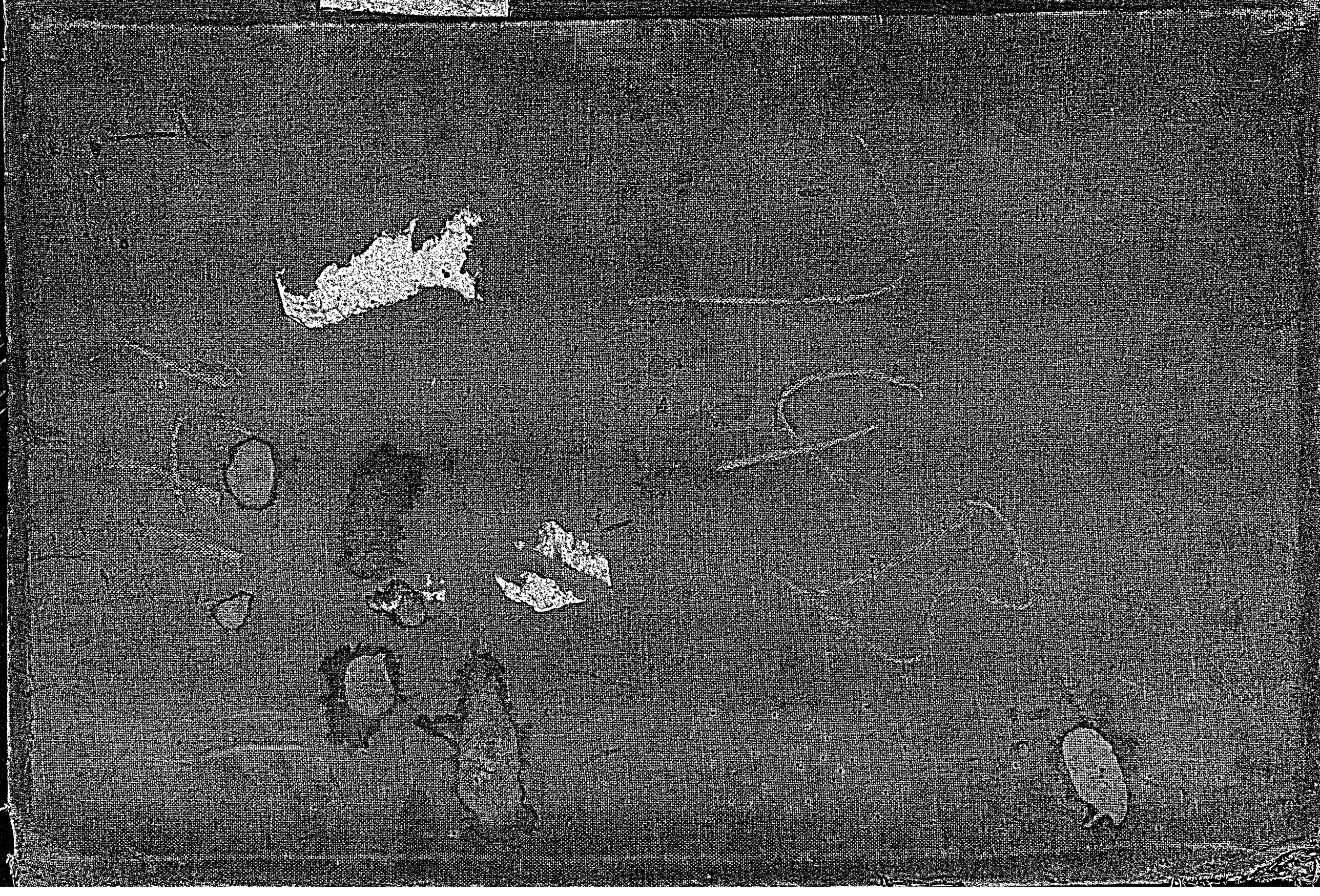

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1. Number of pages. 109
2. Date of [illegible] 30-9-3
3. Initial of Referee

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

21-11-1942.

1093 Fort St. George May 1781

2

I am directed by the Honble the President and Select Committee to acknowledge the receipt of your letter informing them of the death of Lieut. William Augustus Legrand and of the Command of Carangoly having thereby devolved upon you.

Col. Anderson desiring he will advise the Committee of every thing that materially occurs as well as what quantity of Grain he has in Store in the Fort and its Environs

I am further directed to desire you will from time to time inform the Committee of every thing material that occurs as well in regard to the motions of the Enemy as the quantity of Grain &c. that may be laid up in Store in the Fort & its Environs.

I am &c.

Fort St. George
2 May 1781

Your most obedt Servant
Tho.s Oakes
Secry.

Received the following Letter from Bengal.

The Honble Chas. Smith Esqr.
President &c. & Select Committee at
Fort St. George

Honble Sirs & Sirs

From Bengal advising us their opinion that the Government there will be justified in demanding from the Nabob an immediate transfer of the whole Country.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of your several letters of the 23.d 25.th 26.th & 30.th Ultimo. We have great pleasure in congratulating you on the success of the Carnatic army against the Fort of Carangoly achieved in a manner not less honorable to our future prospects than to the credit and reputation of the forces under the Command of Lieut. General Sir Eyre Coote. We are also made happy by the subsequent events at Vandewash and Wellore and the necessity under which the Enemy have found himself to raise the siege of those places. We derive great hopes from the change which these successes must produce not only in the minds of the troops by invigorating them with confidence and

attach.d 2

2 attachment to our cause, but as they will serve to discourage those of the Enemy, and Enfeeble their future operations.—

We have not been inattentive Gentlemen, to the words of your Residency in the ordering you that assistance which the state of your affairs has required of us, but we have been obliged to continue our exertions with regulating those wants which were most urgent and in kinds which we could best procure. In respect to the Sepoys the reasons which have caused us to withhold the aid which we have to afford as compleat as we can, are reasons to which we have been compelled to submit. While French Cruizers were infesting the Roads, and you well know that this has been the case for many weeks, it was in the last degree dangerous to risque the expence of a remittance of treasure to your Residency, since we were not able to protect them. We have not been in want of Sheps of sufficient Rate to convey the Troops to you, but we have had no men, nor have there been a possibility of having them from the feeble aid which we give to Hyder Allem a ship that accompanied the Packet of Instructions for Voyage to the Coast was the first of our Ships of Force that arrived at Bombay. Most of the Sepoys which have been raised and are now Disciplining by your Residency appear in the enclosed Abstract and amount to the Nums of Cos. 2797855. 11. 10. We have been greatly disappointed in the expectation which we had formed of your being able to procure for us large sums of Specie amounting to Lacks of Rupees not exceeding the Sum of Cos. 9072. This we do suppose is all that the Mysore and its Dependancies will at present afford, and in addition to our willingness during the absence of Sir Edward Hughes from your Coast the only certain mode of remittance. We again recommend it strongly to you, that you will use the best means you can devise of securing to yourselves amongst the Chiefs and other natives of power such a degree of influence as may enable you to draw from the Country the Supplies which you may require for the Troops under your Command, and for the Payment of the Subsidy. We have the pleasure to inform you that the Ships which sailed from hence under the Command of Commodore Johnstone, and which have been the subject of your Letters of the 20th and 21st of December, have safely arrived at the Cape of Good Hope, and that the Squadron under the Command of Admiral Suffrein, was still at Anchor in Porto Praya Road on the 16th of February, when the Dutch Ships of War left the Cape. We have the pleasure to inform you that Admiral Suffrein has left the Coast of Coromandel, and that the Squadron under the Command of Commodore Johnstone, is now cruizing off the Cape of Good Hope, in order to intercept the Dutch Ships of War, which are expected to sail from the Texel, and to join the French Squadron in the East Indies. We have received your Letter of the 22d of January, and have taken into our most serious consideration the Subject of it. We are sensible of the Importance of the Port of Trincomalee, and of the Necessity of securing it, if possible, from the Dutch, and we have given Orders for the Reinforcement of the Garrison there, with all the Troops that can be spared from the Coast, and we have directed Major Fraser to proceed to Trincomalee, and to take the Command of the Troops there, and to put the Fortifications in the best State of Defence that the Time and Circumstances will admit of. We have also given Orders for the Purchase of Provisions for the Garrison, and for the Supply of Water for the Ships of War, and we have directed Major Fraser to consult with the Commodore, and to concert with him the most effectual Means of Defence. We have also given Orders for the Purchase of Provisions for the Garrison, and for the Supply of Water for the Ships of War, and we have directed Major Fraser to consult with the Commodore, and to concert with him the most effectual Means of Defence.

1853.

1095 Fort St George May 1781

2 every good occasion of assisting your Military expences in remittance of pay acquire by Sea, at the same time you must be aware that these occasions must depend entirely upon our certainty that the Road is clear of French Ships of force or our obtaining escorts from the Admiral to whom we have written and shall continue to write for them. We trust that on his application your Hon.rs you will be enabled by joining your endeavours to ours on this occasion to prevail on him to give us the aid which we necessarily require for the supply of our wants.

We hope that since the appearance of the French squadron near your Presidency you will have thought it necessary to change the destination of the Europe Ships, and most advisable to order them to this Port, and only as it is a point of greater security, but as the Ships may be made more useful in carrying supplies as well of Treasure as Provisions to Fort St George and in being employed on other active services.

We read with equal surprize and indignation the expressions which you have made to us of the disinclination manifested by the Nabob and the Rajah of Tanjore to assist those aids which you have desired of them for the conduct of the War in which they are so much more immediately concerned than the Company, aids to which in our opinion you have a Claim of Right independent of every Consideration. The Nabob can no longer be considered as the Protector of the Carnatic while every part of it not immediately protected or covered from the Enemy by our Troops is in the hands of a foreign Power and all his hopes of recovering it depend entirely on our arms. A case like this will certainly justify you in demanding from the Nabob the immediate transfer of his whole Country in exclusive assignment for the Expences of the War. We venture to add that in our opinion such a measure becomes by the necessity imposing it an indispensable obligation. We earnestly advise it, and had we the authority to command we should peremptorily command it. Our request ought to be construed as it would virtually prove a

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2

declared determination of his Enteries from three of the Company
and require the adoption of a new System both for the present security
of the latter, and a future indemnification for the expence and charge
entailed on the Company by their former connection with the Nabob.
If such is our opinion with respect to the Claims of your Government
on the Nabob with much more reason will it apply to the Rajah of Tanjore
whose Army is now in a State to refuse what any other Power
standing in the same relation to him as you do would have taken. The
Rajah of Tanjore is a Country which he holds by the Sword & Right
and must be witness of your protection to withdraw from it's Sovereign
therefore and believe me in this Case, that you should without
hesitation or Reserve exert yourself for the general Relief and
protection of your Government of which he is a dependent Member.
We shall actively apply the Wealth & Resources in the Relief
of the affairs of your Presidency while we can do so without dimin-
-ishment to our Credit during the whole but a period may at sometime
exist when we must cease from sending you Supplies when
the Resources from which they are drawn may fail us. This reduces the
Question to a very short Alternative whether the Safety of Alternate
shall be wholly provided for by the Measures of a Prince and Foreign
Nation in particular Cases or whether the Native Powers
and Rajah of Tanjore are to derive their existence and every
Advantage from the protection of the Company and the Purposes of its
destruction and without any return even of support in any one just
Case, or Whether you shall employ the Power which you possess
with the means which naturally and of right appertain to it
for such purposes. We can only propose the Option, it rests with you
to make it.

own

We wonder when you suggest so more authentic
information than we have can receive from the Coast the Nabob

receive

1097 Fort St. George May 1781

2 Nizam ally Cawn has induced us to give Credit to Mr. Holland & Coresponds with your Committee and acquaint you with every material occurrence that may come to his Knowledge and be necessary for your information. We must take this occasion again to recommend the Situation of this Gentleman to your particular notice, and that he may be restored to the Service with the Rank of which he has been deprived by your Suspension of him from it. This measure we are induced to decare notonly on the Grand of Justice to Mr. Holland, which we hope you will acknowledge to be due to him but as a public Demonstration to all the Powers of Hindostan of the Harmony unions & Concurrence of the two Presidencies in their support of the Common Cause.—

We have a just sence of the proofs which you have afforded us of your desire to give effect to our Exertions in Support of the Company's Interests under your Presidency— The Circumstances of the Northern Zemindars to furnish a Quota of troops to join our Forces when they enter the Circars, and we have given notice of these Orders to Colonel Pearse. A Letter which we have this day received from him informs us that he was on the 9th. Instant at Burhmeah a place about 21 Coss distant from Balasore, and we have the pleasure to believe that his passage will be entirely unmolested by the troops of the Rajah of Berar, which were supposed in common report would not permit them to march thro' the Province of Cuttac without opposition. The difficulty which we found in forming the Detachment after the Exertions which we made for the Relief of your Presidency in sending you the Reinforcement which embarked with his Royal Highness and after sending as well as circumstances would admit for the defence of our own provinces added to the Reduction which we originally took to wait for the advices which we expected from Berar before we ordered it to pass the boundary of the Province, prevented it coming sooner than the 21st. Ultimo but we are convinced that

Sen

Fort St. George May. 1781.

a little time has been lost on this account as the Country thereabouts the troops must pass is so hilly situated that little water is to be found for a Considerable time after the Conclusion of the rainy season, as soon as a passage can be open'd.—

It gives us pleasure to inform you that the operations of the Detachment acting to the northward on the other side of the River Kumma under the Command of Lieut. Colonel Fraser have been very successful the Forts are in possession of Siphere & many other Forts in the Mahratta province which belongs to the Nizam's Chief Madaje Scindia and that there is every prospect of its total reduction. The Inhabitants are so well pleased with the protection given them by our troops, that they flock in numbers to our standard and have every sign of the satisfaction which they would express in a change of Masters.—

In your letter of the 23d. Ultimo you desire a Letter received by the Nabob from his Vackeel at Poonah, by which you may have the happy opportunity of the Administration there reasonable to specific Terms. Since the conclusion of every deliberate endeavour to be compelled to draw it in exclusion of any other with for peace with the Mahratta State but we will not make peace on dishonorable terms, we will not degrace the English name by submitting to conditions which cannot be complied with without the sacrifice both of our honour & our Interest. & yet such are the conditions prescribed in the papers before us. On Hyder's Invasion of the Carnatic and on the unfortunate intelligence which we received of the defeat of the detachment of your troops near Conjeveram, such terms were agreed to be proposed to the Mahratta State thro' the mediation of the Rajah of Berar as appeared to us very reasonable and such as might be honorably yielded to on both sides. They were such therefore now thought should not be rejected by the Enemy, but the effect has far exceeded our expectations, instead of finding them inclined to make peace the Mahrattas

Fort St. George May. 1781

2 which the Company's affairs have suffered in the Carnatic, and their inability consequently to support the war against them, has miserably increased their presumption, and induced them to avoid entering into the conclusion of a peace which the worst state of our affairs would not warrant us in yielding to. We are now amply convinced that nothing but a vigorous & successful prosecution of the war will prevail on them to make a peace, or overcome their present disinclination to it. Peace is our object, and we are determined to pursue the only means which appear to us likely to give it an honorable Effect, and we shall readily accept it when we can. —

We are
Hon^ble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient
Humble Servants —
Warren Hastings
Edw: Wheler —

Fort William
the 2^d. February 1781

To The Hon^ble Chas. Smith Esq^r.

