleston's Intention of sending live Stock &ca to the Presidency.

Read the following Letter from Cuddalore.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
President & Governor &ca Council
at Fort St George

Honble

1526 Fort St George 25th September 1780

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Cuddalore — Hyder takes Chinnamaickpollam & Nadiapet desiring a supply of Money

We are exceedingly concerned to acquaint you that People in Hyder's name have taken possession of the Villages of Chinnemanaicpollam, & Nadiaput, as well as of the Villages in the farm of Trevenduporam, and that in these places, as well as in some parts of our bounds, they have tyed a String called Toranum; by which they lay claim to the Circar's share of the Crops now on the Ground. That they likewise collect the Customs, & Juncans, at the places where they were usually exacted: but in other respects give the Inhabitants no molestation. That circumstanced as we are, We cannot but consider their Conduct as favourable to the Inhabitants, as mortifying to ourselves; & have therefore taken no measures to free the Country from these Insults; for though in the first instance, it would be extremely practicable to disperse or take them prisoners should they return in larger Bodies, which would undoubtedly be the Case; The Villages of Chinnamanaickpollam, the farm of Trevenduporam, & great part of the bounds, in which there are some exceeding large, & populous Villages, would be entirely destroyed by Fire; without our having the power to afford the Inhabitants the smallest Protection, for want of a sufficient number of Sepoys to secure the Bounds.

Nothwithstanding our reluctance to press Your Honor &ca further for a Supply of Cash, because from our repeated Applications you must be equally sensible of our Distress, We find it impossible to raise any more money in the place, and have therefore no expedient left

1527 Fort St George 25th September 1780

which

left, to extricate Us from the many Difficulties in, we shall soon be involved, unless your Honor &ca can assist us from the Presidency.

We have indeed made shift by our Drafts on your Honor &ca to pay the Military in the Garrison to the first instant, though the Civil Servants have received no Pay these three Months; our Surgeons Bills, and other Demands on the Company cannot be discharged, and unless we are enabled by a remittance from your honor &ca to pay the Garrison the first of next Month, we may expect a great Desertion will ensue. Some of the Sepoys have already quitted the fort, tho' they have received their pay, and no Enemy has yet appeared, possibly from apprehension they might not be punctually paid in future, having been obliged to wait some days after the expiration of last Month before they received their Pay - at least such of them as are not very well inclined to the Service, would be glad of such a plea to avail themselves of, at so Critical a Juncture.

We likewise take this Occasion to inform your Honor &ca that no Means in our power have been omitted to put the Fort in the best State of Defence it would admit of, and that such Works as have been carried on were conducted with the strictest Oeconomy. Our Garrison however is small, and our Walls low, and greatly extended, and as we have very few Guns, & only Topaz Artillery who have never seen Service, we can scarcely flatter ourselves that in case a Vigorous Attack was made on the fort it would not succeed; but if your Honor &ca would be pleased to order the the three Companies of Sepoys now at Nagore to proceed

d

to

to this place, & likewise spare us some invalid Artillery, we might then hope to secure the Garrison from every Attempt except that of a regular Siege.

We are very respectfully
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt humble Servants
William Cuming
J Daniel
E H Fallofield
R Guy

Cuddalore
21st September 1780

The Gentlemen at Cuddalore under the Circumstances they have mentioned, have done right with respect to the Villages possessed by Hyder's people.

Minute thereon

Resolved that a Supply of Money be sent to Cuddalore as soon as possible - but as to further Reinforce of Troops for the Defence of that Place, it is impossible to grant it at present.

me

Messrs Smith & Johnson deliver in the following Minute

Minute of Messrs Smith & Johnson on the Want of Chunam

As the compleating the Fortifications is an Object of the highest Consequence, and it is retarded by want of Chunam notwithstanding the Chunam-Contractor has been paid the Advance he required, we propose that Advertisement be published, giving notice, that the President & Council will issue Orders for receiving from any person or persons, any quantity of Chunam, not exceeding 10,000 Parrahs, at 7 Parrahs p Pagoda; provided the same be delivered in the Fort, on or before the 31st Day of October next, and that advances of Money will be made to each person contracting, in proportion to the quantity he shall agree to deliver on his giving Security, for the performance of his Contract, under a penalty of 25 p Cent on the amount.

We

Fort St George 25th September 1780.

We are sensible that this Price is much above what is paid to the Contractor, but an allowance should be made for the Difficulties attending the collection of Shells, when the Enemy's Horse are plundering in the Neighbourhood.

Independant of this circumstance, we think that, were the extraordinary expence of this Plan twice the Amount, it ought not to be put in Competition with the Advantages which must result from it, as thereby the Fortifications will be compleated, and the Property of the Company and of Individuals secured.

the 25th Sept. 1780.

Resolved that an Advertisement be publish-ed in the Terms of the foregoing Minute.

Mr. George Forster is now appointed to act as Persian Translator to the Army during the Absence of Lt. Alex. Read who is now a Prisoner with Hyder Ally, and it is agreed likewise that Mr. Forster do act as Mauratta Translator to the General.

Mr. G. Forster appointed Persian Translator to the Army

The Committee being of opinion that Six Months Store of every kind of Provision should be laid up within the Fort as soon as possible, the President is desired to take the necessary Steps accordingly.

Six Months Provision ordered to be laid in

Charles Smith

Saml. Johnston

Fort St George September 1780

23 Wrote the following Letter

To Lieut. John Pringle

Sir

I am directed by the Honble the Presid. & Select Committee to transmit to you an Extract from the Company's General Letter dated the 3d Feby 1780 and to acquaint you that the Commander in Chief is requested by the Committee to deliver to you the improved Fusee which the Court of Directors have been pleased to present to you.

To Lieut. Pringle with Extract of the Company's General Letter

I am Sir
your most obed. Servt
Charles Oakeley
Secy.

Fort St George
23 September 1780

25th Wrote the following Letters

To Alex. Davidson Esqr.
President &c. &c. Gentlemen of the Committee of Works

Gentlemen

I am directed by the President & Select Committee, to desire You will immediately send a Syrang a Tindal & 20 good Lascars, on board the Contractor, to assist in navigating the Ship.

A Syrang a Tindal & 20 Lascars to be sent on board the Contractor

I am
Gentlemen
your most Obed. Servt
Charles Oakeley

Fort St George
25th Sept. 1780

To

Fort St George, September 1780

To Mr George Taswell
Master Attendant

Sir

To Mr Taswell to repair on board the Contractor, to examine her & make report to the Committee

Capt Baldwin of the Contractor having represented that his Ship has not a sufficient Number of Hands to go to Sea, and that the Malays who were sent to him by the Admiral are exceedingly troublesome I am directed to desire you will immediately repair on board, examine into these Circumstances, and make your Report in consequence to the Select Committee as soon as possible

I am
Sir
Your most obed.t Servant
Charles Oakeley Sec.y

Fort St George
25.th Sept.r 1780

26th Received the following Letter from Cuddalore

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Cuddalore — 1 Company of Sepoys sent to Wandewash

We have received your Com.ds of the 19th & 20th Instant Agreeable to the last, we have directed our Commandant to order one of our Companies of Sepoys to proceed immediately to Wandewash, and have recommended it to him to send them by Sea as far as Mempaur from

Fort St George, September 1780

from whence they have only a March of about 20 Miles to Permacoil by night, and the March to Wandewash, which for their Security should be effected by night likewise, will we hope bring them in safety there.

Agreeable to your letter of the 21.st inst.r we flatter ourselves that your Honor &c.a will be pleased to order the 3 Companies of Sepoys, now at Nagore, to be sent hither immediately; because we have not 200 Sepoys fit for Duty, & the Inhabitants, who have lately quitted the Garrison in great numbers, from an Idea of their Insecurity, will now we apprehend be much more alarmed, on a supposition that it is not possible for the few Sepoys now here to defend their property or themselves for any considerable attempt which may be made by the Enemy.

We have directed Mr Shardon to send hither all the Boats & Boat People from Pondicherry without loss of time

We have the honor to be
very respectfully
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obed.t hble Servts
William Cuming
S Danyell
Wm Maitland
M Falloofield
R Guy

Cuddaloze
23. Sept.r 1780

Wrote

Fort St George September 1780

Wrote the following Letters

To Capt. Hugh Robert Alcock
Commanding at Tanjore

Sir

To Capt. Alcock to be exceedingly cautious in every thing that relates to the Security of the Garison.

We have received your Letters of the 15th 19th & 20th Instants. As Col. Braithwaite will be very shortly at Tanjore, it will not be necessary for you to take any of the extraordinary Steps you propose for the Defence of Fort or Country which we do not apprehend to be in any immediate Danger of an Attack. We desire however that you will be vigilant & cautious in every thing that relates to the Security of the Garison. We desire that you will direct the Engineer to begin upon the Powder Magazine of which we would have two built, agreeably to the Estimate you have transmitted us, provided the Situation of the small fort is such as in the opinion of the Engineer would render one sufficiently large for the purpose inconvenient.

We cannot consent to make you any additional Allowance on account of your having the temporary Command of Tanjore during the Vacancy occasioned by the Death of Major Machellan

We are

Fort St George
26th Sept. 1780

Sir
your most Obed. Servts
John Whitehill Dpt
Select Committee

To

Fort St George September 1780

To Mr William Cunning
Chief &c. Council of
Cuddalore

Gentlemen

To Cuddalore — Money to be supplied them in a few Days.

We have received your Letter of the 21st Instant.

As the State of your Force will not admit of your giving Protection to the Inhabitants of the Villages you mention, you have acted right in allowing them to remain as they are.

We are sorry it has not been in our power to give you any effectual Assistance in the Article of Money — We have felt the want of it ourselves but we shall take the earliest occasion to supply you and we hope it will be in our power in a few Days.

We should chearfully reinforce your Garison if it could be done without creating an Inconvenience elsewhere greater than that which you are likely to suffer by the smallness of your present numbers, for we flatter ourselves you have still sufficient by the help of your Defences to secure you against any thing but a regular Siege. If you think not & have it in your power to recruit, We allow you to augment your Number as far as you possibly can.

If there be at Cuddalore any Entrenching Tools belonging to the Company, We desire they may be sent by the first Opportunity to this Place.

We

1535 Fort St George September 1780

Fort St George
26th Sept 1780

We are
Gentlemen
Your most obed Servants
John Whitehill &c
Selct Committee

To Lieut. Flint
commanding at Wandewash.

Sir

To Lt Flint approving his Conduct in regard to the Nabobs Sepoys.

We have received your Letter of the 15th Instant addressed to the Governor. We approve your Conduct in regard to the Nabobs Sepoys, and with respect to the Rupee each with which you inform us they would be at present satisfied, We empower you, if you can by any means raise the Money, to advance it on the Company's Account, or otherwise promise them in the Company's name that it shall be paid. In the mean time you may subsist them should it be necessary from the Paddy in the Fort.

The Behaviour of the Killedar is sufficient to justify your taking all power out of his hands which you will be accordingly, & keep the Keys of the Fort in your own Custody. We enclose an Order from the Nabob to admit Lieut. Parr into Carnatick Gur- you will send him there accordingly in the manner you mention.

We are
Sir
Your most obed. Servants
John Whitehill
&c. Select Committee

Fort St George
6th Sept 1780

1536 Fort St George September 1780

24th Received the following Letters

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Mr Huddleston 8 Garce of Paddy & 150 Sheep which were sent from Nagore lost.

I am sorry to acquaint you that the Boat on which I yesterday shipped eight Garce of Paddy, & 150 Sheep, & had actually given the Sir- -dal his Dispatches, by some accident which I have not yet been able to discover either sunk or overset in the night. I shall not however be dis- -couraged by this accident from using my endeavours to assist Madras with Provisions - and if the Honble Company's Snow Elizabeth is to return thither, I shall send on board as many Sheep as she may be able to take. As I have certain Intelligence that there are several parties of the Enemy on the road between this Place & Cuddalore, and that they are par- -ticularly sollicitous to intercept the Sepoys, I shall reserve other subjects until I have an opportunity of addressing your Honor &c. by Sea. In the mean while I submit to your Honor &c. whether it might not be eligible to furnish me with a Cypher.

I have the honor to be with the great- -est Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedt. hble Servt.
J Huddleston

Nagore
22d Sept 1780

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

From D. Douglas - he leaves over the Guntoor Circar to Bazalet Jung's Agent.

I have this day received your Letter of the 15th Instant enclosing an Order from the Nabob to his Manager in this Circar, which I have forwarded to him at Bezoa.

I have written Bazalet Jung's Agent at Condaveer agreeably to your Commands, informing him that I am authorised by you to deliver over the Guntoor Circar to his Master and desiring him to take Charge of the Country, until he can receive his Orders.

I shall as soon as possible collect the Sepoys from their different Stations in this District and proceed with them to Ongole, and shall use my utmost Endeavours to procure Boats to carry them to the Presidency.

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt and
most humble Servant
Walter Douglas.

Innconda
21st Sept 1780

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

Agreeably

Agreeably to my letter of the 19th Inst. of which the enclosed is a Duplicate I now dispatch a Boat with 8 Garce of Paddy & 150 Sheep. I hope to dispatch another tomorrow.

From M. Middleton - the Inhabitants leaving their Districts

By a private Letter from Madras I am informed that the Company's Snow Elizabeth is coming here again. If it be your Honor's &c. intention that she should be returned with a Cargo of Paddy it will be utterly out of my power to effect it in time for her to sail before the Change of the Monsoon, as I have already dispatched to your Honor &c. in Boats the remainder of the Company's for the late Renter's Paddy that was here, and that which I now send is purchased. I will however do my utmost to put 20 or 30 Garce in the Elizabeth & as many Sheep as I can possibly purchase.

In consequence of the report of a body of the Enemy being on the borders of the Tanjore Country, the Inhabitants are leaving their Districts in great Numbers being instigated to it by some of the principal among them who the Aumildars write me are endeavouring to throw every thing into confusion that they may embezzle the Government's share of the Crop. I have in consequence ordered a Letter to be written to the Rajahs Dewan desiring him not to give any Countenance to our Inhabitants but to compel them to return to their houses and I humbly submit to your Honor &c. whether a Letter to the Rajah from the Honble the President might not be of essential Service.

I

1539 Fort St George September 1780

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect

Nagore
21st Septr 1780

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most obedt hble Servt
Huddleston

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Lt Mackay collecting Grain for the Provision of his Garrison

The Nabob's order to his Renters which you did me the honor to send me is received. The two Jobdars & the three Peons who were the Bearers of his Highness's Orders had other Letters from the Durbar addressed to the different Renters.

Vera swamy's Brother who is renter of Caranguly was found in a pollum of his own guarded by the Sibbendy Seapoys. When he was told that there were Orders & Directions from the Durbar for him, he desired the Bearer thereof to throw the letter upon the Ground and that he would piss upon it — He then bid the fellow be gone, or he would deliver him up to Hyder's horse, — and added that the Carnatick was Hyder's and the Nabob gone to Bengal

The Renter of this Place is in the same manner fled to the Jungulls with the Circar Sebendies and will not afford me or the Garrison the smallest assistance of any kind

The Inhabitants are sending their Pain as fast as they can towards Sadras, & driving away their flocks

1540 Fort St George September 1780

flocks of Sheep & Cattle to the Countries about Pondicherry.

Since therefore, Honble Sir, I find things go on in a manner so contrary to the welfare of us all, I have determined without any further Ceremony to exert myself to the utmost degree in collecting for the provision of this Garrison for twenty Miles round every thing whatever we are in want of & can be found. For it stands thus, that either Hyder or us must take what grain & Sheep &ca are in the Country, and therefore I think I have no time to lose, for I am afraid in less than six Weeks there will be a famine in the Carnatick.

Nothing now of Intelligence has has been brought in to me today.

I am Honble Sir
Your very obedt & respectful
humble Servant
Geo: Mackay
Lieut. Commandr

Chingleput
25th Septr 1780

To Charles Oakeley Esqr
Military Secretary

Sir

From Lt Pringle acknowledging the Receipt of a Fusee from the Honble Court of Directors

I yesterday received from the Commander in Chief a Fusee the Court of Directors have been pleased to present me with, and your Letter enclosing an Extract from the Company's General Letter dated the 3d Febry 1780.

I

1541 Fort St George September 1780

I am highly sensible of the Honor done me by my Honble Masters in this Mark of their Approbation, and I will endeavour better to merit their Notice by using it with Zeal in their Service.

I request the favour of you to acquaint the Honble the President & Select Committee that I am also duly impressed with the obliging manner in which they were pleased to have it delivered to me, and

I am Sir

Your most Obedt Servt
Jno Pringle

Fort St George
Septr 26th 1780

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

The Commanding Officer having transmitted your Honor &c. an Indent of sundry Military Stores for the use of this Garrison I have the honour to acquaint you that I did not think it safe to send off my return of Stores for August, as usual, fearing through the miscarriages of the Tappals it might fall into the Enemy's Hands, by which means they would they would be informed of the Quantity of Powder & Stores in the Garrison, and as the return differs very little from

From Mr Tanner requesting to be informed concerning the Batta of some wounded Sirings that came from Col. Baillie's Detachment

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from the one for July except a few Stores sent from Madras in August / I hope you will think me right.

Several Sick & Wounded Sepoys & Lascars are come in here from General Munros Army & Col. Baillies Detachment, and been paid some Batta agreeable to the Generals Orders, but as many of them are distressed Objects, I wish to be favoured with your Honor &c.a Orders respecting them, and if the Sepoys that may hereafter be reported fit for Duty are to be paid all Arrears at this Garrison, or only Monthly Subsistence, and receive the remainder when they join their respective Corps

A Tindal & ten Lascars were lately considered as the Strength of this Garrison, but since the present troubles I have entertained twenty additional ones, and should think with submission that many more might be entertained here for the good of the Service

only.

I have the honor to remain
Honble Sir & Sirs
with the greatest Respect
Your most Obed.t & most h.ble Serv.t
Theod.k Tanner
Paymaster.

Chingleput
26.th Sept.r 1780.

Wrote the following Letter

To Capt. Thomas Burrowes
Commanding the Sibbendy Troops
in the Tanjore Country

Sir

We transmit you a Copy of

1543 Fort St George 28th September 1780

To Capt. Barrowes enclosing Copy of a Letter from Mssrs Marishall Baillie & Knox with orders thereon

of a Letter addressed to us by Lieut. Marishall Baillie & Knox. If the Facts asserted by them are well founded, their Compliant in consequence is very just. It was certainly our Intention that those Officers should have the Regimental Command of their respective Battalions in the fullest extent, that is with the same Authority in respect to the Detail & Discipline, that Captains of Regular Battalions would possess in the same situation. The meaning of this part of the Establishment being thus fully explained We desire it may be strictly conformed to in future.

We are
Sir
Your most Obed. Servants
John Whitehill
&c. Select Committee

Fort St George
27th Sept. 1780

Thursday the 28th

At a Select Committee Present
The Honble John Whitehill Esq. President
Charles Smith Sir Hector Munro K.B.
Samuel Johnson.

Minutes of last Committee read and approved.

Read the following Letter from Col. James

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

P

1544 Fort St George 28th September 1780.

From Col James — proposing an augmentation of the Artillery

I have frequently represented to your Honors &c the necessity of augmenting the Corps of Artillery, and compleating it with Officers & Men. I again beg leave to point out to you how inadequate the Corps is to the Service expected of it, and which it must perform before peace can be restored to the Carnatic.

The fate of Colonel Baillie's Detachment which consisted of the finest Corps of Infantry that ever acted together in this Country, pleads more forcibly for an augmentation of the Artillery than any thing I can urge. — this Detachment had only ten Field pieces ill supplied with Ammunition owing to the want of Spare Tumbrils.