President &c. Select Committee
at Fort St. George

Received the 5th following Letters. —

Hon^ble Sir and Sirs

I have herewith the honor to enclose Copy of the Governor General and Council's answer to the Letter addressed to them for leave to resign this Station, on the 25th. February, but as it appears from the general tenor of your Letter of the 2^d. February, and from the tenor likewise of your Letter from Sir Eyre Coote of the 12th & 22^d. March that our affairs on the Coast, have a very uncertain aspect and may require our forming an immediate alliance with this Court, I am led to think it advisable that I should at this critical Juncture remain in my present station. Conformably therefore to the tenor of my Letter to your Hon^rs of the 15th March and of my Letter

From Mr. Holland advising that Hazel Rajah relations have been endeavouring to withdraw the troops from the Nizam & enclosing a Letter to him from Bernard —

1100

5

Fort St. George May 1781

to the Governor General of the 2d of the same month, I propose for the present to suspend the intention of my departure, and as my health will now admit of it to continue here, agreeably to what I have declared to the Governor General and Council and to shall then of the appointment of a successor until Genl. Munro shall receive fuller instructions from Great Britain or the Supreme Court shall receive communications from the Supreme Council, and on the importation of the Letters I have had the honour to receive and return with them accordingly mentioned. ——

In attempting made on the night of the Beg Cawn's death by some of his dissatisfied adherents, mistaking Him for that of his brother Saleh Beg, on the appointment of possession of the Seal from the Innayeth of Hyder's Agent, mentioned in the Letter of the 2d Instant, it is very fortunate for the Service that the Conspirators were at the same time defeated in their intention, by the exertions and fidelity of the late Cawn's principal Servants named Muckna Mahdoon, some of them who had been by the orders of Yar Ali Beg confined executed, and the affairs of that Country are at present quiet. His Highness has given orders to the Commanders and Agents of the Districts to account for their tribute and Rents to Royal Palaver and the crowded houses disposed of the same as after my arrival at Salem Father. The death of this Prince, I am sorry to inform the President in my Letter of the 2d Instant, is a very important event, and might if his Highness were at present disposed to make considerable daily affecting our political interests at this Court. Yar Ali Beg's a powerful Counterpoise to His Highness increasing power and might in other situations have been successfully employed to check the Latter in any views hostility against the Company's Government he had acquired himself great power and independence, and his support Arrogance and strong predominating Character rendered daily

Beg's

to vast

1101 Fort St. George May 1761

5 from the nature of his situation but partly also perhaps from habit and
Esteem having serv'd under us, attached to our Government, at the same
time however from the necessity there was for his sheltering
himself under our protection he was a likely person to have thwarted
the Establishment of a Close and cordial union between his Highness
the Nizam and the Company.

Hazid Begs first wife, who is mother
of his eldest son, his second son, his Nephew and Brother are here,
they are not under confinement but Spies as I am told are privately set
over them, to watch their motions; his brothers son who is at Nor=
=mul, is, as I am informed a man of Courage and Enterprize
there are some very strong Forts in the possession of the Family among
these Nirmul is the principal, great Sums were laid out by Hazel
Beg in fortifying it, and it is said to be a very strong piece of Work; as
so many of Hazel Begs Family are here, and his eldest Son now at
Nirmul is a mere Cypher, his Highness has a better chance of succe=
=ding in any views he may have upon the deceased Nimrahs possessi=
=ons, but if it should happen that the Fleet should take the Line
of securing his Highness's authority and of defending the Forts, will
cost his Highness many from their want of Skill in Engineering
a great deal of time and trouble to reduce them, and even then a most
of the Forts may fail. The places are said to be well stored with a very
large Quantity of that kind of provision that is made use of in this
Country for keeping good for years. His Highness, as I am told, has
written very kind Letters to Hazid Begs Son, with assurances of his
protection, and of security in the possession of his Fathers Honors &
Fortune, and he has employed all those other ingratiating methods
so usual at these Courts in points of ceremonious attention reconcilable
the Heirs submission and Obedience.

At a visit which I paid to his Highness

1102 Fort St. George May 1781

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come Baggage, & informed him of Col. Braithwaite's retiring in the Circars and expressed a hope that he would assist the Army with Provisions in their march by Ganjam. to which he replied, tho' stillerities from a treacherous Spirit of Character or from a decline of giving Offence to the Marattas, with a degree of precaution regarding his own Military Claims, that what that Country afforded should be supplied, but that the produce of it was Canalas, which might not be thought the acceptable to the Bengal Seapoys, who had probably been used to Rice; he still continued to recommend strongly, as he had before done before, that the Bengal Seapoys might be embarked for Madras at Masulipatam; for that Hyder would certainly make an attempt upon them, and would so far cut off our Men & our Army as to have sufficient time to destroy them. —

to

Bengal

On my informing his Highness that many of Hyder's people had come off to us, he told me that he had received letters from all his principal Officers, offering on assurances of being entertained by the Hyderi Service and to come to Hyderabad. —

Gen. Honble Sir and Sir

With great Respect

your most Obedient

Humble Servant

John Holland

Hyderabad 14th April 1781

John Holland Esqr (Copy)

Resident at the Court of His Highness the Nizam Nizam Ally Cawn at Hyderabad

Sir

We have received your Letter of the 23d Ultimo and the Governor General has laid before us your Letter of the same date.

1103

Fort St. George May 1781

5

Concerned as we are for the cause which has obliged you to desire our permission to resign your station at Hyderabad, it is yet of so possible a nature that we cannot refuse our assent to your request. We permit you therefore to resign the Office which you hold at the Court of his Highness the Nabob Vizier Ally Cawn, and as an acknowledgement of the services performed by you during your residence there at, as well as testimony of the high estimation in which we hold your abilities and Zeal for the service of the Company, we desire your acceptance of a Gratuity of ten Thousand Rupees, and that you will be pleased to draw on us for the Amount. We also authorize and desire you to continue to draw your allowances and the Charges of your Establishment until your return to Fort St. George.

We are

Sir

Your most obedient

Fort William
the 19th March 1781

Humble Servants

(signed) Warren Hastings
Edwd. Wheler

To The Honble Chas. Smith Esqr.

President and Governor & the Select Committee of

Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Col. Dixon informing of the depredations committed by the Enemy & sending a return of the Europeans in his Garrison —

Since addition to yours Letters of the 2nd. having visited this Country and after burning and plundering for four days on the north side of the River, and between this and Tanjore retired to the Eastward the 2nd. Instance which we have been quest- ioned and Several days after himself has advanced to Tanjore, which mention prevents the lately elevated Rajah of Tanjore from proceeding on his march to his own Country indeed without money & sufficient force to enable so much in vain as it must be dangerous to him to withdraw

1104 Fort St George May 1781

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the professions of some Mutineers who would very gladly begin their
usurped power. The South in the Tanjore Country the four principal
accepted have fallen into their hands and from the last Accounts they have
dispersed themselves at Tadinge and another South the Tanjore Country
which I fear had been ordered to be executed — Mr Le Fanu has been
very diligent in quite all Parts we can send and depend Messengers
to and the Inquisitors, till Mr Le Fanu the Letter and Packet for
laid down the Rule of proceeding concerning the Inquisitors appear
as well because of the danger as want of money, we can embarque and
the Troops not paid for March till Pain without Hope of paying
any Part. The Produce of the Country is not equal to the Valuation
Expences of the last Season I have sent Packets Letters to Madura
to recall them come back the Conspiracy which would hinder
myself to obtain Intelligence from which you may master will see
Bills in favour of Madura, those heard Germans here have
often applied for wants but his Business being great in particular himself
highly disgusted at having the sale of his Grain given to the Traders
If any man deserves indulgence for political reasons it certainly is this
man, because he has it in his power effectually to stop all Intelligence,
which between the Traders Tadinge Town is expected already very critical
Mr Blane before which to Madura is now divided between them
nevertheless we carry on the Public Affairs in spite of these impediments —
The Troops of this Garrison of which I have now the Honor to send you
Return consists as follows:—

Company's Cavalry mounted	60
Do Do Horsemen	241
Artillery Europeans	16
6th Battalion Sepoys Officers included	570
19th Battalion Do Do	1119
Total	1896

1105 Fort St. George, 1781.

5

The major part of the above are Recruits, upon which Score I am not the least encouraged — I am only so by reason they are neither clothed or paid. — I have the pleasure to be

Hon^ble Sir and Sirs

most faithfully

Your Obedient Servant

Eccles Dixon

Trichinopoly 27th April 1781

P. S. I beg leave to mention to your Honors that M. Pierre has been essentially useful in assisting the Works of this Place & charge he very readily undertook at my request, and for which diligence and attention, I beg leave you may consider him, and that you will be pleased to pardon any freedom in requesting it. I have received the Cypher in the 2d Column. —

A List of the Black Officers having advanced money for raising Recruits for the Service. —

Jemidr Narrapah of 6th Batt^n
D^o Castory Nague D^o
D^o Lall Bux D^o
} having advanced 100 Star Pags each Bounty money for the raising of 300 Recruits for the Service appointed Subidars the 27th February 1781 —

Abdel Cauder Jemidr of the 2d Regt Compt^a having paid 100 Star Pags for the above purpose appointed a Subidar the 24th April 1781 —

Shamher Caun, having raised at his own private expence 40 Recruits for the Service appointed a Jemidr the 24th April 1781

To The Hon^ble Chas Smith Esq^r

Governor &c. Select Committee

Fort St. George

From Capt Edmonds mentioning the defeat of the Pindarys there people by Lallah

Hon^ble Sir and Sirs

I have the honor to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter, dated the 23, and have every thing in readiness for my march at a moments warning — I am just informed that the Pindarry people

1106. Fort St. George May 1781

6 had a Skirmish with Lallah's party near Achampatt in which the former were worsted — Shews the same to be with respect —

Hamblet Ser and Sec.

Angle 1st May 1781

Your most Obedient Humble Servant

6 Received the following Letter from Lieut. Edmunds Esq.

To The Hon'ble Chas. Smith Esq.

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

Gentlemen

I had the honor of writing you on the 5th Inst. and enclosing for your information Copy of a Letter then received from Genl. Goddard dated from Condanore above the Ghauts the 5th Inst. I have since received intelligence from Hyder's Camp, under the corresponding in the most secret manner of the following purport of peace with the Mahrattas, which have been communicated to me and therefore must conceive that not such great Grounds as before we are possessed of, believe the same to be true —

I have received a Letter from Velore, Lieut. Colonel Pearse dispatched about twenty days ago with a Battalion of Sepoys "I have before represented to you that Colonel Pearse had "sick and he was accordingly detached to Camp. The Sepoys then were encamped near the Village of Vellore Hill, there has been no fight "ing of late and there is great appearance of Peace — Some sent home and "some as flours — "I see no other prospect taking place between me and the Enemy "I myself am determined nothing should delay me and I hope "they do not — upon the strength of that appearance I have now "dispatched a Battalion with them to the Northward with Provision &c

Goddard. From Sir Eyre Coote advising of his expedition against Tanjore and sending a Correspondence he will from Mr. Holland the Inhabitants of Pondicherry &c Lang & Lieut Pearse

an empty

1107 Fort St. George May 1780

6 "Therefore I shall write a Letter to your Master and do you also write a Letter
"to the following effect that in the space of five months the rainy Season will
"commence in this Country, and we shall both (alluding to the English and
themselves) "go into Cantonements, whatever is to happen will be after the
"rains Conformably to my Engagements I shall send to him five thousand Horse
"under Mallagee Baste, that it is incumbent on him to send the money agreeable
"to his Engagements, and do you write in such a manner as that it shall be sent.
"There are the terms on which Nanna desired me to write — Nanna wishes
"are that Rayonaut Row should be delivered up to them, and to have restored to
them all the Countries the English have conquered — but the English will not
and I am certain never agree to it — I have agreed to your sides Wishes, & will,
"he hopes therefore I will shew him regard —"

Hyder upon reading this Letter was much
rejoiced and sent for the Gomastah of Bednore the Bankers and ordered
him to provide Bills for Eight Lacks of Rupees — he also sent for one
of his Moonshies and instructed him to write a friendly Letter to Mullars
along with which he would send Jewels & Cloaths —

I need hardly remark on the very different System
which Hyder Ally seems to follow in order to accomplish his Views and
Connection with the Mharattahs to that which we have adopted and so
Strenuously persist in — To Conciliate it would appear to a principle exploded
from our Politicks, it may be agreeable to the Rules usually practised in
Political pursuits, but I confess neither my reason nor my Judgment will
allow me from bordering to the Expediency of ever being put to the Test in the present
distressed State of our Affairs which are daily Verging to that certain ruin
which must ensue if some speedy means are not taken to avert it by putting
a period to our Warfare in some Quarter or another —

I enclose for your information Copies of Letters which I have
received from Col. Lang & Lieut. Low — It is of the utmost importance
that Col. Lang should receive a supply of Cash. I do entreat of you therefore
to

1108 Fort St. George 16 May 1781

6 [illegible] all possible means of securing him some, and of preventing
Intelligence from Hyders Camp that Burhenjees Commutah should be upon
employed to some Money to Conrah in order to assist Hyder and Burhenjee with
Provision &c we reasonably Burhenjee himself should be saving the Knight
& living under our protection & villadrus should not be obliged to assist us in
the present instance, which he may certainly do with much difficulty
as the Garrison & Town is at a great distance from Bednore Hyder
if so had he has Agents & the reasons should assigned that he
would assist Hyder grounded principally upon his Attachment
to the Enemys Cause.

6 Having received intelligence that a considerable
Detachment of the Enemy not less than 2 000 Horse & 3000 Sepoys
& Piece of Light Artillery in Travancore encamped at or near Trichy within
6 miles of Seringapatam which could not have joined them [illegible] days
marches night & day without Detachments of
the Bengal Infantry viz Battalions of Regts making in all about 2000
men, with their Complement of Guns, the European Troops & 1,500
Black Cavalry with their Officers and Guns, the Guards & Provisions
expedition good order and Silence, an Hour & Quarter in the morning before
the advanced Guard alarmed an Picquet of the Enemys Horse which
were standing ready mounted in the middle of the Road, one of which
discharged a pistol on Captain of the whole Corps with the greatest
precipitation. Upon this Intelligence every Officer & Soldier being
examined how we were then full six miles distant from the place they
were said to be encamped on in Expectation of a Signal to have been
lighted both to the right and left in front which are the Signals
whereby they not only make out line of March but announce to attack
the rest of their troops notwithstanding I came resolved to accom-
plish my first Object & should meet the Enemy from their
number might be disposed to attack us, where so placed and prepared

Signed

1109 Fort St. George May 1781 28

Early on Friday in a certain Ravine we should not have found some Bullocks and Sheep for Provisions for the Army, at any Rate we had accordingly not above 2 Miles of Trichy when we discovered large bodies of the Enemys Horse on our Front extending to a considerable distance on our Right as we moved on they retired and perceiving that a Party of them were driving off some Cattle I detached a Party of Cavalry and two Companies of Sepoys who retook them - The Horse appeared on our Front between us and Trichy retired some few Miles but not the greater part behind a Bank the Enemy soon after being reinforced from the Garrison marched where they were joined by great numbers from the Southward & Eastward from the Villages of Elmiseram & the Westward - Elmiseram & Thoyur assembled in considerable force on our Front and we observing them took Possession of the Bank to halt and to form on the Ground of the Encampment about a Mile & a half and 2 Miles from the Fort of Trichy, which he did without Opposition, the Commanding Officer of the Garrison considered as Discretion, they have 3 Battalions & 2 Companies of Artillery with 4 Guns assigned to Fort St George only the Commandant had many Disputes with the Inhabitants formerly on the Subject of Revenue, and all of them consulted of the Country & the Company belonging to Tanjore Country amongst them, either had accompanied him from Trichy or being under Fear of Him, were likely to join the Enemy against us, we were not actually fighting against Hyder but the Inhabitants of the Carnatic - The number of the Garrison as found upon examining the Commandant consisted of 300 Sepoys & 10 with the Artillery & gone off early in the morning upon hearing of our approach - The military Stores which we found and brought off from Trichy were as follows - Field Pieces &c. Guns Pounders 4 & 3 Barrels Saltpetre Granadoes &c. Muskets Bayonets Cartridges 780 - There was besides some Powder which the Officer made into a Ball before he quitted the Place. There was also found in the Magazine Quantity

quie

1110 Fort St. George May 1781

1111 Fort St George May 1781

6 to dress their Victuals and the Cavalry and Straggler Bullocks to be fed and refreshed.

Having detached a Battalion of Seapoys and the Nabobs Cavalry in the morning to collect some Cattle to the Southward of Poonamalee three or four of the latter having gone to a good deal of Distance from the rest of the Party were attacked by a superior number of the Enemys Horse who killed some of them & took another Prisoner with both Guns.

Altho I had certain information from a Horseman taken Prisoner in Col: Baillies action and who joined us after it was over that the Enemy had both Infantry and Guns yet a man made his appearance the whole day on the contrary I learnt that they had been ordered to take up their Station at least four miles off. This being the case and seeing no hope of doing anything effectual by attempting to pursue them or deriving any advantage by remaining longer at Poonamalee I resolved to return to Camp and accordingly commenced my march back in the Evening. It happened as I suspected that we were soon attacked by the Enemys Horse and altho they continued to annoy us with during the night and killed a Lascar belonging to the Bengal Artillery and wounded two Seapoys. Both of the Enemys Corps endeavoured to station one their Guard for some of their advanced Troops came close up to them & before they could recover themselves from their mistake we had time enough to salute them with three or six rounds of Grape & some Platoons from the Musketry of the Rear Guard which as we have learnt by Villagers who have since come in and two even Days from their Camp to have killed and wounded about 100 Horse & 150 or 160 men among whom were one or two Sirdars of Distinction both Commanders of Horse and one of them a near Relation of Hyder Ally's.

By the intercepted letters we received from the Enemy and being obliged to move slow in order to bring the Cattle we had collected, the Detachment did not arrive in Camp until the 12th in the morning a Day after [illegible]

1112 Fort St. George May 1781

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The other Loss we sustained on this Expedition were Losses of Some of the Packhorses who were unfortunately shot and Died by the Fire belonging to some of the Corps Baggage by accident— Copies of Letters to the Commanding Officer, & Others in Command

The Enclosed Letter dated the 29th March last, & Received here extremely well but the 4th Regt. Sepoys were in the Hospital chiefly with Bilious Fevers— The Deaths were extremely few & Considering from the above Hospital & now the Corps of Great Fatigue and Service they have performed it is most Astonishing we have so many Sick Sepoys Hospital Soldiers & Followers alive— What I have Learnings Since this Battle Leaves me more and more Satisfied of having my Essential Advantages on the Enemy, & I hope I shall be able effectually to Improve them to the Ruin of the Enemy's Army, But the Enemy Still Keeps the Field with any chance of Success against the Enemy, but the Essence cannot be a matter of Consideration; Anything Else ought to be Sacrificed to it— Our Cavalry is Every Day Encreasing & Discouragements endeavours to the Contrary are Attended with Success & Disappointment to the Enemy, & Every Day Encreases our Confidence & Superiority over them—

it and

Since we have left Pondy the Country has been reduced to Ruin all the Villages we have Passed we have Burnt all the Forage they could find, many Grain Pits we have Destroyed & Bullock Loads of Rice we have taken beyond the Wants of the Army, So that the Inhabitants will be Reduced to the Utmost Distress for the Necessaries of Life & the Enemy go to Receive Some So that this Last Supply of Rice which we have taken will be the only one we are likely to have for some time to come—

Should you have Every Information in my Power Should you wish to Reside upon Examination of the State of Affairs in General

1113 Fort St. George 6 May 1781

6 enclose you the Duplicates of Letters which I have received from Mr Holland
first dated at the Court of the Nizam, one to my own address and one addressed
to the Gov.r Genl. & Council, which will sufficiently point out to you the footing
we are on at present with that Prince. — I should imagine that no time
could be more favorable than now for cultivating a strict friendship
and alliance with him. — I have separately written to Mr Holland on this
head with a desire he would communicate my sentiments to the Supreme
Council which he has no doubt done; & I trust that these Gentlemen seeing
the impossibility there now is of making Peace with the Mharattahs
on our terms will embrace the opportunity there is of getting the Nizam to
our Interests. —

I have had the honor to receive your Letters of the 6.th and 10.th
Inst.t by the Polyanthus Sloop of War Capt.n Reeves, and by the Success Galley the
former only of the 22d Ulto. — I had intended writing within the Enclosed
a Letter for the information of the Admiral concerning the situation of our
affairs, entrusted to Capt.n Reeves to communicate to him verbally, —
and hope that I shall in consequence now have the pleasure of seeing him here
The presence of the fleet will be of the utmost utility in encouraging and
forming Spirit in all our Operations, which I did not fail of knowing to operate
effectually in those of the Enemy. —

The arrival of the Success Galley has given
rise to a favorable circumstance as our Stock of Rice was written down
days of being quite expended — I am sorry to acquaint you that neither the
Alfred, Charlotte nor Indus are yet arrived, however my acknowledgements
are not the less due to you for your Endeavours to render as reasonable
a supply and I trust that your pertinacious will soon be fulfilled by the speedy arrival
of those Ships. Nothing has occasioned the Scarcity here more
M.r H. Watts from whose letter you will perceive he is gone to procure Rice
Southward with a view to obtain Grain &c. — for the use of the Army. I have spoken
by Letters from him and Mr Sherriff, a Gentleman belonging to your Agency

Fac.t

114 Fort St. George, May 1781.

6 That any Inhabitants having offered their Services in the room
of Negabatam Inhabitants who requested to be
sent to Trincomalee the 24th. ulto they left this place the 6th. Inst.
Mr. Mitchell and for any information every civil Respect shewed
received from the Officers of Negapatam with a Detachment
down to that place and on their Return which he says he left
and himself were alarmed to embark. —

Council approve of the Steps
taken for the security of Tellicherry and having Instructions
with the Rebels at Palacatcherry and Cadenpence Encamped
from Tellicherry and with Cacapt and Guns Tellicherry Hill
in obliging his Troops to compliance by this Order — Therefore
more necessary to establish Tellicherry to which Settlement
at Tellicherry on his arrival there unless circumstances
mend determine finally regarding the further progress of the Detachment
proposed that Colo. Abingdon do if he thinks consequence
should be a large quantity of Provisions Collected at Tellicherry
many Bullocks can be had Secretly therein as great Expedition
the country for much of the Forces as necessary of the Latter —

The Negroes Cornelius Powers and Hannah Powers
thereupon had the Rebels on which they came that from Negapatam
Inducements as said for your Place before Tellicherry and
containing on being would have proceeded to you by Land after Receipt
to Madras, Beyond Manjeree can't go you by the Sea Good Shortly —
There has been some mistake in sending Cloaths from Madras to Bengal
Bengal as Invoice, adding that the Cargoe being Required —

Letters from Colo. Fullarton the Officer Commanding Detach
ment of Col. Braithwaite Letters to your Commander Chief Inquiring Received
several Letters from him Copies of which he has sent Enclosed — The
various Accounts and Calculations which were Left in the Detachment

115 Fort St. George May 1781

We are truly lamentable we are the more sorry regretted as happening a Period of such a perculiar which required that it should have assisted in the fullest vigor and Spirit — With respect to reinforcing him with Draft from the several Battalions, rendering any of the Battalions entire to join them, are both of them steps, which should be happy could be avoided — We most entirely disapprove as a measure which might be productive of many Inconveniencies, indeed conceive it would be altogether impossible to reconcile the Interests of the two Services so as to carry fully together in the manner suggested unavoidably be intermixed as Draft — The reinforcing of Col. Pearse's Detachment by compleat Battalions is subject to one very material objection, viz. that it would leave the Circars, which are now only ill provided, almost defenceless — However as for the absolute necessity there is that such Detachment should be sufficiently strong to repel any probable force the Enemy might send to oppose it, we may be prepared to order one or two of the Circar Battalions to join him. But, in such case, such Battalion could be invested with a Body of Cavalry as they would be Infinitely more serviceable to him, & also to obviate inconvenience the second Force in the Circars may undergo, were to recommend the being replaced by raising an equal number of Recruits and incorporating them in the remaining Battalions by increasing the strength of each Company — With respect to the troops which have been raised by Hyder Ally Khan Commg Col. Pearse is about which should chuse to rest upon his opinion and Judgement on the having an opportunity of seeing them personally he can best determine what utility they may be

it

Streng

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of the Hon.ble Company shall be entitled to be obtained by application.—

The Letter read from the Select Committee of Bombay the last Evening was taken into consideration, & it was thereupon

Ordered, That the Letter be answered by the Dispatches now preparing, & that the Secretary do inform the Select Committee that the Board have ordered the Letter to be laid before the Governor in Council, who will be attended by the Members of the Board at the Council Chamber on Monday next the 14th. Instant at 10 o'Clock in the Forenoon, & that the Secretary do then attend with the Letter.—

Samuel Davis Esqr. appeared before the Board, & produced a Certificate of his having taken the Oaths of Office as Sheriff of Madras, & was accordingly admitted to the Execution of that Office.—

The Accounts of Cavalry for the Month of April were delivered in by the Paymaster, & ordered to be passed for Payment.—

The Accounts of Cavalry for the Month of April were delivered in by the Paymaster, & ordered to be passed for Payment.—

The Accounts of Gunners for the Month of April were delivered in by the Paymaster, & ordered to be passed for Payment.—

The Accounts of Lascars for the Month of April were delivered in by the Paymaster, & ordered to be passed for Payment.—

The Accounts of Pioneers for the Month of April were delivered in by the Paymaster, & ordered to be passed for Payment.—

The Accounts of Bullock Hire for the Month of April were delivered in by the Paymaster, & ordered to be passed for Payment.—

The Accounts of Contingencies

117 Fort St. George Augt. 1781

6 Detachment of 1500 men sent against Tanjore

Detachments from you have been misrepresented in a former Letter to the Board under the Command of Lieut. Col. Cosby consisting of three Companies of Sepoys and two Companies of Europeans and the Artillery attached to them.

On the 24th in the morning about 1500 of the Enemys Horse having appeared on front of their Encampment the Field Officers of the day moved out with a small Detachment composed of the grand Guards and Picquet consisting of the Horse & Infantry with two Six Pounders and one three Pounder in order as usual to observe their motions. Having proceeded on this Service to the Distance of about three miles in front of the Encampment the former were unexpectedly surrounded by large Bodies of the Enemys Horse who issued from the Mango Topes & Groves all around the whole computed to be about eight Thousand. The Detachment immediately formed in Square and keeping up a heavy fire from the Guns in every direction while the Enemy attempted to force which they were checked. Unfortunately while in that situation one of the Ammunition Carts broke, killed two Artillery men and wounded two others, and at the same instant a Corps of the Enemys Infantry appeared in sight advancing regularly by Files towards the Detachment upon which the Officers commanding Lieut. Col. Cosby moved on to a little more favorable ground which lay in front being a Village with small enclosed Pagodas and Buildings at about one Coss or Cosha of distance to cover the Detachment & keep the Enemy at bay to prevent the Detachment being surrounded. The Guns during this movement the Infantry retained with the greatest Steadiness, chiefly owing to the good Order Capt. Davis kept among them, as did the Enemy attempt to force them but too much superior in number, and the Body of Infantry which appeared at a little distance retired. Officers having reached Camp of the situation of the Detachment a Reinforcement was immediately ordered out upon the approach of which the Enemy retired and returned to their Camp, where they are said to have left their Tents & Horse with their Infantry in charge of their Guns and Baggage. By this Intelligence we have since received that they were a considerable Army headed by Sadut Sahib was said to have been personally present with 6000 of his best Horse and Europeans Sepoys and

Sanoor Rajahs with

1116 Fort St. George May 1781

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of to him, If Negligence on Board any member of Horse Navy ought by all means to be observed to accompany him.—

The Letter received from Sir Edw. Hughes & the Select committee of Bombay the last bearing date the 23 Feb. are chiefly concerning the State of affairs between us and the Mharattahs, and in the sentiments they express only confirm what we have already had so seriously confirmed true by Gen. Goddard's last Letter, the little probability of effecting a peace. The Admiral speaks with seeming confidence he should be able to visit Bombay with his whole Squadron by the 15th. of this month at farthest & think therefore that we may expect to see him here by the 15th. of the ensuing Month.—

I am well satisfied with your having given due perceives of the Circumstances of Mr. Cahee's being at the Peroint, & to make use of his Services for a time, and chearfully acquiesce in his absence during which time I hope he will in justice to himself and the Service endeavour a proper Person to execute the Duties of his office with the Army.—

The Renter of Carangoly has paid the 2 000 Pag. agreeable to my order for the payment of the Troops in that Garrison, and has also undertaken a part deal of Grain— I believe not a man of the Natives at the Garrison where he has Agents have done any thing of this Nature Indeed at Chingleput, where there has been at least as much Grain got, may better opportunity than at Carangoly.—

The death of Hazel Beg Cawn I most sincerely lament as it has robbed this Country of what I believe is rarely to be found amongst the natives an honest man! and deprived the English of a sincere friend to their Interests, and to whose good Offices I believe we have been much indebted for the neutrality hitherto observed by the Nizam in whose Councils he had great influence.—

and

I enclose for your information Copies of Representations sent me by the French Inhabitants of Pondicherry on the conduct of the

by

117 Fort St. George May. 1781

6 Detachment you have been informed in a former Letter were sent
under the Command of Lieut. Col. Lucas against Nuncer and their expedition.—

On the 24th in the evening about 1500 of the Enemys Horse
having appeared in front of our Encampment the Field Officers of the day mounted
and with a small Detachment composed of the grand Guards and Picquet consisting
of 40 Horse 370 Infantry with two Six Pounders and one three Pounder in order
as well to observe their motions — Having proceeded on this Service to the
Distance of about three miles in front of the Encampment the party was
unexpectedly surrounded by large Bodies of the Enemys Horse which issued
from the Mango topes & Groves all around the whole computed to be about
eight Thousand. The Detachment immediately formed in strong Ground
and by keeping up a brisk fire from the Guns in every direction as the Enemy
attempted to close were checked. Unfortunately whilst in that situation one of the
six pounders burst, killed two Artillery men and wounded two others; and at
the same instant a Body of the Enemys Infantry appeared in sight
advancing regularly by Files towards the Detachment upon which the
Officers in Command Lieut. Col. Lucas moved in the utmost order to
the Village which lay in front being a Village with small Mud Walls & Pagodas
and on which the Right of the Line of Cavalry was to spread. The
Detachment being marched from under the Guns having the Enemy
the Infantry retained with the greatest Coolness, chiefly owing to the good
Order Capt. Dennehest among them, notwithstanding the Enemy attempted
to force them as they were superior in number, and the Body of Infantry
which appeared at a distance retired — Advices having reached Camp
of the situation of the Detachment a Reinforcement was immediately
ordered out upon the approach of which the Enemy retired and retreated
towards Cannoor where they are said to have left their Horse
with their Infantry in charge of their Guns and Baggage — Hitherto
the Intelligence we have since received that their loss is considerable
[illegible] Officers Sick & Wounded are said to have been removed
with Good[illegible] Horse and Cavalry [illegible]

1118 Fort St George May 1781

6 to each of such a party as they knew from our former practice would never wait on a body of Horse drawing themselves in front of our encampment and attacking our Light Battery and Camp Guard this intention has however been fortunately detected and they have paid for the attempt by the loss of number of both Horses and Men — We sustained no loss of consequence from the Enemy having only a Horse killed and a few People slightly wounded —

I have the Honor to be
Gentlemen
Your Mst Obedient
Humble Servant
Eyre Coote

Camp Newtown
28th April 1781

P. S. While writing the above the Indue arrived.

Sir

Any bad state of health has laid me under the necessity of applying to the Gov.r Gen.l & Council for leave to resign this Station, but may probably continue here until about the falling of the rains and the swelling of the Rivers; and shall employ that interval to the best advantage in my power in keeping the High=
=ness Hyder in his present line of neutrality. I have still
any probability for this Year at least of your receiving any intel=
=ligence in Bengal of any Army from the Quarter.
I have herewith the pleasure to enclose Copy & Extract of my last
Letter to the Governor General and Council by which you will
perceive that a Peace with the Mahrattas may be effected on the Terms of
the Treaty of Salbey if the Rajah of Berar & Scindia
can happily be drawn to a Letter from Mr Smith that the Peace
Fleet had not sailed on board & had Hopes it to Cannot be detained by the
Monsoon then have left Bombay

enemies

Fort St. George May 1781

Reduction of our Power, &c as far as numbers and Resources go, signifying a Preponderating Weight to the Enemy's Scale. Therefore hope that Col. Edwd. Hughes may fall in with them, & disable them from making another Push; it is accordingly so much their Interest to bring Hyder a powerful Reinforcement, that their neglecting to do it, will be an egregious defect of exertion and duty, and will not, I think on our part be excused do. If Hyder should give you an early opportunity of engageing him, the Consequences will I hope be such as to give us a decided superiority, but we labour under a great disadvantage for want of Horse, in not being able to make a victory complete, and Hyder may possibly quit his ground Judgement, profit of the contest in expectation of the French Succours proc
His Highness still continues well with his Family enjoying the Pleasures of the Country and Hunting Sports.