The whole Corps of Artillery should not on any Occasion be sent to the Field, because should the Army prove unfortunate, the Defence of Fort St George must greatly depend upon a well disciplined Artillery.

For the above Reasons I beg leave to submit to your Consideration the following Plan for establishing the Artillery on a footing consistant with the Defence of the Carnatic and the present Exigencies of the Service.

The Corps of Artillery to be augmented to ten Companies each Company to consist of

Capt.rs	Lieut.ts	Fire Wk.rs	Sergeants	Corp.ls	Drum.rs	Fifers	Gunners	Matr.s	Total
1	3	2	7	7	2	2	12	58	88

1545 Fort St. George 28th September 1780.

to be formed into a Regiment of two Battns each Battn to consist of

1	Lt Colonel
1	Major
5	Captains
15	Lieuts
10	Ensigns
1	Adjt
1	Qr. Master
1	Sergeant Major
1	Qr. Master Serjt.
1	Drill Serjeant
1	Drill Corporal
1	Drum Major
1	Fife Major
35	Serjeants
35	Corporals
10	Drummers
10	Fifers
60	Gunners
290	Matrosses

The Regiment to be commanded by a Colonel and to be constantly kept compleat — One Battn to be stationed at the Mount ready for Field Service, the other in Fort St. George and such out-Garrisons as the Honble the President and Select Committee shall judge proper and to be relieved every two years. A Company of Lascars consisting of one Syrang & Tindals and 80 Lascars to be attached to each Company of Artillery who is to draw their pay and return them the same as his men

Should there be reasons to prevent this plan being immediately carried into execution I beg leave to recommend that another Lieut. be added to each Company on the present Establishment, and that the Corps be compleated with Officers in the room of Absentees & those in double employments, who, in so small a Corps should always be considered as Supernumerary.

I am with much respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your very obed. faithful Servt
R. James

Fort St. George
September 24th 1780

Allho

1546 Fort St. George 28th September 1780

To be referred to the Court of Directors

Although the Committee approve in general of the Plan, recommended by Col. James for an Augmentation of the Artillery, they do not think proper to come to any Resolution upon it, without the Sanction of the Court of Directors — indeed were they disposed to adopt it, they could not at present for want of Men. — but with respect to the proposal of adding another Lieut.t to each Company on the present Establishment, the Committee are of opinion, and it is accordingly Resolved — That it be carried into Execution.

1 Lieut.t to be added to each Company.

Minute of the Committee relative to the Nabob's Cavalry

The Committee being thoroughly sensible from past and present experience that the Operations of the Army in the Field can never be properly conducted without the Assistance of a Body of well appointed Cavalry, they have proposed to the Nabob an Increase of his present Cavalry by the Addition of two more Regiments to be raised by him for that purpose: but the Difficulties which have occurred with respect to the Settlement of Arrears due to the Nabob's Cavalry and providing for their future Payment have hitherto prevented the Committee's coming to any Conclusion upon this Business.

The Nabob has now only two Regiments of Cavalry which are both in Camp with the Army. To these Regiments there are Eight or nine Months Arrears of Pay due, besides a very considerable Sum on Account of the Contracts which the Commanding Officers of the Regiments have for feeding the Horses with

Fort St. George 28th September 1780

With respect to the pay, it will be absolutely necessary for the Company to provide as well for the Arrears as for the Current Charges on this Account, since the Nabob has declared his utter inability to do either – But in regard to the Contracts for feeding the Horses – these not being so pressing the Officers who hold them must be content to wait Payment of their Demands some time longer, the Company engaging however to see that Provision be made by the Nabob to satisfy them.

With respect to what the Company have already advanced or may in future advance on Account of the Nabob's Cavalry it is expedient that the Nabob should assign over Countries for the speedy Repayment of the Money. This being effected those Countries or such part as may be requisite should still remain assigned until the Balances due to the Commanding Officers of the Regiments on account of their Contracts be also discharged.

If the Nabob in compliance with the Committee's Recommendation shall agree to raise two more Regiments of Cavalry, the Pay of these in addition to the two other Regiments and their Arrears will amount to a very large Sum which will daily encrease as the War continues. The Committee are therefore of opinion that for the Reimbursement of these Expences & the Contract Money, the Nabob should grant the Revenues of the Tritchinopoly Madura & Tinnevelly Countries and if those Countries from Incumbrances or

other

other Causes should prove insufficient to repay the Company's Advances in a reasonable time, then such other Districts must be made over as shall be deemed adequate to the purpose.

The foregoing Arrangements having been communicated by the President to the Nabob he now lays before the Committee the following Papers delivered to him by the Nabob in Answer.

The four Regiments of Cavalry to be sent to the Company during the present War and to be by them paid – The Arrears to the two Regiments of Cavalry at present in Camp to be paid by the Company.

As for upwards of Thirty Years one uniform plan of repayment has subsisted between the Company & the Nabob and as the Company have at all times at the Nabobs Desire caused the Supplies which have been required in the Wars carried on not only with the Powers of Hindostan but also in the national Wars with France which have been as constantly repaid by the Nabob when peace has been reestablished it is proposed that the Nabob do appropriate the Revenues of such Districts as he may deem adequate to the speedy Discharge of the advances which the Company may make on his account.

The foregoing Answer from the Nabob is not sufficiently explicit – He seems to place the Sums advanced to his Cavalry on the same footing as the Advances made for paying

the

1549 Fort St George 28th September 1780

Troops maintained by the Company for the Defence of the Carnatick and other Charges upon that Account, for the Reimbursement of which they have hitherto taken no Assignments of Country, but trusted to the Nabob's Honor to satisfy them as soon as he conveniently could – There seems however to be a wide Distinction in the present Case – The Payment of the Nabob's Favalry being quite a new Charge incurred by the Necessity of the Times and not at all connected with the Disbursements hitherto made for the Nabob, the Committee have a right to expect that every possible Security be given for the Speedy repayment of their Advances and it is Agreed accordingly to address a particular Letter to the Nabob on this Subject. +

Read the following Letter from Lieut: Flint Commanding at Wandewash.

To the Honble the President & Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Lt Flint with Returns of Stores Provisions &c in the Garrison of Wandewash.

General Munro having ordered me to transmit to you a Return of Grain & Military Stores in this Garrison – I have the pleasure of informing you that it contains 2669-7-3 Colgn. M. Ls of Rice and 73,334.5.1 Colm. Ms of Paddy. The Military Stores being composed of all Nations it will take some time in preparing an exact Return – he likewise desired me to acquaint you if any Grain could be collected from the Country round – Hyder being

1550 Fort St George 28th September 1780

being in possession of every Village to the North South & West little can be expected from those Quarters. Chittumbahpillee formerly Hamildar of Chitaput. Knows Hyder's Hamildar of Trivetore being well acquainted with that Country collected all the Grain of it and from time to time sent it to Hyder's Camp - this Man has been and continues of great Service to him in furnishing his Army with that Article. The Country between this, Chingleput, Atchelwacum & Permacoil would gladly bring what Grain they have for Sale to our Army was it here, expecting hourly to have it seized by some of Chittumbahpillee's people. I beg leave to inform you that several of the Sepoys &c. who were in the Action of the 10th have come here badly wounded some of them, as they were stript of every thing by Hyder's people & in great Distress, I have paid two Fanams each daily and shall continue so doing till your pleasure be known.

I am Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most obed. & very hble Servt.

W Flint.

Wandewash
27th Sept. 1780

The Committee approve of the allowance made to the wounded Seapoys who are gone to Wandewash Lieut. Flint is to be directed to continue the same till further Orders

Read the following Letter from Lieut. Bishop Commanding at Permacoil

To the Honble John Whitehill Esq. Governor & Paident and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Lt Bishop contains the following

A letter Received last Night from

1551 Fort St George 28th September 1780.

from Lieut. Flint commanding at Wandewash conveys to me the disagreeable Information of the unhappy fate attending the Detachment under the Command of Lt Col: Baillie and at the same time leaves me in a State of Suspence about Genera Munro's Safety with that part of the Army under his Command. I have taken every precaution to maintain this Post and discharge the Trust reposed in me. The Nabob's Sepoys in the Garrison are two Months in Arrears altho the Amildar some time ago received an Order to pay them which he declined doing upon receiving the news respecting the Situation of the Army. I remonstrated to him in the most moderate terms the absolute necessity there was for the Seapoys being paid but without any effect in consequence of this and having great reason to imagine that this Man wanted only a favourable Opportunity to go off / the Killidar having received a Letter from the Manager at Arcott some days ago to have a watchful Eye over him and which Letter the Killidar communicated to me / I have made him a Prisoner and hope to meet your Approbation in having done so. tis necessary that the Nabob should send a positive Order for their being paid, as they murmur much.

I shall be glad to have your Instructions respecting this Man I have confined and if now or at any other time the Army should stand in need of Officers, I humbly beg leave to offer myself for that purpose as my place for the present can be supplied by some Officer whose health will not

Fort St George 28th September 1780

not permit him to keep the Field or by the Serjt Major of this Garrison who is an attentive good Man.

I have the Honor to remain
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your faithful & Devoted Servt
Benj. Bishop

Permacoil
13th September 1780

The Committee approve of Lieut. Bish-op's having confined the Nabob's Amildar, for the Reasons he has given — With respect to his Offer of Service in the Field, the Committee will gladly accept it, should they be in want of Officers

Read the following Letter from Lieut. Moorhouse, Commissary of Stores to the Army.

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

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Lieut. Moorhouse proposes an Establishmt of Pioneers instead of Monnety Men.

Tho' it is well known that whatever tends to facilitate the March of an Army is of im-portance to its succes, it frequently happens that for want of proper Establishments the Means provi-ded for this and at an immense expence to the Service prove of little Use and unequal to the business.

In all Campaigns the Company are at a considerable Expence for Money to mend the Roads &c. These Men for many Reasons are under the Charge of the

1553 Fort St George 28th September 1780

the Commissary of Stores to the Army, but being occasionally raised & paid daily as Coolies they want Strength, Spirit & Practice to enable them to perform the Duty for which they are entertained, and on the least appearance of an Enemy they throw down their Tools and run away.

I beg leave as this belongs to the Department I Direct, to submit to your Consideration the following Plan for an Establishment of Pioneers instead of Monaty Men.

Two Companies of Pioneers to be raised as soon as possible by the Commissary of Stores to the Army. each Company consisting of 2 Serjeants 3 Corporals 5 Havildars 5 Naigues & 100 Black Pioneers. – the Havildars & Naigues to be paid the same as those of Sepoy Corps the private Pioneers to have two Pagodas p Month, paid by Rolls signed by the Commissary of Stores to the Army. The Pioneers to be clothed in blue Jackets, and to be armed 50 of each Company with light Pistols & 50 with Pikes six feet long. these Arms would be sufficient to prevent their being overcome by a small party of Horse and are so light as not to impede their Working.

I am with much Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your very obed. & faithful Servt
Joseph Moorhouse
Com.y of Stores to the Army

Camp
Sept.r 21st 1780.

The Committee approve of the Proposals offered to their Consideration by Mr. Moorhouse. & it is Agreed that the necessary Orders be issued in consequence.

Approved

Read the following Letter from Mr. Hay. Brodie

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

Honble

1554

Fort St George 28th September 1780.

Honble Sir & Sirs

From M.r Brodie with an Accot of making of Powder.

As Contractor for making of Gun Powder, at Pondicherry; I take the liberty of enclosing a Bill for the Quantity made there, & delivered into the Company's Stores: as likewise a Bill of the Expences incurred in making, and Repairing, the Powder Works.

The Terms of my Contract being the same as that at which Powder is made at Vellore, where the Works are found the Contractor, & all Repairs paid by the Company; I presume to hope, that my Charge on this Score will readily be admitted by Your Honor &c.a when it is known that the present Works which were absolutely necessary for carrying on the Manufacture, were almost entirely constructed & built by me; those which had before been constructed by the French, were calculated merely to serve for the Emergency of the Siege, and to produce only a small Quantity of Powder.

Annexed to the above mentioned Bills I have the honor to lay before You a State of my Acco.t Current with the Honble Company closed by a Ballance due to me of Pag.s 26511.. 22.. 41 which I hope Your Honor &c.a in consideration of my having been so long, and so large a sum in Advance for the Powder Contract, will be pleased to order payment of.

I have the honor to be with perfect Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

A Brodie

Fort St George
28th Sept.r 1780.

1555 Fort St George 28th September 1780

The Honourable Company Dr

To Gun Powder manufactured on Contract at Pondicherry and delivered into the Stores at Pondicherry pr the Storekeeper's Receipt.

					Candy. mds. lbs
1779					
March	31st	To 400	60 lb Barrels	weighing	48 " "
April	"	To 100	do	do	12 " "
May	"	To 500	do	do	60 " "
June	20th	To 200	do	do	24 " "
July	31st	To 400	do	do	48 " "
August	6th	To 500	do	do	60 " "
	18, 26	To 300	do	do	36 " "
Septr	13th	To 300	do	do	36 " "
Octobr	8th	To 400	do	do	48 " "
Novr	5th	To 400	do	do	48 " "
1783					
Jany	20th	To 500	do	do	60 " "
March	2d	To 700	do	do	84 " "
April	"	To 600	do	do	72 " "
June	"	To 800	do	do	96 " "
Augt	"	To 681	do	do	81 . 14 . 10
		6781 Barrels			813 . 14 . 10 @

Pags 43 . 1 . 28 pr Candy is Star Pagodas 35,016 . 4 . 60

Fort St George
31st August 1780

Errors Excepted
pr A Brodie Contractr

1556 Fort St George 28th September 1780

The Honorable Company ---- Dr

To Sundries purchased and paid for fitting up and repairing the Powder Works at Pondicherry — Viz.t

1779

Jan.y 7.	To 85,000 Wall Bricks	42 „ 21 „ —
	To 400 Parahs of Chunam	20 „ — —
	To Planks	8 — —
	To 36 Sheathing Boards	13 — —
	To 60 ℔ of Nails	4 — —
	To 150 Palmiras	15 — —
	To 200 Ropes	10 — —
	To 5 Candies of Iron	65 — —
	To 64 Joists	64 — —
	To 3 large Timbers	9 — —
	To 50 ℔ Tamarind Trees at 3½	175 — —
	To 12 large Teakwood Beams for Powder Stampers at 8 Pag.s each	96 — —
	To 256 Yards of Canvas	40 — —
	To 4 Boats of — ℔ @ 8½	34 — —
	To Cooly hire for ℔ to Pondicherry	3 — —
	To 2 large Kettles built up for Boilers	50 — —
	To 8 Smaller ℔ pot Metal	32 — —
	To Cooley hire & freight for 12 Beams to carry to Pondicherry	20 — —
	To 50 ℔ Steel	9 21 —
	To 18 empty Legers & Thirds	18 — —
	To 5 Candies of Lead at 26 Pag.s ℔ Candy 130	

Leagers.

Carried forward Pagodas 818 — —

1557 Fort St George 28th September 1780

Brought forward ... 888 . - -

For the Monthly Charges paid for Artificers employed Vizt

1779

January	To Carpenters, Bricklayers, Blacksmith & Coolies employed this Month in making & refitting the Blanchery & Town Powder Houses	68 . 25 . 35
Febry	To ... do ... do	89 . 22 . 20
March	To ... do ... do	135 . 5 . 45
April	To ... do ... do	47 . 26 . 70
May	To ... do ... do	18 . - -
June	To ... do ... do	5 . 20 . 40
July	To ... do ... do	149 . 8 . 15
Augt	To ... do ... do	25 . 30 . 50
Septr	To ... do ... do	8 . 30 . 40
Octr	To ... do ... do	20 . 30 . 70
Novr	To ... do ... do	17 . 31 . 50
1780 Jany to July	To ... do ... do	20 . 37 . 20

Total Pagodas 1495 . 17 . 55

Fort St George
31st Augt 1780

Errors excepted
J. A. Brodie

1558. Fort St. George 23.th September 1780

Dr. The Honorable Company an Account current with Alex.r Brodie Cr

1780

To 813 Candies 14 Mds & 10lb. of Gun Powder manufactured at Pondicherry on Contract a Pag.s 43.1.20 p.r Candy delivered on Receipt to the Store from the 31.st March 1779 to Aug.t 1780	35016.4.66	1779 Oct.r 16.th	By Cash received	4000
To Sundries purchased and paid for Building & Repairing the Powder Houses at Pondicherry as p.r Annexed Bill	1495.17.55	May 25.th	By D.o D.o	6000
			By Ballance due	26511.22.41
Pagodas	36511.22.41		Pagodas	36511.22.41

41

Fort St. George

Errors Excepted

A. Brodie

1559 Fort St George 28th September 1780.

Resolved that the foregoing

To be paid Account be passed & that Mr Brodie be paid as soon as the State of the Treasury will permit.

Charles Sweetser

Sam'l Johnston

1560 Fort St George September 1780

28th Wrote the following Letter

To Lieut.r William Flint,

Commanding at

Wandiwash

Sir,

To Lt Flint enclosing the Nabob's order to the Kellidar of Carnatic Ghur

We now enclose you the Nabob's order to the Kellidar of Carnatic Ghur to admit Lieut.r Parr into that Fort. We approve of your allowing 2 Fan.s a Day to the Seapoys of Lieut.r Colonel Baillie's Detachment

We are

Sir

Fort St George
28th Sept.r 1780

Your most obedient Servts
John Whitehill &c Sel Comm.

29th Wrote the following Letter

To Edward Cotsford Esq.re

Chief &ca Council at

Masulipatam

Gentlemen,

To Masulipatam Capt.n O'Hara to recruit the 2d Circar Batt.n of Sepoys — 3000 Pag.s to be sent to Ongole —

Having appointed Capt.n James O'Hara to recruit the 2d Circar Battalion of Seapoys in your District, We desire you will give him every necessary Assistance for the Purpose

We desire also that you will send to the Paymaster at Ongole three Thousand (3000) Pagodas, to enable him to defray the Expences of completing the

you/

enables

1561 Fort St. George September 1780

29th the 7th Carnatic Battalion, which Captn. Edmonds is ordered to recruit

We are
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient Servants
John Whitehill & Sel Commr.

Fort St. George
29th Septr. 1780.
To Mr. Robert Gardiner
Paymaster at Ongole

Sir,

To Mr Gardiner
Sepoy Cloathing
to be sent to Ma-
sulipatam

Amongst the Seapoy Cloathing which you were lately ordered to send hither, is the Cloathing of the 2d Circar Battalion (late Captain Powell's,) as Captn. O'Hara is now appointed to recruit that Battalion in the Circars, I am directed to desire in case the Cloathing be not shipped before you receive this Letter, that you will keep it in your Hands until a safe opportunity offers of sending it to Masulipatam. You will also deliver to Captain Edmonds, the Cloathing for the 7th Battalion, which he is ordered to complete. The Cloathing of the 1st & 11th Battalions, you are to send on Board the Contractor as before desired.

I am,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
Chas. Oakeley Secy.

Fort St. George
29th Septr. 1780

Received

1562 Fort St George September 1780

30th Received the following Letter
To the Honble John Whitehill Esqr
President, and Governor &c. Select Committee
Fort St George

Honble Sir, & Sirs,

It is with much concern
that I find it necessary to inform You, that it is
my opinion that little Service can be ex-
pected from the Independent Companies, when
sent to the southward. As it was expressly under-
stood when they were enlisted that they were
always to remain in this Quarter. I have
carefully kept from their Knowledge that
their Destination was to Madras, & have only
given out that We were going to Angole,—
but I understand that they are suspicious &
begin to waver. The senior Subidar, who is a
Man in every respect to be depended on
informs me that the vast number of Seapoys
of Captn Powell's & Captn Dixon's Battalions
who have passed this way, & almost all of
them wounded, has much alarmed our
People; — He says that as soon as they
know for certain that they are ordered
to the Southward, that at least one
half of them will desert, if they have an
opportunity.