I am, Sir,
With Respect
Your most obedient & humble Servant
John Holland

Madras Fort
15th March 1781

Lieut. Gen. Sir Eyre Coote K.B.
&c. Commander in Chief &c. &c. &c.

(Copy)

The Honble Warren Hastings Esqr.
Governor General &c. Council of Bengal

Honble Sir and Sirs

By the Letter which I had the honor to address to you on the 25th Ultimo, you were informed of my having received your commands of the 22nd Ult. & of my Letter to the Gov. Gen. advising of my having received his Letter enclosed by Mr. Colebrooke, for his Highness the Nizam.

Finding that these were matters of much respect to the Time of his Highness's return to [illegible] I sent a Messenger to

1120

Fort St George May 1781

6

To his Excy President, & delivers the Governor General's Letter, upon Perusal of
wch his Highness expressed himself, with every appearance of Sincerity, in terms
of great satisfaction; he was exceeding well pleased with the Declaration
made of your acquiescence in his taking the management of the Genl
Affairs, during the time of the Governor General, which he answered in
a frank and candid view of the various circumstances, that had occasioned his absence
and resentment. He added, that his whole wish was to see the Squadron
of this Coast, that it was possible might be given permission, & proceed
to Bengal with the Troops & Stores on the prosecution of their
own Business with the Nabob and seemed highly pleased with your
the proposal and desired he had received that he should have a let-
ter from friendly part of intelligence in our behalf, but that we had still
wished his movements, and were restrained only by the Motives from
that delicacy wch the Rule of most Governments to urge others to
go contrary to their professions, he had nevertheless from a strict regard to
Justice & the Faith of the treaty subsisting between him and the
former to take a hostile part against us, altho' powerfully solicited by
his Enemy, and he believed we should readily acknowledge that he was
well disposed thro' that Consideration to afford us every Advantage that
lay in his power, & this gave him singular pleasure in the Letter he now received from us that
you seemed to be sensible of the value of his friendship, & being disinclined to
improper Measures were concerned, that the party receiving them, should be unac-
quainted with their Weight & Measure. He did not urge any thing upon the Subject of the
Carnatic again, and did not say any thing publick but expressing the
Conference was that the Letter was very full and explicit, & had only left
me to hope, that his Highness would hereafter consider the Company
as his Friends & the Differences that had subsisted between them amicably
and cordially accommodated. I shall use my best endeavours to engage them
to make some specific declaration of this Effect.

Some objection appears to be made under Sanction of his Highness
Name Settlement to share with the Bara Mahl Revenue Exclusive of the

enemies advantages

out

than a Settlement
Ministers

Fort S.t George May 1781

Sir

As my duty there is an Subject in which I have had more frequent occasion to declare
points to conciliate his gentlemen, I have however never found them well
disposed to receive the declarations, I have at different times made him
relative to our connection with Nagpur but this reply has been uniformly
that you had taken no notice of any the Marattahs, and however
your assertions on that point, that had the Bombay Government adopted
certain of your orders in any degree of such magnitude, it would have been
natural for you to have testified your displeasure, and to have manifested
your authority by inflicting the punishment adequate to so great an offence
I have had a disagreeable task in being under the necessity of pressing so
often the same declarations against such flagrant incredibility, I must however
acknowledge that I was enabled to execute this duty with the less embarrassment
from an idea, that the just apparent grounds on which his Highness might ground
suspect, and of the Effect, that the contradictory assertions calculating must
necessarily have produced in opposition to what I strove to establish. But connected
with an executing political Object, in the belief of which impressions I never
can never find a reluctance in the minds of those who from the nature of a
despotic Government, have been led from their youth in the practice. Those
which I had to oppose were not only liable to be disbelieved as being of this
Character, but further more particularly so from the circumstance adverted
to mentioned of your Sir being towards the supposed offending Party,
and from the assertions turning counter to former Usage between the
English Government and that Court, a point frequently alluded to in that
part of the Governor General's Letter which expresses the little intercourse
his Highness had hitherto had with the Bengal Government & that
no due specific Orders on the subject yet nothing was wanting on my part
from the commencement of my negotiation, previous to the time when
I was honored with your Commission, to make his Highness sensible of
upon the subject of your connection with Ragogee Bonsolah with
appears by my Letter to the Select Committee of the 31.st Aug.st 1779, but
independent of this attention, & in consequence of a demand of his Highness

1122 Fort St George 1st May 1781

Q founded on the Instructions received from the Governor General of the 15th Decr 1779, his Highness has in his possession the Governor Generals Letter of the same Date upon this Subject, and has therefore, if the Interest he takeen the affair would allow him to believe, the fullest Information of the nature of your connection with the Mahratta Chief; & in reality paid concerning which he will not cease to be uneasy, as long as it shall remain in Suspence.—

he

On the Gov. Generals Letter to his Highness, he was sensible of this interesting subject, & thought there might have been some degree of Indiscretion, in my making his Highness the declaration you Letter stated relative to this point, during the Visit & which I delivered it. I made however use of caution with great propriety pursuant to your Orders, had I had an opportunity of opening this Business to the Subject upon the receipt of the Letter, the nature of our connection with Bajy and Nana Jeanse which his Highness evidently contents himself, he would have been surprised that the Governor Generals Letter, had been silent upon it, and my assurance contrary to it would not only, have not satisfied him, but have made Jealousy, & my word doubt Question. I shall make him the declaration you have directed at a future visit, but I much doubt, whether I shall have better success than formerly had.—

Jam

Honble Sirs & Sirs

With great Respect

Your most obedient

Humble Servant

John Hollond

Hyderabad 16th March 1781

(signed)

(Translation)

To His Excellency General Coote

Sir

I write with the greatest confidence that the Subject of Pondicherry can before you the Resolutions [illegible]

1123 Fort St. George May 1761

Which happened this day on the 10th Inst. occasioned by the desertion under the command of Colonel Owen.

The news of this capitulation which is dispatched to Pondicherry having been plundered caused a general alarm in that place, where every person barricaded his house particularly the Europeans people, many of whom sought their safety by flight — About 11 o'clock in the morning part of the Garrison composing the Detachment having entered the town, the Europeans and several houses in the black town were broken open and pillaged every thing — Many carried off some houses even the very cloaths the Women had on — The Europeans houses were likewise pillaged, in particular those belonging to Officers of Artillery and the Major both of which are opposite to the Government House. This decides by which the black people became the principal sufferers, as the same time falls heavy upon the French Inhabitants as the Persons who were plundered were their Merchants & Bankers —

Surely Sir a Capitulation accepted so dearly and which has received additional force by the promise you made to observe it ought to secure us from the insults of those very troops whose duty it is to protect us are we not sufficiently miserable in being deprived of the subsistence which the English Government engaged to allow us by the dearness of Provisions and the consequent Hardships without being exposed to be pillaged. You must be sensible Sir that our situation is most cruel! Except a few whose affairs oblige them to remain in India — those now at Pondicherry consist of unhappy persons who merit of your Compassion, wives seperated from their Husbands, Widows and Orphans destitute of help or support and more Beggars. —

Such are the Inhabitants of Pondicherry who make known their misfortunes to you and demand your protection against your own Troops. —

We address ourselves to you Sir with the greatest confidence as we are firmly persuaded that this is contrary to your intention & that of Col. Owen that this disorder took place — The Inhabitants of Pondicherry

1124 Fort St. George May 1781

6

Inviolate for well as any one of them to wound prosecution or the suspicion of the kind — When you were last here we had such proofs given in by every person had reason to complain of a single leaf, and every thing was carried on with the utmost order and tranquillity. —

We hope to be allowed to act in a similar manner, We shall have great reason and justice upon the ground of the Declaration — Whilst conciliation we flatter ourselves will put these matters upon a quiet footing. —

We have the honor

&c.

&c.

Your very Humble

and most Obedient Servants

The Inhabitants of Pondicherry

Signed Desbarres, Vallet, Delaville, Marchand, Ameed Lepage, Martin, Dubergé, Reynaud, Deslauges, Bouches, Chanchard, Jean Paul Mongenot, Bayet, Dauzat, Condon, Hurel, Gilly, Dumas, Le Chevalier Denis, De Bury, De St. Eugene, Lauvaux, Defebvre, Le Chevalier De Bruyet, Jerrile, Violet, Fleyres. —

At Pondicherry

12th April 1781

To

The Gentlemen

Inhabitants of Pondicherry

Gentlemen

I have received a Letter under the Signatures of you who subscribe themselves the Inhabitants of Pondicherry complaining of Distresses which they have suffered from the irregularities committed by a Detachment of the Army and Marines commanded by the Commandant of Pondicherry

That between the conduct of the Subjects of the Powers at war

1125

Fort St. George May 1781

Residing in Pondichery since the invasion of the Carnatic by Hyder the Usurper, is known to the whole world to Britain need I say recommend him to mark it to Infamy.

Of this they cannot but be themselves sensible and ought to consider the Lenity he there shewn them as Indulgences which they have forfeited & Right to expect & Thankfulness this when joined to the open Desertion which the Officers in command of the Detachment evinced by the publication he made for the protection of their Persons & Property, ought to have averted them to silence — the more especially as any hardships they may have suffered are not to be brought in comparison with the cruelties which are daily inflicted upon Prisoners and other People belonging to the English and thus dependent when passing thro Pondichery — The detention and imprisonment of Messengers coming on the Publick Service is such a heinous offence to the honor & injurious to the Interests of the English nation, and accordingly calculated to serve the purposes of the Enemy, as would not only authorize but indispensable any acts of Severity which either might have been or hereafter may be exercised against the Inhabitants of Pondichery — And also if they are desirous of being fully informed of the many and aggravated Instances of their misconduct (which does not entitle them to much less to ask for the English protection) will send Lieut. Gerard to me for that purpose —

I shall conclude with the mention of one very moderate instance of the infamous treatment of the Wives of the English Seapoys who had not only been deprived of their Liberty by being confined in a Dungeon but many of them dismissed and which even affected the minds of the Seapoys that returned with the greatest difficulty Col. Owen could be restrained from giving a loose to their just resentment and indignation by setting fire to the town — and which Col. Owen had reason to believe they would have done but for his drawing off the Detachment at the time he did —

I have the honor to be
Gentlemen
your most obedient humble Servant
Lieut. Louis Lawler

Camp Cowbourn
15th April 1781

1126 Fort St. George 20 July 1781

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(Translation)

To General Sir Eyre Coote &c.

We have just received the Letter you honoured
us herewith on the 15th Inst. in answer to the Representations we took the
liberty to address to you in our Letter of the 12th Inst. — We have with equal
Grief and surprize the treatment & Condemnation you pass upon the
Conduct of the Colony and we venture to say that the most candid
We always reposed on the Equity of the English Government would
do the perfect knowledge we entertain of your Justice induced us
to hope that we should have been Exempted from the Reproaches you
cast on us, and that they would have prevented your entertaining Sir
actions in which we had no concern, or had even a knowledge of and
which could only be attributed to the troops that have been employed
in this Coast — For this reason we shall not attempt to exculpate ourselves
the blame thrown on us in your Letter, because we are sure that upon
a perusal of the Letters which have passed between us & the Select Committee
and a precedent this Settlement a single instance cannot be produced
where an infringement of the Rights of the Crown would not have immediately
been punished by a recall of the Governor & Council

Be assured Sir that we are more deserving of your Compassion than
of your resentment, and since the time that your Forces have been employed
in this Coast we have been daily exposed to the most dreadful calamities and
continual apprehensions of experiencing greater —

The best Plan you could pursue for your own & the
dispatch of the affairs of the Nabob is to have prevented — We have
Letters which you Excellency ought to have received — We have
acted in respect since that time to render ourselves worthy of a continuation
of your Favor. We know well that your Lordship is invariable in your attention
with the confidence you have always inspired us with —

Agreeable to the desire expressed in your Letter, Major General
and the other Gentlemen would have received Commissions

1127 Fort St. George 1 May 1781

Copies Consideration, & the Loss of a Ship provided their passage by sea, and the Losses they sustained by the Depredations of the Enemy

Upon all these previous Lines an Apprehension of Danger naturally & properly suggested itself — Your Expectation, which We hope you will be pleased to confirm, of your Judgement on the Inhabitants of these Settlements and receiving from them repeated Assurances of future irreproachable conduct.

We earnestly entreat you to listen to our Entreaties and remove the Cause of a double Loss, and a number of Families, whose existence will be rendered miserable, if you will condescend to estimate their Services at their just Value.

We are with Respect

Sir

Your most Humble & most Obedient Servants

The Inhabitants of Pondicherry

Signed. Desalmenidac, Francois De Bury, Martin, Barrow Gerard Godet, J. Wilde, Desbruyeres, Le Chev.r De Beaufort, Gerard, Chaudron, De Basson, De Fulgence, Violette, Daniel, Reynaud, Vallet, De Jecamp.s, Bazet, Sinclair, Dejet, De la Salle, Marchand, Saurayre, Coulon, Mongenon, Flevard, Boileau, Fleuzon, Le Chevalier Dent.

A true Copy

Wm. Jones Secry

Pondicherry 17th April 1781

To Lieut. Gen.l Sir Eyre Coote K. B.