From Lieut Douglas, thinks his Seapoys will desert

The

1563 Fort St George September 1780

30th The two Companies of the
7th Circar Battalion, I believe are inclined
to be of the same Disposition, but the two
Companies of the 1st Carnatic Battalion will
readily embark for the Southward being all
of that Country

No attention on my Part
shall be wanting to bring off as many of the
Seapoys as possible, but I have thought it
necessary at the same time, to acquaint You,
how far they are to be relied on.

There are in this Place
140 Barrels of Musquet Ball Cartridges, and
Gun Powder, part of which together with 1400
Cartridge Pouches, & some other Stores, were
left by Colonel Baillie, all of which I am
now sending to Ongole, & shall leave them
with Captain Edmonds, unless I receive Your
Instructions to the contrary

I have the Honor to be,
with the greatest Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs,
Your most obedient
& most humble Servant,
Walter Douglas
Jo

Innicondah
24th Sept. 1781

1780

1564 Fort St George September 1780.

To the Honble 30th John Whitehill Esqre
President & Governor,
&ca Select Committee, at
Fort St George

Honble Sir, & Sirs,

From Cuddalore, Powder sent to Permacoil

We have received your Commands of the 24th and as it appeared to Us that the Gun Powder might have a good Chance of arriving in safety at Permacoil We have dispatched it to Lieut^n Bishopp, or Officer commanding there with a discretionary Power to him, to forward it, or otherwise, according to the Intelligence he may receive of the security of the Road from Permacoil to Wandiwash

We have the Honor to be,
Honble Sir, & Sirs
Your most obedient
humble Servants,
William Cuming
J. Daniell
Wil. L. Maitland
E. H. Fallofield
R. Guy

Cuddalore
27th September 1780

Wrote

1565 Fort St George September 1780

30th Wrote the following Letters.

To Lieut. Bishopp,

Commanding at

Permacoil

Sir,

to Lt Bishopp, approve of his making the Amildar a Prisoner.

We have received your Letter of the 13th Inst.

You did right in making the Amildar a Prisoner upon the Grounds you mention. If you can possibly obtain Money from him, or from any of the Nabobs People, for the Payment of the Seapoys, you will do it. in the meantime the President will speak to the Nabob for a fresh Order on this subject.

We are sensible of your Zeal for the Service in the Offer you make of going into the Field. In case Officers are wanted, We shall take the first opportunity of employing you, and permit you afterwards to return to your Command

We are,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servts

John Whitehill

For a Select Committee

To

Fort St George,
30th September 1780.

1566 Fort St George September 1780

To Mr John Turing 30th

Resident, at Ganjam

Sir,

We have received your Letter of the 13th Septr, with one enclosed from Lt Rice

to Ganjam, Mr Williams not to go there —

As Evidence before a Court of Enquiry are not examined upon Oath there is no necessity for Mr Williams's going to Ganjam on this occasion If Lieut Rice has any Questions to put to Mr Williams, he may do by Letter, & lay his Questions with the answers before the Court

We are

Sir,

Your most obedient Servants,

John Whitehill

&ca Select Commd

Fort St George
30th Septr 1780

At a Select Committee Present,

Monday the 2d Octr } The Honble John Whitehill Esqr President
Charles Smith Sir Hector Munro K.B.
Samuel Johnson

Minutes of last Committee, read and approved.

Read the following Letter from Sir Edwd Hughes.

1567 Fort S.t George 2.d October 1780.

To John Whitehill Esq.r

President & Governor, and Select Committee
of Fort S.t George

Sir, & Gentlemen,

From Adm.l Hughes, the Nymph to sail to the Cape the 10.th Inst.t

Having determined to send His Majesty's Sloop the Nymph, Capt.n Steevens, to the Cape of Good Hope with my publick Dispatches, to be forwarded from thence to England, & also to collect every possible Intelligence of the Motions & Designs of the French both at the Cape & the Mauritius, I think it proper to give You this early Notice, that he will sail on this service on or before the 10.th of next Month, & that he will have my Orders to receive any Packets or Letters, you may think proper to entrust him with; And as the Season of the Year as well as the Repair of the several Ships already much damaged by the Worm, makes it necessary for me to quit this Coast, I have also to inform You, that it is my Intention to proceed with His Majesty's Squadron, under my Command to Bombay, to give that Protection to the Company's Settlements on the Malabar Coast which my Instructions direct, & the Presidency of

1568 Fort St George 2d October 1780.

of Bombay, have so earnestly sollicited by repeated Letters to me, of a late Date

I am with great Regard

Sir, & Gentlemen

Your most obedient humble Servants,

Edwd Hughes

Superb in Madras Road the 28th September 1780

The President delivers in the following Minute

Minute of the Presidr — thinks it necessary that the Court of Directors should be informd of our Situation by the Nymph & that Mr Thos Lewin be appointed to carry the Dispatches & Mr Richd Lewin to be appointed Resident at the Cape

Sir Edward Hughes having in his Letter of the 28th Ultº communicated his Intention of dispatching the Nymph to the Cape, with a View of procuring Intelligence there, relative to the Motions of the French Force, & the Designs formed by that Court against the Company's Possessions in India, I think it presents to us a very favourable opportunity of transmitting to our Hon'ble Employers an Account of that Portion of their Concerns, which is subject to our Administration, & at the same time of applying for such Reinforcements, as will be necessary to enable this Government to withstand the united Efforts of France & Hyder Ally since united We may reasonably expect them to be, so soon as the Armaments lately equipped from the French Ports can be collected at Mauritius, & put in a Condition for actual Service

Ports

As

1569 Fort St George 2d October 1788

As the Destination however of his Majesty's Sloop appears from the Admiral's Letter to extend no farther, than the Cape of Good Hope, & as the Importance of our Dispatches, to be sent by that Conveyance, requires that every Precaution should be used, as well to provide for the speedy Delivery of them, as to prevent their falling into improper Hands. I think it expedient that a Servant of the ~~Company~~ Company should be appointed to take charge of the Packet, & in case this opinion should meet with the Concurrence of the Committee, I would beg leave to mention Mr. Thos. Lewin, as a proper Person for the Service. He has acted as my private Secretary both before, & since I came to the Chair of this Presidency, & having also served a considerable time as Secretary to the Government, I look upon him to be peculiarly qualified from the Information he has obtained in these Situations, to answer the Purpose of such a Nomination.

I also think it my Duty, on the present occasion, to recommend to the Consideration of the Committee, whether it may not be advisable to dispatch by this Conveyance, a proper Person, to settle at the Cape, in the Character of an Agent on behalf of the Company. The very doubtful & imperfect Intelligence which this Government hath for many Years past been accustomed to receive from thence, concerning the Designs

&

1570 Fort St George 2d October 1780

& Operations of the French in India is of itself a sufficient argument to evince the Expediency of our having a subject of our own Nation placed there on whose Diligence & Fidelity, the Presidencies of India may rely, as well for the punctual Dispatch of their advices both to & from Europe, as for the most authentic & special Information of what most nearly concerns them to be acquainted with, namely the Dispositions of hostile European States, & their Influence upon our Trade & Settle-ments in other part of the World

For this Service I beg leave to propose to the Committee Mr Richard Leveridge a Gentleman from whose Knowledge of the French & Dutch Languages, together with the Experience he has acquired in visiting different Parts of India, the Company may expect to derive Ad-vantages in the Line of Communication, such as can hardly be depended upon from Persons unpossessed of those adventitious Requisites, for obtaining it. I am further encouraged to make choice of Mr Leveridge from the good opinion entertained of him by His Majesty's Representative Rear Admiral Sir Edward Hughes, and the Satisfaction with which that Gentleman has informed me he should himself have recourse to Mr Leveridge Abilities, were he once fixed in the Situation of a public Resident.

I should

1771 Fort St. George 2d October 1770—

Should this, as well as the first Point, I have recommended in this Minute receive the approbation of the other Gentlemen in Committee, the appointments which will necessarily take place in consequence, should be notified in our answer to Sir Edward Hughes & he also be requested to order an Accommodation on Board the Nymph Sloop, for the two Gentlemen, who are to be directed to embark upon the Occasion.

2. October.

John Whitehill.

Resolved in consequence of the President's Recommendation that Mr. Tho. Lewin be appointed to proceed in the Nymph with our Dispatches to the Company;—and that Mr. Richd. Lewin be also appointed to proceed in the Nymph to the Cape to remain there, as Resident on the part of the Company, with Directions to transmit to the several Presidencies in India, the earliest Intelligence of every kind, which may be proper for their Information.

Mr. Tho. Lewin appointed to carry the Dispatches.—

Mr. Richd. Lewin to proceed to the Cape as Resident.

Read the following Letter

from Cuddalore

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqre

President & Governor &ca Select Committee

at

Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

We have received your Commands in Duplicate under date the 19th Sept. in

Fort St George 2d October 1780

From Cuddalore the Boat People at Pondichery refuse to come there—

in obedience to which We wrote to Mr Skardon at Pondichery, to send all the Boats & Boat men belonging to that Place, to Cuddalore, & on his representing to Us, that they refused to come, We again desired him to omit no means in his power to send them, by freighting Stores left at Pondichery on the Boats, & offering them every Inducement he was able, to come here.—

He has this morning in person represented to Us, that a little time after he made the first Proposal to the Boat People, Mons.r Piveron called on him, & in the presence of Mons.r Girard Juns.r informed him, that all the Boats, within the Bounds of Pondichery, about ten in number, were & had been for many Years, the Property of French People, settled in Pondichery, in whose name as well as in the name of the principal Inhabitants of the Place, he declared the Boats should not be sent away voluntarily & protested against any forcible Method that might be employed on the occasion, observing it would be an Infringement of the Articles of Capitulation, by which their private Property was secured to them.

considered by them as

Mr Skardon also informed Us, that on the receipt of our second Letter, he sent for the Boat People, & endeavoured to

to freight their Boats to Cuddalore, but that they one & all absolutely refused to go, the owners of the Boats having given them positive Orders not to quit the Place; He informed Us at the same time, that on any Intimation being given him of the appearance of a French Fleet, on any part of the Coast, he might be able in a short time to render the few Boats there, wholly unserviceable provided he was not prevented by the People of Pondichery.