Sir

I was last night favored with yours of the 21st Ultimo, I have now in Store 2000 Coloms of Paddy, and Coloms for 6 weight Rice Seer, a small quantity of very old horse Gram, Salt petre & plenty of Saltpetre earth, as to meat I have never had any great Scarcity in a Country one time as my small Garison could not spend it, there is a Scarcity of Meat to feed — and at present the Enemy has drove all the flocks of Sheep and Cattle to a great distance, I have also found a difficult matter to get any — As to Provisions I have four hundred Parcars employed, one set you gave Lieut. Elliot and Gen.l Wade, I have four six, and four three Pounders, with their Gumbals complete with shot ammunition and we can make up

1128. Fort St. George May 1781

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deal

were returned, 270 Draught & 293 Carriage Bullocks belonging to this
Bird. I beg leave to inform you that the Gentlemen of my Force have hitherto
no Exception to Deal of the Garrison Rice, but are accustomed to daily allowance
have a plentiful Bazar both Rice & Provisions for a Rupee as every
thing else in proportion.

On Receipt of your Letter I immediately issued
the Orders wherein you desired with regard to the Detachment
consisting of Sepoys & Pioneers from Bengal
and Calicut Gang Lower Peirs and to have proper Officers, Tindals
money all Tindals Provisions Rice &c. as many as can be got
among those billeted at the Time, a Battalion has left Cuddapah
Shave for some time past been hourly expected to arrive at
this Place for the Reception of Artillery Stores, but they have not yet
Shave however sent them forward to throw off Hyder Ghur, and this Detach
ment Day since, that one of them where Cranby is about 60 Coss from here
stopped a Detachment of Hyders Troops with 4 Guns and obliged them
to retreat these People supply our Bazars & Provisions plentifully
the nighest and at a great Risk Armed Peons are posted that these People
could supply this Place more plentifully had we Money with us
to pay them.

I am
Sir
Your most Obedient Humble Servant
Signed
(Coll. Gowdie)
Shave the Honorable
Rob Lang

To Lieut Gen: Sir Eyre Coote K.B.
Commander in Chief &c: &c: &c:

Yellore. Yellore 10th April 1781

last

Acknowledging his Letter Shave perused & observed
Bullocks and Cows fine hubidees Sheep and Gots advantageously
succeed well in procuring Grain & the people of the Villages are coming
daily. Also am collecting a Quantity of Straw which hope will be complete

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should the Stranger come here. Varattaracombum a Subendy Hubidar, formerly
in the Service of the Permacoil Amuldar, had placed himself in the Alantore
Pollam with four hundred Subendies and some Sepoys and previous to
any of the Villages people coming in my security I gave him protection
Quarter, but last was obliged to send a Detachment commanded by
Ensign Hart against them, who in a very little time made themselves
masters of the Pollam. I have a Sepoy and two Sepoys slightly
wounded the Enemy had a much greater loss besides being drove entirely
out of the District. I am told to procure more Cattle as there is no
pasturage near the Rock and they are dying fast. small parties of the
Enemys Horse prevents my sending them to any distance they
have made several attempts to drive them away but never succeeded.
I have secured a head Peadah man whom I am making collect Grain, he
is also very capable of collecting Cash, but he shall not entirely quit his
I believe he is one whose actions against the interest of the time of the Siege
People of the different Villages have offered to bring Cash on the Company
account, I will be glad you will inform me if I shall receive it. Mr
Hamilton has been of very little service to me and believe him to
be a very worthless Fellow, and from Reports have every reason to
think he has been dealing in Cattle with the Subendies drove
away. I have the honor to be Sir

Your very obedient Servant

Permacoil 17th April 1781 Signed James Wale

7th Received the following

Letter.

To The Honble Chas. Smith Esqr.

President & Governor &c. &c. Select Committee of

Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

We have received your Commands

of the 10th Instant.

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Fort St. George May 1781

From Mazulipatam advising of M.r Daniells arrival and of having shipped Treasure on board the Lively Brig Capt. Forrest.

M.r Daniell received here Yesterday upon the Seven Hastings and the charge of the Settlement has been delivered over to him by M.r Hodges conformably to his appointment to this Office.

Agreeably to your Orders we have shipped upon the Honble Companys Brig Lively all the Treasure we can possibly spare amounting to Rs.s for the Extraordinary Services Pagodas 50,000 Rupees 5000 from this Settlement and Rupees 245,000 received here from Vizagapatam, leaving only in our Treasury Rupees Pagodas 2618. 31. 52 and Rupees 22,941 11 7 8, and treating daily expected Supplies from the Coast for the Exigencies of this Government and the immediate demands of the Bengal Establishment.—

M.r Daniell having informed us that it was the Governors desire the Lively might call at Cuddalore in case Capt.n Forrest in making the Land to the Southward of that Port, we have recommended to Capt.n Forrest if possible to do so, that the General Sir Eyre Coote might take the advantage of the Treasure being there in case he should want it for the use of the Army.—

We are Respectfully
Honble Sir and Sirs
Your most Obedient
humble Servants
" Daniell
" James Hodges
" John Peter Auriol
" Tho.s Bernard
" Alex.r Pringle

Mazulipatam
8th April 1781

To The Honble Chas. Smith Esq.r
President and Governor &c. Select Committee
Fort St. George

Gentlemen

I had the honor to receive the duplicate of your Letter of the 21st the original has not yet arrived.—

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7th

Fort St. George May 1781

Maj. Gen.l Coote — enclosing a return of all the Battalions in the army and an Extract of a Letter from Col.l Pearse —

I have perused with care and attention the Sentiments which you have thought proper to submit to my consideration, as to what might be the most eligible plan of operations for the Army under my Command to pursue in the present distressed state of our affairs —

Whilst I cannot be otherwise than well satisfied to receive your opinions on this as well as every other Subject of Experience & singular pleasure in observing that none of those arguments which you have stated in order to evince the perspicuity or necessity of making any particular movement of this Army an Object of my attention, have escaped my notice, or have not already passed under my most careful consideration — And as they have in general met the sanction of my own approbation so do I flatter myself they should long since by realizing those advantages which they promised to produce, given to the public the most convincing proof of their Eligibility, but for Obstacles which I found it in a becoming regard to the honor and Credit of our Arms impossible to surmount, and which you have been repeatedly made acquainted with, by my many Letters written since I parted from the Army — However as the form and manner in which your Sentiments have now been conveyed to me, lead to impose a degree of responsibility upon me, which I conceive the Circumstances under which I from the field can but little authorize, I must in Justice to my own Honor and Character as a Military Man, and to the opinion which the World might perhaps form of it on reading the reference you have been so obliging as to make to me, state a few simple Facts which I am willing to assure myself will do more than perfect my Honor and Military Character from Blame under the severest profes=sional Test. —

Permit me to call to your memory whether the Council of War I had the honor to lay before you previous to my march contains the fullest testimony, that the Army was so far from being considered as in any shape equipped for a Campaign that it was destined to perform a particular Service, and to return to the security of Madras, as being the grand national Object. Between the

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Fort St. George May 1781

enable the Army to enter upon this Service, Were I unindispensably necessary to send from the Ground a detachment with four days Rice to Chingleput, and from which the Troops on their arrival there were to replace what they might have expended of the six days Rice they carried with them from the Ground when set out days were carried on the Seapoys backs, and which being a Task imposed upon them and no part of their duty they naturally submitted to it with reluctance, and had it not been thought expedient to be the Cold Season also a Prudency which I confess on every critical occasion I should not have taken the Trouble I did to persuade them under. Say in order that the Army might have just Rice enough to feed them during the number of days, which would unavoidably, and allowing we met with no opposition be taken up in marching to the farthest place of its destination, it was absolutely necessary to and before hand the small supply of Rice as above mentioned to Chingleput.

On these terms Gentlemen, did I find the Army in motion and without having resources that could have immediate recourse to in case Vandewash / the only place in which there was Grain / one of those Garrisons, the relief of which and the saving of two brave Officers who were hard pressed and had made a noble defence were the Objects of my March, had fallen into the Enemys hands before my arrival, and which no man could venture to say might not have been the case, and of which I can give no stronger proof than that I did not myself know for certain that Vandewash was not in possession of the Enemy, until I had arrived with the Army in sight of it. In such a Dearth without a single Granary in our possession that could have recourse to for a supply of Rice I apprehend it will be a difficult point to solve how Forces have subsisted the Army in making even another days March, whether it might have been to return, or to proceed to Pennacoil where there was not half a days Rice for its support. With a previous knowledge of all these difficulties and which had every appearance of

no stronger

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being about unaccountable, I must in candour and in justice to myself declare that nothing but my firm Zeal for the Honour and Interest of my Country would have induced me to undertake Military Character or Duties, as the Conduct of an Army commanded, equipped and conducted in the Field defiance of an Enemy who besides possessing every convenience that could facilitate their operations, outnumbered three Men to Ten.—

I shall now proceed to state in as brief a manner as possible what has occurred since I marched the Army.—

First Fort Carangoly which from the small supply of Stores was found to be an acquisition of that importance as alone to have enabled me to prosecute the Service for which I originally set out. Second Raised the siege of Vandewash supplied the Garrison with some money and made such arrangements for its future Maintenance, as either the means I was possessed of, or any time would admit— Third— Sheepperaid of the Army had obliged the Enemy to abandon the siege of Permacoil but to which place I determined to proceed in order to afford it the same assistance and relief I had given Vandewash— I had accordingly commenced my march towards Permacoil, when I received Letters from Committee informing me that a French Fleet was off Madras with such a force of Intelligence before me, and considering that as a point previously agreed to, and for Fort St. George was the grand material Object and which in all events and circumstances I was not to lose sight of— I was alternative left but that of returning to its security— I accordingly countermarched the Army and had proceeded as far as Carangoly in my way back, when I received Letters from Capt. Bishop then commanding at Permacoil informing me that several of the French Ships had passed the Southward were supposed to have anchored off Pondicherry— This determined me to take post at Carangoly and to wait the result of further advices from Committee, which I was convinced would determine upon

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Fort St. George May 1781

I anxiously wished to ascertain whether the French Squadron had made any disposition tending to endanger the Settlement of Fort St. George. Having by the information conveyed in your succeeding Letters been sufficiently satisfied that by availing of the Southward the general had one immediate design against Fort St. George and being actuated by the same motives of Regard for the general success of our Affairs that had originally impelled me to take the Field, and alike the difficulties I then encountered as to the means of either preventing or assuaging provisions had in no respect been either remedied or removed, on the Contrary the latter had by occasional failures in our Carriage been encreased, whilst our prospects on the former were in no shape improved, by any hopes of supplies by land and those which it was expected should have accompanied me in the Ships along the Coast were totally cut off by the situation of the French Fleet. I nevertheless determined to visit Pennacoil, and to go still further to proceed to Pondicherry, off which place, I had received before I commenced my march, certain Intelligence the French Squadron had anchored - Accordingly moved having in mind three objects, The relief of Pennacoil by affording it what succours were in my power, the distressing of the Enemys Squadron by every means possible, as well as destroying every thing of a Military nature in Pondicherry, which might either be serviceable to them or to our land & means, and ultimately of proceeding to the Southward in order to reinforce the Army by forming a junction with a detachment of our Southern troops, which I had ordered to approach me for that purpose - To effect these Objects did I march to the Southward - The first I accomplished, as I did also the second, by spiking and rendering otherwise unserviceable all the Guns and Military Stores I could find in Pondicherry, and burning all the Boats & four which happened to be on board the Fleet and which have

intentions, I continued for two days in order of battle.

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since been destroyed together with a great number of Gallant men. These Services were performed after actual battle between Hyder's Grand Army & the French Squadron, to both of which I claimed an Army on the Red Hills with only one days Rice in Store; for this unprovided and distressed condition Immediate Measures for the Supply from the Ceded Districts must have followed the Enemy's hasty flight from the Lines, had not Letters from the Chief that he had not above sufficient Rice and Paddy to serve the Army three days — The trouble and fatigue with which this march was performed you are sufficiently informed of by my Letters written at that Period — I shall only here observe that on the Second day after my Separation, and whilst digging the Earth in hand grain for a daily subsistence, I marched the Army within the bounds of this place, and offered the Enemy then at Arcot me Battle, However they declined coming to Action, all the Second parties I sent out, Cavalry their advanced Posts and to endeavour to prevent them so did the Enemy having upon this movement of mine marched to a greater distance, there was nothing in that Movement more mysterious than to have been so equipped in Carriage and Provisions as to have been able to have marched after him — but it was my misfortune to be then destitute of both, altho' the want of either would have been a sufficient check to all the desire I had of following the Enemy — In this distressed situation and under the most discouraging of all prospects, a entire want of Provisions, to feed and keep the Army together, until the departure of the French Fleet and the Supplies you were then at liberty to send me arrived, which together made up a space of nine days, and which you will observe exceeds by six days, the time for which the Chief could Supply us. —

It may perhaps be alledged that my distress for Provisions being removed, I had it equally in my power to prosecute any intention of going to the Southward, as I had to march from the Mount to Vandeloor — The Observation may perhaps be

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Fort St. George, May 1781

very justly conceive but it can be urged in Argument in support of the perspicuity of a measure, that as it had been adopted in one instance it ought also to be followed in another. —

The Circumstances under which I took upon me the conduct & of marching the Army from the Mount were of a very different complexion to any which can be made to appear in favor of any former movement of the Army and that might justly claim those advantages which have been acquired — The Credit of our Arms by the unhappy defeat of the Detachment under Lt. Col. Baillie, had suffered most severely our Military reputation as well as our Influence in the Carnatic were daily falling into greater decay, and were then threatened with further mischief by having three important Garrisons closely besieged and hard pressed, Viz.t Vellore, Vandewash & Permacoil, all of which have been hopefully relieved and are now free from Molestation, nor will the Enemy dare to renew their attempts upon them while I keep my present position. These were in my mind considerations of such Weight & importance, as to call for some uncommon Exertion, whilst they served in a certain degree to vindicate me in turning the back so hastily on marching the Army from the Mount under the accumulated Disadvantages above related. —

Having done more than fulfilled the Service which the Army took the field to execute, as were expected of it by persons and having satisfied myself by that means, to have gained in a most essential degree the Credit & reputation of our Influence in the Carnatic, and having repeatedly since my arrival here distressed the Enemy's Parties which lay within the little Circle which I have necessarily been obliged to confine my Operations, and always maintained a superiority & gained advantage with little or no loss, Reaping as we most certainly do all the beneficial effects arising from these acquisitions, hereafter the Liberty of taking

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The question how I shou'd be able to acquit myself of those two Employments in the Eyes of my Sovereign & Country, were Subjects of contradictions to my own Judgement, but it appear'd of importance & Military, the Motives they have done me the honor to charge me with, Voluntarily to expose every thing to risk, by marching an Army when surrounded by a formidable Enemy & ill equip'd as I was & to leave the means of carrying one to Effect. Of which the Return I have the honor to Enclose you will I hope satisfy you. I can assure you all the Bullocks belonging to the Army & those that in the numbers required for moving the Artillery Camp Equipage and necessary Stores, there is a deficiency of 92 Draught & 600 Carriage Bullocks. Nor being the real State of things as they now stand in the Army, I should be happy to be informed in what manner I can so march & act, as most to effect any important Military Operation — The better to enable you, what in the Military Light is to be esteemed necessary for me to have, I beg leave just to mention to you, that in a Letter I have rec'd from Col Pearse dated the 11th April, he has informed me that in order to be provided against all accidents, that he should require 7800 Bullocks simply for the Carriage of Provision for his Army which by the last Return consisted only of men — I must on this occasion beg leave to refer you to the Return, from which you will perceive, that the whole number of Bullocks attached to the different Corps and Departments of this Army falls considerably short of the number estimated by Col Pearse for the Carriage of Provisions alone — For more particular information, I enclose you an Extract from his Letter: —

Having stated all these circumstances to you and which prove the impossibility of marching this Army at all, even with the greatest difficulty and danger — I do not conceive immediately necessary that I should enter upon an enquiry whether a Southern or Northern movement is most to be preferred — I have long and anxiously wished to have had it in my power to have undertaken the former concerted Enterprize and I should have regarded