Under these circumstances We do not know whether Your Honor &ca would approve of our making use of Force to bring the Pondichery Boats here, this being the only means left to effect it, & therefore We beg to be favoured with your particular Instructions on the Occasion.

We have the Honor to be,
Honble Sir & Sirs,
Your most obedient,
humble servants.
William Cumming
J. Daniell
Wm Maitland
C. H. Hallofield.
R. Guy.

Cuddalore
28th Sept. 1780

Resolved

1574 Fort St George 2d October 1780

Resolved to direct the Chief Council of Cuddalore, to endeavour again by offers of Reward to entice the Boat People belonging to Pondichery, to come with their Boats to Cuddalore, & if this should not succeed, they must be ordered on receiving any Intelligence of a French Force coming on the Coast to send a sufficient Party of Seapoys to destroy the Boats.

Rewards to be offered to the Boat People to come to Cuddalore.

Read the following Letter

From Lieut.t Colonel Nixon

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

Honble Sir, & Sirs,

I had the Honor to receive Your orders of the 16th Inst.t & shall use my utmost Endeavors to fulfill your Commands.

From Lt.t Col Nixon, 50 Sepoyes offer their Services—

Fifty Sepoyes have offered to serve upon Seapoys' Pay, which I think might be made useful, put under the Command of the Artillery Officer & attach'd to the Guns; I shall wait your orders. The Nabob's Gunners concerning whose Pay, I lately wrote to you, are upon the point of being in the greatest distress, they still continue to do Duty which cannot be expected from them much longer without Pay. I am respectfully

Honble Sir, & Sirs, Your most faithful & obed.t Servt
Eccles Nixon

Trichinopoly
24th Sept.r 1780.

1575 Fort St. George 2d October 1780.

Agreed that Colonel Nixon be desired to engage the Topasses, mentioned in his Letter, for the Purpose which he recommends.

Read the following Petition from the Bullock & Cart Mestries.

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqre
President & Governor of
Fort St. George

The Humble Petition of Cootiapen, Tirmaney, Vencatachellum, Kistnamanaig, Jumbiandy, Madepattam, Iremala, Narraine, Paupen, Appapian, Saminaden, Vellay, Moutue, Veerapermal, Sumbody &c. the Bullock & Cart Mestries.

Sheweth,

Petition from the Bullock & Cart Mestries, requesting an allowance to be made them for the Loss of their Bullocks.

That after the Enemy's Horse had entered the Carnatick, your Petitioners were ordered to provide Draught & Carriage Bullocks, & Carts, for the Use of the Army, but your Petitrs. not being able to procure Bullocks from the distant parts of the Country, they were obliged to get them from the nearest parts, which they were enabled to effect, by the advance made by Mr. William Augustus Dobbyn, & the Loan they were obliged to take from others, & out of which 1400 Bullocks & 330 Carts were taken by the

1576 Fort St George 2d October 1780

the Enemy's Horse, besides 1300 Bullocks taken from Colonel Baillie's Detachment, your Petitioners having no account of some of their People taken & carried off by the Enemy's Horse, & your Petitioners have had great difficulty in procuring Straw & Grain for feeding their Bullocks, the Pay for a Bullock being only 1½ Pagodas P. Month if they are allowed @ 2 Pagodas P. Draught besides Drivers Pay, & 1¾ Pag.s for Carriage Bullocks P. Month then your Petitioners can keep Bullocks, otherwise your Petitioners cannot afford, to keep any without Ruin to themselves & Families, your Petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honor will please to order some Satisfaction for their Loss & Your Petitioners humbly beg leave to observe that they have not yet received any Satisfaction, for the entire Loss of many Bullocks at Pondichery, And Your Petitioners as in duty Bound,

Will ever pray

the siege of

Ordered that a Copy of the foregoing Petition be sent to the Agent for providing Bullocks &ca for the Army, & that he be directed to make his Report upon the Circumstances therein mentioned.

to be sent to the Agent.

Read the following Letter from Bombay —

1577 Fort St George 2d October 1780.

(Select Committee)

To the Honble John Whitehill Esqre

President &ca Select Committee at

Fort St George

Gentlemen,

From Bombay, requesting a supply of 1000 Barrels of Gun Powder —

As our late Issues of Gun Powder, & the Demands for which We must provide particularly the Siege of Bassein will require a larger Stock than can be spared from our Magazines, We most earnestly request You will send Us a Supply of one thousand Barrels as soon as possible, for tho' We exert all possible diligence, in the manufacture of this article our mills cannot furnish a Quantity equal to our present occasions, & Stock for Defence. The Fleet will furnish a good Opportunity for conveying this Gun Powder round to Us, & We doubt not but Sir Edwd Hughes, from his Zeal for the Service, will on so pressing an occasion permit it to be received on Board His Majesty's Ships.

The Garrison of Tellichery being much distressed for Gun Powder, We request that 200 Barrels may be landed there

We have the Honor to be

Gentlemen Your most obedt humble Servts

Wm Hornby

D Draper. P.S.

Bombay Castle
12th Septr 1780.

1578 Fort St George 2d October 1780

P.S. We have received Your Letters of the 28th May, & 16th & 17th of June by the Prime, & those of the 31st May 28th of June, & 3d July with the Packets from the Honorable Company, by the Duke of Kingston arrived yesterday.

30th

To be sent

Resolved that 1000 Barrels of Gun Powder be sent to Bombay, & a Letter written to Sir Edwd Hughes, requesting him to receive it on Board the Squadron.

Read the following Minute delivered in Yesterday by Messrs Smith and Johnson.

Minute of Messrs Smith & Johnson requesting the General would lay before the Committee Copies of all Letters sent & received by him, from his leaving the Mount, till his return to Marmelon.

In our Minute of the 3d Ult.o We mentioned that We should be as ready as any one, to set down to the Fate of War any mischance which might befall the General; — We hope our Conduct since that Period has justified this Declaration, — altho' We were under the greatest anxiety & suspence about the State of the Army, We suppressd our Feelings, & waited six Days, after the Commander in Chiefs Arrival here, before We entered a Minute on the subject; — We hoped he would see this in a proper light but were much disappointed, when We found he considered our Requisition altho' conceived in the most delicate terms

1579 Fort St George 2 October 1780

terms premature After having perused the
Generals Letter to the Board of the 21st Ultimo
We contented ourselves with observing, that it did
not contain the Information We wished, We
hoped that this Hint would be sufficient & that
he would be more explicit in his subsequent
Letter, but We are again disappointed, for his
Letter of the 23d Ult.o relates merely to the Measures
he wishes to be adopted for recruiting the
Army

Under these Circumstances
We cannot reconcile it to the duty We owe
to our Noble Employers, the Public, & our own
Safety to delay any longer giving our Sentiments
on the present alarming Situation of Affairs
We hope it will appear that our Conduct
throughout has been uniformly devoid of
Pique, Prejudice or Resentment, & so confident
are we of this that We will venture to appeal
to the Generals best Friends, whether We have
not been guided by the greatest Moderation
amidst the dejection & consternation which
has prevailed since the Accounts arrived
of the Flower of our Army being cut off, & of
His Retreat — this true We were appreh-
sive of this event, we foresaw the Conse-
quences which might result from the Delay
which had been used in ordering Lieut.

1780 Fort St. George 2d October 1780

Lieut.t Col. Baillie to march directly with his Detachment from the Northward as We proposed, & therefore bore the fatal News with more Resignation than We should have done, had it come totally unexpected.

The Disaster which has befallen Us is such as cannot be paralelled since the English had Possessions in India. — We have lost a great part of our best Officers, about 600 Europeans & 4,000 Sepoys, the remains of our Army, have been obliged to retreat with the greatest Precipitation, & Hyder Ally Fearless & unopposed, now ravages the Carnatic; — Surely then it is encumbent on Us to be fully informed of the Extent of our Misfortune & not to lament in silence a Loss, which We fear, cannot be repaired.

It is by no means our intention to pass any censure on what has happened, but wish for a thorough Explanation so that our Honorable Employers, may not complain that the Government were deficient in sending them the necessary Information of this melancholly Event.

We therefore are obliged to reiterate our request, & to declare that the Generals Letters &ca of the 21st Ult.o does not contain the Information We desired &

had

1581 Fort St George 2d October 1780.

& we are of opinion, that it is highly proper & necessary, he should lay before the Committee

Copies of all Letters sent by him to the Governor, to the Select Committee to Lieut.t Col. Baillie, & to Capt.n Conby, also of all Letters he sent to any other Officers from the Day of his leaving the Mount, untill his Return with the Army to Marmalon.

A Return of the Army on the day he marched from the Mount.

A Return of the Army, on the day, after his return with it to Marmalon.

A Return of the Army now encamped at Marmelon

A Return of Ordnance Tents & other Stores lost & expended between the 26.th of August, and the 14.th Ultimo, and the last Returns made to the Commander in Chief by Lt Colonel Baillie of the Troops & Stores under his Command

All these Documents are essentially necessary for the Guidance of Government, in their future Deliberations for carrying on the War, & will serve to elucidate past Transactions

The 1st Oct 1780

The

Fort St George 2d October 1780.

The General acquaints the Committee that he means to reply to the foregoing Minute, & that he intends as far as he is able, to comply with their several Requisitions.

Their request to be complied with

Read the following Letter from Colonel Capper

The Honble John Whitehill Esq President &ca Select Committee

Gentlemen,

a few Days after the Invasion of the Carnatic by Hyder Ally, I did myself the Honor of tendering my Services to the Governor, to act in any Station, without Pay or Gratuity of any kind whatsoever, but he gave me only a general complimentary Answer, at that time, & appears to have forgot me ever since. Mortifying as this Silence must be, it by no means discourages me, from making a second application to be employed, for to be idle in times like these is the greatest Mortification I can possibly suffer.