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al tho' I must differ from you in thinking, that the presence of the Army there could in any respect have prevented the Enemy doing equal if not greater damage in the way of plundering the Countries of Tanjore and Trichinopoly than he has done — Nor clear to me from what I have seen of his plan of Conducting the war, that could I have gone into either of these Countries, he would have acted a different part to which he has done by means of his immensity of Cavalry in the Carnatic, plundered and burnt every Village which might have lain in the track of my March, and for many miles around, I dare say I suppose not a Single Village throughout the whole of either of the aforesaid Countries would have been free from devastation. As it has of necessity fallen out, a great many of them by having taken Refuge, have remained unmolested, and are accordingly, which favors the hope, that at a future period we may reap the benefits to be expected from their present Tranquility — As to the State of Tanjore and Trichinopoly themselves, it has ever been my opinion that whilst this Army keeps its present position, the Enemy would never make any serious attack upon either — that this opinion has the longer more & more confirmed by it, as I conceive he could not effect the reduction of either before the Rivers would rise in which event he must be totally cut off from all communication with the Carnatic, that with his own Country would also be much impeded, an inconvenience which I know he will be extremely cautious in exposing himself to. —

These Gentlemen however just they may be in however much they might argue in favor of any present position, which could be made more conducive in keeping the Country to the Northward free from the ravages of the Enemy and which is to be instanced in the good effects produced in the District of Tanjore by being an eligible one, the would not have been sufficient to have set aside my deliberate opinion, as to the Enemy and I suppose the event, and I am persuaded you will not think me unreasonable in fixing my Estimate for Carriage of Provisions at Bullocks, with Sepoys

they

7th

which I could not in any just regard to either the Honor of our Arms or the true Interests of your Employers march the Army to the Southward upon that Stock, in which I have made a very scanty allowance, for either the impediments to be met with from the Enemy or the Delays from Draught Bullocks, I should have declined not only for attacking the Tanjore Country, but for reaching the Garrison of Tanjore itself, as from thence I could have any certainty of a fresh Supply, Should appear then that urgent necessity may require it, and I conceive me to tell you, by the none arrival of the Alfred or Charlotte that that necessity is not at hand having at the present time of writing not more than four days Rice remaining, I must move to the Northward, and which I am happy in thinking I shall do without apprehending any material Danger from even a more formidable Enemy than a Body of Horse which you have with so much precision pointed out to be the only impediment I am likely to meet with in taking a Northern Route.

In one part of your Letter you are pleased to say, that I differ from your Wish or Intention to abridge the powers which you have invested me with, — But I rest Confident a perseverance in the fresh testimony of your willingness to acquiesce in whatever steps I may take Inward, the General Success of an arduous & difficult War, I must do myself the Satisfaction of observing that if I have had allotted to me any Powers, besides those I derive from my Commission as Commander in Chief of the British Forces in India and particularly in the case of a War of the Nature of that I am now engaged in, I can with safety say that they have only been borne a source of additional trouble and anxiety. —

With respect to the Troops expected on board the Squadron from Bombay and Pallecherry, I have written to the Admiral upon no account to think of landing them at Anjengo, but to bring them round in order to join me here, and is especially for the success of the War that this Army which is Fighting against the Enemies main Force should be sufficient

7th by strong to place it beyond the possibility of a doubt our gaining the superiority in case Hyders coming to a general Action, which he may decline as may best suit his own convenience; I keeping at large between our Army & force him to it, or indeed to gain any essential advantage over him without a respectable body of Cavalry, unless the chances afford me the opportunity by opening down Engagement which I have no reason to believe he will do, but on the contrary he will pursue the plan he has hitherto observed of harrassing us and cutting off all Our Supplies.

I have likewise written to Col: Brown not to land at Anjengo but to come round in the Fleet that should he however have landed, there remained no possibility of his ever coming by Sea, I left it in his Discretion to effect a Junction with Capt. Boling: town at Palamcotah in the best manner possible.

The reinforcing Col. Pearse Detachment are points which can be best decided upon when he comes nearer, and whereby we shall be able to Judge with greater certainty of the Enemys intentions, which should they be to continue to the Southward towards the motions of this Army, conceive the Force he now possesses augmented by one or two Circar Battalions will with the assistance he can have from Vellore, and your Garrison be sufficiently strong to take the field. Our Purchases or manner this Business may be undertaken, or at what time it may be determined upon, as to its Execution. I must here premise you that it will then be essentially necessary a large stock of Grain and other Provisions for the use of the Army be in readiness to be thrown into Vellore.

I have already informed you of my having sent orders to Col. Pearse to halt at Vellore, in doing this I had in mind the distress you might have been put to in supplying his Troops with Provisions in the event of their coming to the Presidency, I must observe that nothing will be left undone for their being amply supplied at Vellore.

The Lively Brig having arrived here yesterday I have availed myself of the Sanction you gave me to take the whole of the Treasure

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come on her from Masulipatam should have occasion for it, and have accordingly ordered the whole to be loaded upon Bullocks. We beg to receive charges &c. Our present necessities should greatly in want of this relief & am confident that it will afford you much pleasure to know that it has proved a most seasonable one. The Letter which accompanied the Treasure from Masulipatam goes enclosed. Your Honours have been furnished with a Copy of the Invoice.

I shall now bring the Subject of this Letter to a Conclusion, by assuring you that all this correspondence I should receive your support in many Instances for the general success of the War. Experience & singular satisfaction in having on the delivery of your Sentiments on several Subjects the measurements of this Army, received from you as warm a renewal thereof, will afford me the occasion & do justice to both myself and the Service, by promising you that the Army's new command shall not remain a moment unemployed, if you will only supply me with Provisions and the means of carrying them; & am persuaded you will upon a mature consideration of their importance to the Service to be performed, not esteem me unreasonable in asking to be supplied & able to me with twenty days provisions for the Army. ——

Hyder my wish & marches in my present Post until the arrival of the Admiral to whom such a station must be of importance, as keeping off the Windward of Pondicherry, where we may daily expect a French Fleet to arrive a circumstance which I must also have had a due regard in case of my having had it in my Power to have moved to the Southward. Seeing the consequence of having Cuddalore in our possession I have ever since my first coming been exerting all my endeavours to render it tenable against any sudden attack and that to a very considerable extent to the Company. You may conceive then this to me a very agreeable reflection should, from the impossibility of finding Rice to maintain the Garrison, be obliged to withdraw it. Had I apprehended that it could there was a possibility of supplying me with our Provisions from Madras, of which the lively Brig now employed in the Voyage from Masulipatam to this place since the 10th of last month furnishes a recent Instance, you would have ceased in your Exertions, & should long

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We now have given up all thoughts of maintaining this Station, as is fit also as I have of a long time been of the impossibility of obtaining any adequate Supplies from the Southward. I shall only add Gentlemen that having made these observations, it must rest in your own Breast to act on the important Subject to which they refer as you may think most expedient and proper — I confess for my own part that I tremble for the distressful consequences which the want of Subsistence may bring upon the troops under my Command. —

I am sorry to acquaint you that the bad state of Lord M.c Leod's health has obliged him to return to the Presidency by this opportunity — being thereby deprived of his Service. I have written to Brigadier General Stuart if he can be spared from an attendance upon the Duties which are now under his care at Fort St. George to join me. —

I have not as long time rec.d any Letters from the Gov.r Gen.l & Council, excepting a short one a few days ago, simply enclosing me a Bill for 2000 Pag.s — In a former Letter which I addressed to you several you would observe that they gave me permission to draw upon them — If therefore any money can be obtained for Bills I shall on receiving from you information of the amount transmit you Drafts for the same.

I beg leave to acquaint you that any Letters you may judge necessary I will transmit by Land with safety as I intercepted and Dispatched with which he has fulfilled your Instructions in bringing the money from Masulipatam and in declining all offers of Freight made him there which had he accepted would have been to his Advantage has shewn a disinterested Zeal for the Public Service. I trust that you may deem him deserving of your attention. —

Accidents of the utmost consequence that Col.l Pearse should have regular Intelligence of the Enemy's motions to the Northward. I shall depend upon your sending him such as you may think proper to obtain

I have the Honor to be
Gentlemen
your most Obedient & Humble Servant
Eyre Coote

Camp at Cuddalore 7th May 1781

1143
7th

Fort St. George May 1781

Extract of a Letter from Col: Pearse dated Vizianagrum the 11th. April 1781.

"To this day I have not had the accounts from the Presidency. I cannot account for it. I have written for Mapps and Guides, and for an account of Provisions and the places where laid up, if any where, that when I arrive at the Kistna I may take my measures accordingly. Our daily expence is 700 Rs. if there are none laid on the Road, I really do not see how it will be possible to subsist on the Road, as I fear Hyder has detached a Force to lay waste the Country. To carry 700 Rs. 200 Bullocks are requisite to carry food for these Bullocks 21, therefore to carry one days Provisions 221 Bullocks admitting therefore Obstructions included 30 days from Kistna to Madras, we must set out with 6630 Bullocks loaded with Provisions, in all the Road they will not get a Bundle of Straw and hardly a Blade of Grass therefore must inevitably live on Grain only, but this is not all their Drivers must be had also, and their Provisions and those of the Bullocks will require 25 a day more or 750 for the march, therefore we ought to set out with 7380 Bullocks for Provisions only. I take the liberty to submit all this to you, that I may be honored with your Commands, or that measures may be taken to furnish supplies by other means.

To The Secretary of the Military Department.

Sir

I have the Commander in Chiefs Orders to send to you Orders to be laid before the President and Select Committee, a Charge against Ensign [illegible] Howley of the 2d. Battalion of the 1st. Regt. with the approved Sentence of a general Court Martial ordered to assemble for the trial of that Officer.

Charge

"Ensign Thomas Howley of the 2d. Battalion 1st. Regt. ordered "in arrest by Capt. George Cunningham commanding the 2d. Batt. 1st. R. "the 23d. April 1781 for behaving unbecoming the Character of an "Officer and a Gentleman".

From Lt. Col. Maclean desiring the Committee would charge Exhibited against Ens. Howley and the approved Sentence of the Court Martial and also requesting that Commissions may be made out for the Officers recommended and be sent by the first opportunity.

1144

Fort St. George May 1781

7th

Sentence

"The Court having attentively considered the Evidence produced
"against the Prisoner Ensign Thos. Hanley, on the Charge exhibited
"against him, are of opinion that he is guilty of the Crime laid to
"his Charge, viz.t of behaving unbecoming the Character of an Officer
"and a Gentleman, which being a Breach of the 20th Article of the 18th
"Section of the Articles of War do in consequence thereof adjudge
"him to be discharged the Service."

Signed/ H. Douglas
Lt Colonel

Signed/ Thos. Boston, Major
Pres.t

Approved/ Eyre Coote

Engole.

I have likewise the Commander in Chiefs orders to send to you the enclosed Certificate for promotion of Black Officers in the 1st Battalion and the Independent Corps of Seapoys at Engole: the recommendation of the Commandant of the Ladies Corps is by Capt. Edmonds and approved by the Commander in Chief on account of the good Character of Subadar Sidee Hosain and his attachment to the Service at this time.—

The Commander in Chief is desirous that Commissions be made out for the Black Officers recommended now transmitted by the first favorable Opportunity.— I have the Honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient Servant

Henry Malcolm.

Head Quarters
Camp near Selection
5th May 1781

Received the following Letter

To The Honble the Vice President and Select Committee.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have obtained a Grant from Government to proceed to Bengal, and wish to settle my Accounts in the Honble Company's Service before I go: I therefore request a Bond for the Sum due me according to my Appointments and actual Services Allowances.— I have the Honble

From Capt. Keating requesting a Bond for the Sum & Interest due him by the Company.

Fort St. George
8th May 1781

Honble Sir and Sirs

your most Obedient
most humble Servant
W. Keating Capt. 5th Batt.

1145
p.d

Fort St. George May 1701

Chas. Oakely Esqr. Military Secretary

Madras.

Sir

I enclose you a List of the Officers for Staff &c recommended for promotion in the 8th Carnatic Batn. which you will be pleased to lay before the Hble. the President & Select Committee for their approbation.

I have the pleasure to tell you that we have had no desertion since we left the Cantonments at Surat. the Sepoys seem again reconciled to this Station.

That unfortunate accusation that was brought against me of having deceived the Batt. in promising what I was not able to perform was in a great measure the cause, for no less than sixty five deserted in one night, while I was under arrest.

I enclose you a List of Casualties since my last, that their Family allowance may be struck off.

On the Evening of the 7th the Pioneers three Companies of European Grenadeers, Four Comps. of Seapoy Gren.rs two Batt.s of Bengal Sepoys & my Batt. ascended the Ghauts. The Enemy appeared in a disperse'd posture, but their aim were so ill directed that not one of our heads, & we got to the top without any Opp.n I believe they did not expect us so soon, for the Army only arrived at the Bottom that day. We have remained here ever since. The Enemy appears almost every day in our Front, & skirmish with our advanced Posts but do us no damage. The General and the rest of the Army are still below. I remain with great Respect

Sir

Your very obedient Servant.

John Walker.

Camp at Condolia
Febr. 21st. 1701

P.S. No doubt some of the Juice or Planters of those Plains who fled here have died since we left the Coast. All Inventories the Paymaster ought to write out casualties, that the Men here may draw their full Pay.

From Capt. Walker enclosing a List of Black Officers recommended for Promotion as likewise a List of Casualties since his last.

desa

7 th

ascen

1146

9th

Fort St. George ~ May 1781

Received the following Letter

from Genl Stuart —

To The Honble Chas Smith Esq.

President &c. Select Committee

Fort St. George

From Genl Stuart requesting leave to join the Army, and that Capt. Forrest may be ordered to accomodate him on board the Lively, as also that the necessary Orders may be given to Col. Harper to proceed to Cuddalore to take charge of that Garrison.

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to receive & Lay before your Honble Board the Letter dated the 6th Inst. I addressed to Major Gen. Sir Eyre Coote, for the purpose of explaining to the Army, and Remarks of Situation to give Orders for the Troops, which are necessary previous to my Departure from the Presidency, which I am ready to leave my Staff and family to proceed by the first Occasion that offers — I have no time, I beg leave to request your Honors & Orders the Lively Capt. Forrest, to convey me to Cuddalore, or to the nearest Port to the Army where the Army may chance to be, at the time of my arrival —

I have at the same time received an official Letter, dated the 2d Inst. from the Adjutant General, representing me, that the Commander in Chief desired Lieut. Colonel Harper, his health permitting, may proceed to Cuddalore to take upon him the Command of the Artillery at that place — I have enquired of Lieut. Col. Harper, who expresses nothing to prevent him proceeding immediately, and I have given him the necessary Instructions to apply to your Honors for the necessary Orders to that effect. — I have the Honor

there

Gentlemen

Fort St. George
9th May 1781

your most faithful & most obedient
Humble Servant
Sam. Stuart —

Minute thereon —

Agreed that the Capt. of the Lively proceed to join Genl Stuart's Army and proceed to Cuddalore and that Lieut. Col. Harper do also proceed by the same opportunity to take the Command of that Garrison. —

1147 Fort St. George, May 10th. 1781.

A Lt. a Select Committee present—
The Honble. Chas. Smith Esqr. President
——— ——— Samuel Johnson
——— ———

Thursday
10th. May 1781

Lieut. General Sir Eyre Coote
Major Gen.l Sir Hector Munro absent on Service.—
Mr. Davidson on a deputation
to Tanjore.—

Read the following Letter from
Mr. Gordon Contractor for Cheese.— ——— ——— ——— ———
Honble Sir

Agreable to what you were pleased to mention, I have
been considering in what manner to have my demand on the Company
settled most conveniently to them.—

Proposal Mr. Gordon—
setting forth the manner
that he would wish to have
his demand on the Company
settled.——

The Balance due me on account given in to the Committee
of Works so long ago as the 2d. Inst. is Pags. Eleven and Pagodas. Three
am willing to receive in part 200 Candies of Coffee at the price therein stated
200 Candies Sugar at the price stated at the last Outcry 13 Pags. 8 Candy
and 1000 Pags. in Bills on Bengal at the usual Exchange.