From Col. Capper, offering to carry the Dispatches overland to Europe

The Honble Board, & also the Admiral, will no doubt be very desirous of giving the earliest Information to Government & the Company of the present Situation of affairs on the Coast, so as to enable

this

1583 Fort St George 2d October 1780

enable them, to send out Reinforcements to the Navy & Army, before the expiration of the approach of Intelligence ing Season. Having made the Conveyance overland my particular Study, & being totally disengaged from Business, I take the Liberty of offering to carry Dispatches to Europe on the present occasion which unless detained by a Concurrence of unforeseen Accidents, I will undertake shall be delivered in London on or before the End of February. If the Committee have any Doubts of my being able to fulfill this Engagement, I flatter myself I can give them perfect Satisfaction on this Point if they will honor me with their Commands to attend at the Board.

I most sincerely wish, it was in my Power, to make this Offer of my Services perfectly unconditional, but having been obliged to live here, two Years, at a great Expence, without receiving any Salary from the Company, I cannot leave Madras, unless Gentlemen on the part of the Company, you will please to take off some trifling Concerns that embarass me. I shall be satisfied either with the Money or what perhaps may be more convenient at this time, Bills on England, payable at 12 Months, at the present Average Rate of Exchange

I

1584 Fort St. George 2d October 1780.

I cannot conclude this Letter without once more mentioning the Importance of attempting to send home an Account of our present Want of Europeans by various Routes, least some of the Pacquets should miscarry. The Company's latter Ships sail from England for this Coast, at latest on the 20th April, If the advices of our Situation do not arrive time enough to embark the Troops before that Day, it will unavoidably be the loss of at least six Months, in sending them out, during which Time, it is to be apprehended the French will may avail themselves of our Weakness, & strike a Blow here, from the Effects of which, we shall not easily recover.

Sum

Hon'ble Sirs Sirs

Madrass 3d Octr 1780.

Your faithful and most obedient Servant,

Capper

Ordered to lye up on the Table

The Committee resolve that the following Allowances, to be made on account of the Fort Militia

		Pags
Allowances on acct of the Fort Militia	To the Regulating Captain — —	50 pr Month
	Adjutant — — —	30 pr do
	Serjeant Major for copying Orders	5 pr do
	Drill Serjeant —	5 pr do
	Fugal Man — —	1 pr do

the

Fort St George 2d October 1780

The Foot Militia to be cloathed at the Company's Expence, agreeably to a Return to be delivered in by Colonel Smith

The President delivers in the following Minute

President's Minute relative to Mr Lewin's Negociations at Tanjore

The President acquaints the Committee that Mr Tho Lewin who lately returned from Tanjour, has given him the following account, of what passed during the Conferences he had with the Raja, conformably to the Governor's Letter in July.

On the 9th July, the Day after his arrival at Tanjore, Mr Lewin waited upon the Raja, to acquaint him of his having been appointed by this Government, to deliver with proper Marks of Attention a Letter to the Raja, which had been sent from the Company, by one of their Ships, lately arrived at Madras, but that previous to that Ceremony he (Mr Lewin) wished to have an opportunity of conferring with the Raja upon the subject of the said Letter, as he had been directed to do, by the Governor, at the time of his setting out from Madras. he then delivered into the Rajahs Hand, the Letter he had been charged with by the Governor & took his leave, promising to repeat his Visit in a day or two

The next Day however Mr Lewin fell sick & being confined to the House for the space of three Weeks, the Delivery of the Company's Letter

Letter, as also his intended Visit to the Raja, were consequently postponed. At the End of that time, he solicited upon the Raja who expressing some Impatience to have the Ceremony of the Company's Letter performed, the 9th of last Month was fixed upon for that Purpose, & the Letter was accordingly delivered to him, at his Palace, in presence of the Commandant Paymaster Town Major, besides the Rev. Mr Swartz, who was so obliging as interpret between the Raja & Mr Lewin, at every Interview he had with him. There were also three or four of the Raja's principal Servants, & about a dozen inferior ones. As this was an occasion purely ceremonious, Mr Lewin took his leave, as soon as the proper Compliments were over.

Mr Lewin now thinking it his Duty, to return to Madras, acquainted the Raja by Message of his Intention to set out the 11th & desired him to name a convenient Time, for him to receive his Commands for the Presidency, Mr Lewin was in consequence introduced to him, in the Forenoon of the 14th In this Interview, the Raja confirmed the Professions, he had before repeatedly made of his Attachment to the Company, his Reliance upon their Protection & Fidelity towards them. He had been particularly decisive in these Sentiments, at the Moment the Company's Letter, had been read in his Presence, & he now reiterated them in the

the strongest Manner. He could not however he said conceal certain apprehensions, which arose in his Mind, from a Belief that there were Persons at Madras inimically disposed towards him, who having access to the Leaders of Administration had sought to represent him & to prejudice him in the opinions of the Company's Representatives that they had even gone so far, as to accuse him of carrying on a Secret Correspondence with Hyder Ally Cawn, the declared Enemy of the Company & the Carnatic, that he trusted nevertheless in the Justice & Firmness of the Gentlemen in Administration that they would not allow themselves to be wrought upon by any such malicious Falsehoods, That having experienced for a Length of Time the Satisfaction arising from an intimate Alliance & Connection with the English Government it was most unreasonable to suppose he should be desirous of giving up the Benefits he enjoyed under their Favor & of throwing himself upon the precarious Issue of an Union with the present Invader whose ambitious Designs are manifestly calculated to subjugate every Power of inferior Strength to his own.

He next proceeded to say on the subject of Supplies, that he had always discharged with the strictest Punctuality the Quota, he had covenanted with Ld Pigot to

1588 Fort St George 2d October 1780

to furnish for the Expences of protecting his Country & that to effect this, he had been obliged at particular Times, to take up Sums at an high rate of Interest, which had thrown him at this Period, considerably behind hand; That as there was sufficient Reason to suppose his Country during the present Season of Hostility, would share no better fate than that of the Nabob; he could not but view with augmented Concern the Prospect it exhibited of a Failure in his Revenues & consequently of further Innability, on his Part to contribute towards the support & progress of the War; That however notwithstanding the discouraging Influence of these impending Evils, & although his subsidiary Payments having been completed, he owed no Balance to the Company, on any account whatever, he had upon a recent Application of the Governor, chearfully exerted himself towards raising a Supply for the Wants of the Garrison of Sangoir, & at a very short notice had actually paid into the Hands of the Paymaster there the Sum of thirty thousand Pagodas: That not intending here to limit his Exertions in support of the common cause, he would readily have added to the beforementioned advance, a sufficient Sum to make up a Lack of Pagodas but that unfortunately the State of his Finances

at

at that Moment, was such, as utterly disqualified him from paying down immediately so large a Sum as seventy thousand Pagodas, he flatter'd himself however that the Government, convinced of the Sincerity of his Professions, would so far second his Endeavors, as to use their Influence with monied People, at the Presidency, in order that an equivalent Amount might be forthwith taken up on Loan, & applied to the publick Service, the Raja offering to pass his Bond, for the same at a reasonable Premium, payable in the Month of April at farthest, by which Time as the Crops would be cut he doubted not of being in a Condition to liquidate with the Bond Holders. This the Raja declared, was absolutely the only means he can at present devise, of giving Effect to his Wishes for the Prosperity of the Company's Government, in which he considered that of his own as included, & that having suggested the Proposal he left it to the President & Select Committee to determine, regarding it, as they might think most adviseable.

The Raja here concluded the Subject, & turned to that of Conaga Suba Pillah a Person he said, whose name he believed was not unknown to the Gentlemen in power at Madras, but whose Character he was convinced, they could never have rightly understood, or they would long

Since

 Fort St George 2d October 1780

since have perceived the Justice as well as the Policy of delivering him up into his (the Rajas) Possession, in order that he might have been compelled to account with the Raja, his Master, for the perfidious Abuse he had made of his most secret Confidence, & of the enormous Frauds he had been guilty of in detaining unjustly in his Possession certain Jewels & other Valuables, which the Raja in the moment of Distress had committed to his care, & which he has since obstinately refused to render an Account of. These Valuables the Raja observes amounted to a very considerable Sum — a Sum not inferior to six Lacks of Pagodas. That this Manlonagachiba Pillah, having been not only a subject of his Government, but a principal Agent of his Administration, possessing the entire Confidence of his Master, which Confidence he had in the most flagitious Manner insulted, abused & betrayed, those are highly unreasonable to suppose that the Company, who are the known & acknowledged Friends & Supporters of the Raja's Government, could be induced to continue their Protection towards an Individual, who stood unpeached of heinous Crimes, no less than the Crimes of Treason & Perfidy, & who under the Cover of such Protection might vent Defiance, against the only Power to which, according to the Custom of this Country, he is unquestionably amenable for the enormities

individual

he has committed. That notwithstanding these Consideration's presented to the Raja, the most convincing Assurance of the Justice upon which he might reasonably invoke the Aid of the Company in recovering his just Demands from Conaga Suba Pillah, he could not dissemble his Anxiety, at having heard that that Person had lately been permitted to come to Madras, where the Raja understood he was soliciting to be appointed Renter of the Districts dependent on Nagore, & that he was not without Hopes of succeeding in his application. Here the Raja could not forbear uttering Expressions of the utmost Abhorrence & Apprehension at the Consequences of such a Measure — Abhorrence on account of the Iniquity of the Character who would eventually preside over a numerous People, & sheltered under the Wing of the Raja's Government, & for whom the Raja still cherished an affectionate Regard. — and Apprehension at the Impression it would have upon his Feelings, should such a Man, thus erected into a Station of Independance, be empowered to brave his Wrongs with an ignominious Contempt. After expatiating largely upon the Cruelties, the Inhabitants of the Nagore Districts would be exposed to from the Management of Conaga Suba Pillah whose Character throughout those Lands was known to be held in universal Detestation & still more insisting upon the Insult, his own Dignity would be exposed to, should the Company render those Lands

which the Raja had presented to them, the Instruments to enable a Traitor to exult in the Circumstance of his Impunity & triumph over the Rajah's Inability to bring him to a just Account. The Raja concluded this Topic, with desiring Mr Lewin would represent these his Sentiments to the President & Council, and finally request on his Behalf that they would not suffer themselves to be prevailed upon by any Persuasions or Artifices of Conaga Suba Pillah, to invest him with the Collection of the Revenues of Tanjore.