There will yet be found due to me 25000 Pags. which I am ready
to adjust by taking the Company's Bonds as mentioned below.

am

I am with Respect
Honble Sir
Your most obedient
and most Humble Servant
Edward Gordon.——

Madras 1st. May 1781

5	Silver Bills,	2000 Pags. each	Payable themselves	Pags. 10000
9	Bonds	2000 Do.	Payable to myself	18000
1	Do.	3000 Do.	Payable themselves	3000
1	Do.	2000 Do.	Rev. Padre Caetano Carieri de Bragança	2000

1148

Fort St. George May 10th. 1781

Ordered that Mr. Garrow account with the Company be settled in the manner set forth in the Letter and the Accountant be directed to Debit the Commitee of Works for the amount of the Bills on Bengal and of the Bonds, and to Credit Bengal Bookkeeping and Bond Credits for the same in the general Books, and that the Commitee of Works pay the amount to the Debit of Mr. Garrow Contractor for Repairs.

Mr. Garrow account to be settled in the manner as set forth in his Letter.

Repairs

Read the following Letter from the Honble Basil Cochrane.

To The Honble Chas. Smith Esqr.

President & Governor &c. Select Committee.

Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Mr. Cochrane — Arrived at Tanjore and requesting the Committee to order Mr. Bain to deliver over the Charge of Grain &c. to him.

On my arrival here in consequence of the Office I had been honored with of Grain keeper and Collector in account of the Honble Company in the Fort and Country of Tanjore, a demand was made upon me to take charge of the Grain in the Fort belonging to the Company; but Mr. Bain declined delivering the same, without an order from the Honble the Select Committee for that purpose. Therefore humbly conceiving that the intention of my appointment, viz. that all grain rec.d by order of your Honours on part of the Raja's Contribution for the use of the Garrison or his Consumption or in expectation of the Residency was to be in my charge, and in one account with me, I am to expect your Hon.rs will be pleased to signify your pleasure on this Head to the Deputation so that Mr. Bain may be ordered to deliver over the charge of your Grain whether in Magazines in the Fort or already committed on account of the Garrison.

I am with Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient & very humble Servant
Basil Cochrane
Grain keeper and collector in the Fort and Country of Tanjore

Tanjore
2 May 1781

1149 Fort St. George. Augt. 1781.

Ordered to lie on the Table.—

Received the following Letter

from Lieut. Anderson.—

To The Honble President and Select Committee at

Fort St. George.—

Sir and Sirs.

From Lieut. Anderson.— advising of the quantity of Grain collected.

I have rec.d your Letter to Lieut. Legia instructing me to Proceed from the Adige to the Frontiers there which I delivered to him also that of the 2d by your Secretary. I have the pleasure to acquaint you that the Grain collected amounts to 2238 Candies of Paddy, and 296 Candies of Merchants Price. I have been obliged on account of the Enemys Horse who are Straggling about the Country in small Parties to retire on the Flesh which have been collected, and were left on the Ganges they amount to 280 Cor. The Horse at present have done very little mischief in the Country more than the Peons getting in a quantity of Straw and forwarded for the Army. The number of Cattle which have been collected and are kept near the Fort is very considerable, whatever orders I may receive from you shall be strictly attended to, and I shall be happy on having every thing in my Power for the good of the Service.— I am &c. Sd. Wm. Anderson.—

Cattaragoly 5th. May 1781

I have the honor to be &c. Sd. Wm. Anderson.

Read the following Letter

from Mr. Garrow Commissioner for Inquiries.—

To The Honble Chas. Smith Esqr.

President and Governor of

Fort St. George

Honble Sir

Permit Mr. Garrow requesting that his Contract may be continued for three more of 18 Months.—

The Commissioners in my address to the Government

1150 Fort St. George 10th May 1781

Yesterday the 28th January last I received & delivered in my account & stated that my Contract had expired on October last & desired to be informed whether my demands of one Pagoda Fifty Thousand Star were discharged, which I stand Debtor for to the number of Individuals it may have supported me through this Contract, and what in the present situation of affairs and scarcity of Cash absolutely requisite to be satisfied with Company's Bonds and Bequire from me other Security. This I am unable to give them, and the Loss of Credit by discontinuing my Contract in such circumstances, unable to satisfy them would probably be my ruin. I have therefore earnestly to request that the Fleet may be continued for such a period, as reasonable may be expected such Horses as I have in hand, and to settle accounts with my several Creditors, which I conceive cannot be done in less than 18 Months from the Expiration of it.— I am very Respectfully

Hon'ble Sir

Your most Obedient and
very Humble Servant
Edwd. Garrow.

Fort St. George
2 May 1781

The Contract to be renewed

The Committee having taken into Consideration the above representation from Mr. Garrow. Agreed that his Contract be continued for 18 Months from the time expired in October last.—

Minute of the President recommending that the True Britain Speedwell be employed in transporting the Troops to Trincomalee

Penny

The President informed the Committee that enquiring he finds two Vessels will be necessary for transporting the Troops and Military Stores to Trincomalee the nearest Port to Bellore which Garrison it has been deemed necessary to reinforce, and to offered the True Britain Capt. Pat. Reid Rupees 1,400 for the Trip and the Speedwell Capt. Jefferies at 3,700 S.R. to be paid by Bills on Bengal— He is of opinion that these Vessels are properly equipped for the service and the Freights according to the best information he can obtain reasonable, therefore recommends

1151 Fort St. George 10th May 1791

Proposed that the Ice freighted and Other spare Gun Carriages Magazines for the reception of the Powder.—Agreed & accordingly Received the following Letter from the Committee of Works.—

To The Honble Chas. Smith Esqr.

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

Honble Sirs

We beg leave to lay before your Honors &c. sundry Bills received from Mr. Garrow the Contractor for the Barracks, and have to make the following Remarks thereon.—

In his Bills Nos. 1. we observe he has executed Work at the New Powder Mills amounting to Pagodas of which without having deducted 7½ P.Ct. agreeable to the terms of the Contract for his Bills Nos. 3. 5. 7. 8. & 9. 8½ and 6 P.Ct. have the same remarked, in No. 8 the Chief Engineer is of opinion it should be allowed them because the Articles were furnished separately, and at different Periods for a Length of time.—

The Bill for the Commandants Barracks No. 2 exceeds the Estimate: This the Chief Engineer represents to have arisen from some little additions which it was found necessary to make to the Offices of each Quarter.

Mr. Garrow has represented to us that he has nearly completed the additional Barracks for the Kings Regiment at Egmanalee and he has advanced in the progress thereof the Sum of five Thousand Pagodas, and requests the same may be allowed him; We inclose the Honble the Chief Engineers minute on this Subject and request your directions thereon.—

Mr. Garrow has applied to us

to

Letter from Committee of Works containing their remarks on Mr. Garrows Bills and recommending that in future no extra Work be executed without a previous estimate & the Expence being made.— And enclosing a minute of the Chief Engineer, and Letter from Mr. Garrow to them.

1152

Fort St. George 10th. May 1781

to be allowed an Interest, or that the 10 P Cent be remitted on the Amount of such Buildings as exceed five Hundred Pags. We beg leave to submit to the Consideration of your Honor &c what Indulgence it may be proper to shew him on this Point, but think it due to observe that the Concerns he has had have been considerably on Advance, and under difficulties in prosecuting Works of such extent with the small Sums of money he has received.—

It will appear that the Expence of Repairs has often exceeded what at the time of giving Orders for them it had been expected they would amount to. We take the Liberty of recommending that Your Honor &c will be pleased to direct that no Sum be hereafter executed without a previous Estimate of the Expence

We are with great Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient
Humble Servants
Edwd. Saunders.
Geo. Maule.

Fort St. George
16th. March 1781

Extract from the Minutes of the Committee of Works Dated the 16th. March 1781.—

Major Maule desires to enter the following Minute

"With Respect to Mr. Garrow's application for the allowance of 2000 Pags. on account of the additional Barrack at Pondamalee, I have to observe that tho' they remain unfinished they are sufficiently advanced towards it not being allowed that Sum, as the Work done exceeds in measurement what he requires, and therefore begleave to recommend it accordingly be allowed him"

A True Extract
J. Balfour Sec. to Comtee. of Works

1153 Fort St George 10th May 1781

To Alex. Davidson Esqr.

President &c. Committee of

Works.

Gentlemen

I beg leave to lay before you my account to the 1st Inst.

From the time of my last Settlement I have received from the Treasurer per the Cash Book Pags 1370-
Pagodas 1000 which are carried to the Credit of my Account Current, and have drawn for Pags 4000 for
Expences of the Works, which Sum I request may be added to the Debit of my Account Current.

The Buildings mentioned in my last Letter are finished, and the Bridge over the Ditch is nearly completed.

The Repairs of the Fort Walls, Bastions, Curtains, Ramparts, Parapets, Platforms, Embrasures, Merlons, Traverses, Magazines, Barracks, Guard Houses, Gateways, Drawbridges, Ditches, Glacis, Roads, Bridges, Wells, Tanks, Pumps, Sluices, Drains, Sewers, Gutters, Spouts, Pipes, Cisterns, Pavements, Flights of Steps, Ladders, Rails, Posts, Pallisades, Chevaux de Frize, Fascines, Gabions, Sand Bags, Earth Bags, Timber, Boards, Planks, Battens, Scantlings, Rafters, Joists, Beams, Posts, Piles, Sleepers, Lintels, Arches, Pillars, Columns, Cornices, Architraves, Friezes, Pediments, Entablatures, Pilasters, Capitals, Bases, Mouldings, Ornaments, Roofs, Floors, Ceilings, Partitions, Doors, Windows, Shutters, Frames, Sashes, Glass, Locks, Keys, Bolts, Hinges, Nails, Screws, Spikes, Hooks, Staples, Bars, Rods, Iron Work, Lead Work, Copper Work, Tin Work, Brass Work, Plumbers Work, Glaziers Work, Painters Work, Carpenters Work, Bricklayers Work, Masons Work, Smiths Work, Tilers Work, Thatchers Work, Plasterers Work, Whitewashing, Colouring, Gilding, Varnishing, Paper Hanging, Matting, Carpeting, Oil Cloth, Floor Cloth, Canvas, Tarpaulins, Ropes, Twine, Packthread, Cords, Tassels, Fringe, Lines, Pullies, Blocks, Tackle, Scaffolding

1154

Fort St. George May 1st 1701

Gates for the Gateways of the West Front, the Bomb proof doors for the Sea Line, and the compleating the Palisadoes together with the small arches on Fronard Bastion constantly wanted during the progress of the Masonry of the East Line.

For

The accounts of the Bridges, Bomb proof doors and the great Gates on the Sea Face have been read in the Consultation which time as they have not been called

Sam.ll Walker Esqr

Gentlemen

for

Fort St. George
2d. January 1701

your very obedient Humble Servant
Edwd. Harrold

The Committee observed that Mr. Gyfford to remove the sum of Pags 4000 which he advanced towards erecting the additional Barracks Pettah Mallee for the Europe Regiment as appears by the Chief Engineers minute that although the work hitherto carried on by him was estimated to cost Pags 8000 the measurement and admeasurement of the Bridges, Bomb proof doors and the great Gates on the Sea Face have been read in the Consultation which time as they have not been called for — whereon the situation of affairs shall make it advisable to compleat the above Barracks they will be measured and the 4000 Pags now advanced be included as part Payment.

Mr. Gyfford has been obliged to advance large sums for carrying on the Business of the Engineer the Committee think it but reasonable to remit Mr. Gyfford the remaining Pags 1000 to exceed 5000 Pags and Agreement to discharge the Rest of the Debts as mentioned by the Contract as appears by Letters relating to the pressing demands of the Service he was not supplied with them and in consequence was obliged to have Credit in their stead — The Committee agree to send to the Committee of Fort St. George to direct for saving the Expence of Engineer to be undertaken ascertained as much as possible previous to its being undertaken and therefore direct that no Disbursements in future shall be made by any Officer to be exceeded the Estimate before first made of the Expence attending it.

Agreed that Mr. Gyfford's account be passed.

Resolved that Mr. Gyfford be reimbursed the sum of Pags 4000 which he advanced towards erecting the Barracks at Pettah Mallee and to remit the 76 Cs. on the amount of such Building exceed 5000 Pags. — Agreed likewise that for the future every Estimate be undertaken or Executed that shall not first made the Expence attending it.

4000.

Fort, St. George, May, 1781.

12th Wrote the following Letters,

To Brigadier General James Stuart.

Sir,

To Brigadier Gen.l Stuart desiring him to Join the Army

The Commander in Chief having in his Letter of the 4th Instant represented that the Right Honorable Lord Macleod had been under the Necessity of proceeding to Madras for the Recovery of his Health, and being thereby deprived of his Services that he was desirous you should join the army, we acquiesce in his Request and desire you will please to proceed accordingly without loss of Time, for which purpose Captain Forrest has been directed to accomodate you on board the Lively Brig.

We are

Sir Your Most Ob.t Serv.ts

Fort St. George,
12th May, 1781.

To Lieut.t Colonel Humphry Harper.

Sir,

To Lieut.t Col.l Harper desiring him if his health will permit, to proceed to Cuddalore to take the Command of that Garrison

Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote having expressed his wish through the adjutant General to Brigadier General Stuart that you should proceed to Cuddalore in case your Health will permit, to take upon you the Command of that Garrison, who have consented thereto, and desire if the state of your Health will allow of it that

1156 Fort St George May 1781

12th You will lose no time in proceeding thither for which purpose we have directed Captain Forrest to receive you on board the Lively Brig, as

Fort St George
12th May 1781.

We are
Sir
Your most obedt Servts
Charles Smith
Vice Admiral

To Captain James Forrest,
Commander of the
Lively Brig.

To Capt. James Forrest, ordering him to receive on board the Lively Brig Brigr Genrl Jas. Stuart, & Lieut Col. Harper with their Baggage, and Servants, & to make the best of his way to Cuddalore.

Sir, I am directed by the President and Select Committee to acquaint you that the services of Brigadier General James Stuart and Lieutenant Colonel Humphry Harper being at this time required with the army, they have thought it expedient to order you to receive these Gentlemen with their Baggage, and Servants on Board your Vessel, and to make the best of your way to Cuddalore, — On your Arrival there you will put yourself under the Orders of Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote, to whom they have written desiring he will send you back to this Place as soon as possible that you may afterwards proceed on your Destination to Calcutta. —

Fort St George 12th May 1781 ——

By Order of the Governor and Select Committee —

1157

Fort St. George May 12th 1781.

To Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote, K.B.
Commander in Chief of the Forces in India.

To Lieut. General Sir Eyre Coote, advising him of Mr. Oakes resignation, and of the appointments of Mess.rs Maansell and Hinmarsh, as likewise that Tents and Stores will be sent thereby the Hydania, and requesting Copy of the Proceedings of the Council of War by the first opportunity.