The Raja next went into a Train of Reflections, on the Probability of his Country's being over run by the Enemy's Troops, particularly his Cavalry, so soon as the going down of the Rivers, might facilitate their Migration from the Carnatic, & ~~&c &c~~ enable them to range without Control over the unprotected Districts of the Tanjore Dominions. He took this Occasion to observe that the Military Establishment kept up for the Defence & Government of his Country was but barely sufficient to prevent occasional Insurrections & Disturbances, excited by the Colonies & other People inhabiting the remoter Parts of his Kingdom and that he therefore had encouraged himself to believe, that the Company's Representative being sensible of this Truth, would upon the

the breaking out of a War, have thrown into it a Reinforcement, as well to deter the Enemy from any hostile Attempt upon it, as to give an Impression of Safety to the Minds of the Inhabitants, & encourage them to prosecute the Cultivation of the Lands. He was the more confirmed in this Hope, when he adverted to the Liberality of the Contribution he had regularly made to Government for this Purpose, which Contribution, amounting annually to four Lacks of Pagodas had apparently so far exceeded the Amount of the Establishment hitherto kept up, that it might easily afford a considerable augmentation in this time of Need, to be maintained out of the Savings of the last four Years. but that contrary to his Expectation, however reasonably founded, he had perceived within a few Days & with no small degree of Concern that the President & Select Committee seemed more inclined to diminish than to increase the Force now allotted for the Defence of his Possessions. They had issued an order for Six Companies of Grenadier Seapoys, being all the Grenadiers of the Garrison, to hold themselves in readiness for marching away from thence. A Corps so considerable & consisting of the most active serviceable Men in the Garrison being drafted from it, leaving only the Bubbe Seapoys

1594 Fort St George 2d October 1780.

Battalion Companies of three Battalions with the Fort of Sanpore, might be observed, be, a sufficient temptation to Hyder Ally to quicken his Designs against the Tranquility of the Sanpore Country, if not to aim at the Reduction of it's principal Fortress; That the Corps of Sibbendy Seapoys, which had been lately instituted for the Purpose of Revenue Collection were as yet so little acquainted with the Nature of Discipline, or the proper Objects of a Military Character, that scarce Dependance could in their present State be placed on them, for Assistance in Case of actual Danger. That in this Situation he submitted it to the Government of Madras, to consider of the necessity there was, for taking some immediate Step towards the Preservation of this Fort and Country, from the Rogue it lay exposed to & at least, to supply by a Detachment of European Artillery the Deficiency of Strength which would be occasioned by the loss of the six Grenadier Companies, should they eventually proceed on a distant Service. He added that he intended to address a Letter to the Governor to testify his Satisfaction at receiving the Company's Letter, and should take that opportunity of intimating his Sentiments on the foregoing Subject That

That he also meant to request of the President that proper Officers might be directed to repair several Breaches which the rainy Season & other Causes had made in different Parts of this Fort for that until such Repairs could be effected the Fortification could not absolutely be deemed in a tenable State

The Raja having thus explained himself to Mr. Lewin, on the several Topics hereinbefore mentioned & desired him to report the same on His Return to the Presidency Mr Lewin took his final Leave of the Raja at his Palace, and set out from Tanjore in the Afternoon of the same Day, taking his Route by the way of Tranquebar, & by the Assistance of Rear Admiral Sir Edward Hughes was enabled to complete his Return thither, on Board the Nymph Sloop which anchored in the Road the 10th of last Month.

The President in the foregoing Recital of Mr. Lewin's Transactions at Tanjore, as taken from himself having had occasion to speak of certain Objects of the Raja's Wishes & Plans suggested by him for assisting Government according to the Extent of his Ability during the present Exigency of Affairs, the President recommends that

1596 Fort St George 2d October 1780

that the same be taken into Consideration & that a Letter may in Consequence be written to the Raja explaining to him, the Sentiments & Intentions of the Committee, upon the several Points which now lay appealed by him, to their Decision

John Whitehill

Saml Johnson

1597 Fort St. George October 1780

We Wrote the following Letter to the Chief & Council of Vizagapatam.

(Select Committee)

To Mr. Jas. Henry Casamayor

Chief &ca. Council of Vizagapatam

Gentlemen

To Vizagapatam Approve of their arrangement of the Troops in their District.

We have received your Letter of the 4th. Ultimo. For the Reasons you have given We entirely approve of the Conduct you have observed in consequence of the Intelligence sent by Vickeramdeo, and would have you continue the same Disposition which you have made of the Troops, unless a Change of Circumstances should require a different Arrangement.

We are
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient Servants,
John Whitehill
&ca. Select Comml.

Fort St. George
1st. Oct. 1780.

Wrote the following Letter to Sir Edwd. Hughes

To Sir Edward Hughes K.B.
Rear Admiral of the Red
Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships in India.

To Sir Edwd. Hughes, requesting a Passage for Mr. Lewis on the Nymph.

Sir,

We have had the Honor to receive your Letter of the 28th Ult.o and are much

1597 Fort St George October 1780

We Wrote the following Letter to the Chief & Council of Vizagapatam

To Mr Jas Henry Casamayor (Select Committee)

Chief &ca Council of Vizagapatam

Gentlemen

To Vizagapatam Approve of their arrangement of the Troops in their District.

We have received your Letter of the 4th Ultimo. For the Reasons you have given We entirely approve of the Conduct you have observed in consequence of the Intelligence sent by Vickeramdeo, and would have you continue the same Disposition which you have made of the Troops, unless a Change of Circumstances, should require a different Arrangement.

We are
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient Servants,
John Whitehill
&ca Select Comml

Fort St George
1st Octr 1780.

Wrote the following Letter to Sir Edwd Hughes

To Sir Edward Hughes K.B.
Rear Admiral of the Red
Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships in India.

To Sir Edwd Hughes, requesting a Passage for Mr Lewin on the Nymph.

Sir,

We have had the Honor to receive your Letter of the 28th Ultº and are much

much obliged to you for the Notice you have given us relative to the intended Dispatch of the Nymph for the Cape & the offer you make of giving orders to Capt.n Steevens to receive any Packets or Letters We may think proper to entrust him with.

We propose in consequence of this Intimation to avail ourselves of the opportunity of sending a Packet by the Nymph for the Honble Court of Directors & We shall take it as a Favor if you will be pleased to give a Passage to Mr Lewin whom We wish to send with it.

We shall also be obliged if you will order a Passage for Mr Richard Lewin in the Nymph having appointed that Gentleman to proceed to the Cape in the Character of Company's Resident, for the Purpose of sending Intelligence to the different Presidencies.

We have the Honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble Servants.

John Whitehill
&c.a Select Committee

Fort St George,
2d Octr 1780.

1599 Fort St George October 1780.

3d Dispatched the following Letters.

To Sir Edward Hughes K.B.

Rear Admiral of the Red

& Commander in Chief of His Majestys Ships

in India.

Sir,

To Sr Ed Hughes, requesting 1000 Barrels of Gunpowder may be sent with Squadron to Bombay

We have received a Letter from the President & Select Committee at Bombay, of which We beg leave to enclose You a Copy, and to request in consequence of their Desire, that you will receive on Board the Squadron, 1000 Barrels of Gun Powder for Bombay, leaving 200, should they be wanted at Pellichery.

We have the Honor to be,

Sir

Your most obedient

humble Servants.

John Whitehill

& Select Committee

Fort St George

3d October 1780

To Mr William Cumming Chief & Council of Cuddalore

Gentlemen,

To Cuddalore, with orders to bring away all the Boats & Boat People from Pondichery.

We have received your Letters of the 23d 27th & 28th Ult.

We approve of the Measures you took for sending a Company of Sepoys & the 50 Barrels of Gunpowder, in safety to Wandiwash

The

1600 Fort St. George October 1780

3d

The method you pursued to engage the Boat People at Pondichery, to come to Cuddalore, was very proper. — The destroying or bringing away the Boats at this time, without securing the Boat People, would be of little Use. We would therefore have you by such further offers of Encouragement, as you shall think necessary, endeavour to draw off the Boat People, and in the mean Time should you receive any Intelligence of French Ships coming on the Coast you will send a Party of Seapoys with orders to destroy all the Boats belonging to the Port. We desire you will endeavor also to bring away the Boats & Boat People from Porto Novo.

We are

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servants,

John Whitehill

&ca Select Committee

Fort St. George
3d Octr 1780

To

1601 Fort St George October 1780

3d

To Lieutenant Flint

Commanding at

Wandewash

Sir,

I am directed by the President & Select Committee to send you the enclosed Order from the Nabob to his Killidar at Wandewash ordering him to deliver over the Command of the Fort entirely to you. I am

To Lt Flint with an Order from the Nabob for the Command of Wandewash to be delivered to him

Sir, Your most obedient Servant

Chas Oakeley Jr Sec.y

Fort St George
3d October 1780

To Lieut.t Colonel Nixon

Commanding at Trichinopoly

Sir,

We have received your Letter of the 24th Ult.o & consent to your enlisting the Topasses for the purpose you mention. We have strongly prest the Nabob to send Orders for the Payment of his Artillery & We trust they will soon be satisfied. In the meantime We would have you endeavor to procure Rice for their Subsistence from the Nabobs Stores

To Lt Col. Nixon has leave to enlist the Topasses —

We are

Sir, Your most obed.t humble Servants

John Lysaght
& Select Committee

Fort St George
3d Oct.r 1780

6
Recd