We have been favoured with your Letters dated the 11.th 16.th and 28.th Ultimo, and 1.st Instant, the first enclosing two Letters addressed to you, the One from Colonel Braithwaite, the other from Captain Alexander Mc.Kenzie - you omitted to forward the letter to us from Captain Eidington, which you mention having enclosed but we are led to a Knowledge of it's Contents by the Comments you make, from having been furnished with a Copy of it — We are sorry to say we need not any additional Proof to convince us of the glaring Mismanagement in the Nabob's Countries and agree perfectly with you in opinion, that it is the Effect of an oppressive administration that has weaned the Zemindars and others from their Attachment, by which means Hyder has derived an advantage over Us, which no other Circumstance could have given him — We have lately received a letter from the Nabob containing Points of Accusation against Captain Eidington, some of which are of the most serious Nature, insomuch that

We

Fort St George — May 1781.

12th we conceive it will be absolutely necessary to go through a full Investigation of his conduct, and to Remove him from the Command, as soon as the Troubles in the Country will admit of it, as the Enquiry cannot as yet take place, we shall not trouble you with a Copy of this Letter for the Present

The steady Attachment of Tondiman at so unfavorable a Crisis of our affairs, and when all the other Poligars have deserted the Nabob's Cause to espouse that of the Enemy, is highly meritorious. We have desired our President to write him a Letter expressive of these Sentiments, and think a similar One from you may have a good Effect.

We are glad to find by the Dispatches we received from the officers Commanding at Dindigul and Caringoly, that a Quantity of Grain has been laid up in those Garrisons, and we have the pleasure to inform you that the Nabob has sent the most positive Orders to his Amaldars there, to afford every possible assistance in laying up a Store of Provisions, Bullocks, &c. and the same directions have been sent to his Amaldars to the Northward to make every Provision for supplying the Demands of the Detachment under Colonel Fearse.

We approve of your having sent

Mr

1149 Fort St. George May 1781.

12th Mr. McIntosh to the Southward, as also of the Advance you made to him of 600 Pagodas, and hope he will not only be able to give you some assistance in the Article of Supplies, but likewise prove usefull in furnishing you with Intelligence. —

By this Conveyance you will receive Copy of a Letter addressed to us by the Governor General and Council, wherein they recommend a decisive Conduct recon
in this Government towards the Nabob, by adopting whatever Mode may promise the greatest success in furnishing us with the Means of prosecuting the war, even to the demanding an immediate Transfer even
of all the Country that Remains in his Possession in exclusive Assignment — Previous to the Receipt of this Address, we had prepared a Letter to the Nabob, copy of which we enclose for your Information, wherein we stated to him the present Situation of his affairs, as well as the Company's, our total Inability to find Resources for maintaining the war, and the absolute Necessity of his furnishing us with Money for that Purpose — The above Letter added to the Steps we had before taken in Respect to the Rajah of Tanjore and the Southern Parts of the Carnatic, evince our Coincidence in Sentiment with you and the Supreme Council on this Subject — How far the object of the Deputation

is

1160 Fort St George May 1781.

12th is likely to be advanced, we are at present unable
to determine, nor can we yet form any opinion as
to the Succefs that may attend the Appointment of
Receivers in the Tinnevelly and Trichanopoly Countries
as we have not had any advices from those parts
owing we suppose to the Communication being inter-
-rupted by the Enemy – In addition to the abovemen-
tioned letter to the Nabob, we mean to inform him of
the one we have within these few days received from
the Governor General and Council, expreſsing the
Sentiments they have delivered, which are intirely
consonant to our own, and cautioning him against forcing us to the Neceſsity of adopting so
decisive a Line – We shall wait a few Days the Result
of these applications to his Highneſs, and for the
present have only to add, that our affairs are reduced
to that Extremity of Distreſs for want of money, that
we shall think ourselves justified as the least of two
Evils, in adopting any Measure however Peremptory
that affords a Proſpect of Relief –

In answer to that Part of your letter in
which you recommend an Enquiry to ascertain the
Right by which the Ground in the Black Town is held
by the present Poſſeſsors, as a Probable Means of immed-
-iate Supply of Money, as well as of an Increase of

Annual

Fort St. George May 1781.

12th Annual Revenue to the Company, we are to observe, — that an Investigation of this Nature took place a few Years since, the Apartments that were at that time laid on the Ground and Flowware collected with — the greatest difficulty, and wen did other Circumstances Favor a further Scrutiny, we should almost despair — of being able to secure any thing of consequence, over and above the Expences which would attend the Undertaking.

The Northern Zemindaries have yeilded considerable Sums of late — Upwards of 3 Lacks of Pagodas have been Raised by the Means of Loans on Bond from Europeans and Natives — and Buchingee whom you Mention in your Letter of the 27th Ult.o has contributed between 30 and 40,000 Pagodas for the Relief of our out Garrisons by advancing Money for Bills on Us which we are unable to discharge, without these Aids we must long since have been Prevented sending Supplies of Money to the Army, or Providing in any Shape for our immediate wants. —

You observe in your Letter of the 4th Instant now before us, that the Form and Manner in which — our Sentiments were Conveyed to you in the Letter to which it is an Answer, tend to impose a Degree of Responsibility upon you, which you conceive the — Circumstances under which you took the Field can but Little authorize — We have attentively perused our Letter to you dated 21st Ult.o, to which we beg leave to refer, and are at a loss to discover any Part which

can

Fort St. George May 15 1781.—

12th, can be construed in that light — we are satisfied — with the Conviction we feil of having fully discharged our Duty in administering to the Support of the Army to the utmost of our Power, and far from wishing to — burthen you with a share of Responsibility which ought to fall on us, we chearfully Wel the Merit of your Endeavors on the Zeal and Activity with which they have been prosecuted, nor do we doubt but you are equally desirous of bearing that degree of Responsibility which naturally arises from the Authority you have been vested with for the Conduct of the War — The Object in taking the Field, as you justly observe, was to relieve the Garrisons that where distressed by the Enemy, and afterwards to return to the Security of Madras, as the grand National Object, it appearing by the Council of War, that the Army was so very insufficiently provided with the Means of carrying Provisions, as to render it impracticable to undertake any extensive or tedious Operations — Our distresses in the Article of Bullocks were felt previous to your Arrival to take the Command of the Army, and before the Reins of Government devolved to our Care — every Measure after that Period, was adopted to provide as well as possible, the Means of furnishing Bullocks but the Enemy having cut off our Communication with those Parts from whence we might otherwise

were.

have

12th have had supplies, it remained no longer in our Power to get a sufficient Number in time to take the Field — We had the Benefit of your Assistance in Committee as well as that of Sir Hector Munro — Every Measure you Proposed was acquiesced in, and the army put in Motion at your own Desire — the Relief of these Garrisons was happily accomplished, and to complete the Original Intention, it Remained only for you to bring back the Army towards Madras, but if other Views Presented themselves, which an ardent Zeal for the General Interest of our Affairs Prompted you to Pursue, even under the difficulties you experienced for want of Bullocks to carry Provisions, and which, by putting it out of our Power to afford you the smallest aid at so great a Distance as Cuddalore, were likely to encrease, we can have no share either in the applause or Responsibility attending such a Measure. —

X It was judged necessary some time since as you have before been informed of, to send Captain Paterson with an Engineer, a few Invalids, some Guns, and Stores — to Nellore from this place, as likewise 3 Companies of Sepoys from Angole, which were ordered to be Replaced by 5 — Companies from Masulipatam — and as we understand a considerable Body of the Enemy's Horse and Foot is destined for the Northward, we shall lose no time in

Sending

1164 Fort St George May 8 1781.

12th sending a further Supply of what may be wanting to strengthen Nellore, which is in many Respects become an important Post, as well as on Account of the Security it will afford to the Provisions, Bullocks, &c. collected for the Use of the Detachment under Colonel Pearse —

The Ship Ceres being returned from Masulipatam with 340 Candies (or about 3,500 Bags) of Rice, and as it is uncertain how long you may think it advisable to Remain at Cuddalore, We are anxious to give you every Supply in our Power, and have therefore ordered her to proceed thither without Loss of time — We have already represented to you the Difficulty of getting Vessels capable of Making a Southern Passage at this time of the year — Nor are you unacquainted with our Situation in Regard to Rice, and even that we are threatned with a Famine — Still are we determined to give you a Part of our Stock to the last, should you require it, if therefore you stand in Need of any further Quantity and think proper to dispatch to Us either the Grosvenor or Success Galley, or both, they shall be loaded and sent back to you without Delay, and as the Land and Sea Bouges are now acting in, we hope the Passage may not be very tedious —

As the Governor General and Council have

Secured

Fort St George 14th May 1781.

19th desired we will draw on them to whatever amount we are able, it is unnecessary to trouble you to give Bills as proposed in your last letter — Hitherto — we have found great Difficulty in raising Money for Bills — and unless we soon get considerable — Assistance from Calcutta, Tanjore, and the Southern — Provinces, we shall be Reduced to a State of extreme — Distress. —

Agreeably to your desire, we have given Permission to Brigadier General Stuart and Lieut. Colonel Harper to proceed to the Army, for which purpose we have directed Captain Forrest to — receive those Gentlemen on board the Lively Brig, and to make the best of his way to Cuddalore, — putting himself under your Orders, and we are to Request you will dispatch her back to us as — soon as you can, in Order that She may proceed to her Destination at Calcutta. —

We Request you will inform us at — what Rate of Exchange the Madras Pagodas and — Rupees from Masulipatam are issued, that we may know how to bring them to Account — We doubt not but you have given such Orders to our Paymaster in Camp, that the Company may suffer

As

1166 Fort St. George, May 1781

12th as little Alt. Less as possible. —

I inclose to you Copy of a Letter we
2. been lately Received from Mr. Holland — you will
perceive the Nizam strongly recommends that the
Detachment under Colonel Pearse should be embarked
at Masulipatam; since his Highness is clearly of
Opinion, Hyder will make an Attempt upon it and
be able so far to out-march our main Army, as to
have sufficient time to destroy it — We have lately
Received a Letter from the Chief and Council of
Masulipatam, informing us that they shall be-
able to strengthen the Bengal Detachment with
two Complete Battalions, but with the Example
before us of the dreadful Catastrophe to the Detach-
ment under Colonel Baillie, we cannot but be impress'd
with the utmost Anxiety to provide effectualy against
the Repetition of so melancholy an Event, Permit
us therefore again to submit to your Consideration the Propriety of
ordering the Detachment under Colonel Brown, on its
Arrival at Cuddalore Round to this Place, from
whence it may be equipped with every thing
Necessary, and afterwards be sent by Sea to the
Northward to join Colonel Pearse — This we
Conceive

Fort St. George May 1781.

12th conceive would secure the Safety of the Detachment against the attempts which we think Hyder will certainly make to destroy it — We know from long Experience the superior ability he has to make Rapid Marches, even when our Army has been the most amply supplied with every Necessary Article — we submit to you then, how much more it is to be apprehended in your present Distress — for Draft and Carriage Bullocks, that by a forced and Rapid March, he might be able to gain so much time of our Army, as to engage the Bengal Detachment before you could possibly arrive to its Succour — we have Received no late advices from Colonel Pearse, but our President learns from Mr. Daniell, that he had Received a Letter from him dated at Vizianegrum the 19th Ult.o, wherein he informs him he only waited for Tents from Vizagapatam, to proceed on his March to Ellore — and this was prior to the Receipt of Mr. Daniell's Letter, Recommending it to him to do so — No Tappalls have been Received from the Northward for these Seven Days past, —

Mr. Oakes Leaving desired leave to Resign

the

1168 Fort St George May 1781.

12th The Post of Commissary to the army, we have appointed Mr Maxwell to succeed him in that Employ, and named Mr Kenworthey to fill the Vacancy thereby occasioned in the office of Deputy Agent at Camp— Mr Kenworthey will proceed on the Snow Hibernia which is to sail from hence in two or three days with Tents and other Stores for the use of the army— We transmitted to England by the Ship Duke of Kingston the Paper containing the Proceedings of the Council of War, mentioned in the former Part of this address, together with the Minute from you accompanying it— and we kept no Copy of either, as you had promised to furnish us therewith, previous to your taking the Oath but as it must have occasioned your Memory so to do, we beg you will be so good to send us a Copy of those Papers by the first Opportunity.—

Herewith we transmit to you Copy of a Letter we have written to the Governor General and Council,—

We

Fort St George
13th May 1781.

Sir Your most Obedient Humble Servants
Charles Smith
&c &c &c

Received the following Letters

The Honble Chas Smith Esqr
President and Governor &c Council
Fort St George

Honorable

1169 Fort St. George May 13th 1781.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Mr Light, Vindicating the Conduct he has observed towards the Rajah's Bramayns, and the Cause of his differing in opinion with Capt. Edingtoun —

I have the Honor to address you on the 15th on the affairs of this Country, which I beg leave to refer you, —

Considering the very important objects which must at this Crisis peculiarly demand the time and attention of the Honble Board, I was unwilling to trouble your Honor &c. with the difference in opinion which have arisen betwixt Capt. Edington and myself, on the subject of the affairs of this Country. But Capt. Edingtoun having in his late Correspondence with me, laid great stress on the support which I have given the Renter, and seems to insinuate, that upon the Presumption of this he has gone greater lengths, than he would otherwise have done, I find myself called upon in the Station I hold as a Company's Servant, to Justify myself against such an illiberal Insinuation, and am therefore to crave your indulgence in laying before you such parts of my Conduct as have had any material relation, either with Capt. Edingtoun or the Renter, since the Receipt of the Orders of his Highness and of your Honble Board, regarding the Management of this Country — Your

1170 Fort St. George May 8th 1781.

13th. Your Honor &c. will please to adowt that I could only barely give my opinion when called, while Capt. Colingtown holding the Military command and of course the power in his hands, was left at Liberty to execute his own Ideas without any controul: the distance betwixt this and the Presidency, and the uncertainty of the conveyance of Letters at this period, rendered redress from any Representation on my part, on a business which required almost immediate execution of no sort of avail — I thought I had done my duty in obeying your Commands by giving you the best accounts I could of the state of this Country — together with such opinion as I was able to form of the means necessary to settle it, and to secure the Revenues — It will be a satisfaction to me to hear that my endeavors have met with your approbation —

Having as I observed in my last Letter the best inclination to think well of Capt. Colingtown I resolved to act with temper and patience by which if I could not attain, I hoped I might at least be able to soften the effects of those measures of which I could not approve — If I have failed, I trust I shall be able to make it appear to your Honor &c. that it is not owing to any defect on my part.

The

1771 Fort St. George May 13th 1771.

13th

The Jealousy of the Revenue and the disap-
=pointment which the Company are likely to sustain
from the inability of the Circar to comply with their
Claims, the disturbances which have been kindled through
=out the districts, and the Hostilities which have
been betwixt the Company's Troops and the Poligars,
are Subjects of a serious Nature, and will no doubt
at a proper time employ your Honors particular
consideration — It is not for me to hazard an opini-
=on on a Subject of so much importance, it will be
sufficient in my situation, to be able to point out
the particular line of my own conduct.

Before I proceed it may not be improper
to mention, that when I arrived from Madras in October
last, I was surprized to find disputes prevailed betwixt
Capt. Edingtoun and the Renter, which I wished by all
means in my power to heal, and I urged with Capt.
Edingtoun the necessity of moderation. I offered my
personal service in the utmost extent to forward every
publick business with the Circar, but at this time,
and from what I drew from many subsequent conver-
=sations on the subject, Capt. Edingtoun's mind was strond,
and that he suspected the Renter was disaffected from
the time he met the Poligar chiefs, but when I demanded

the

1178 Fort St. George May 1781

13th the proofs, his reasoning was warped with personal — invective, and loose charges, which I could never forward upon him to bring forward. —

The principal objection I have heard Capt. Edingtoun make against the Rentir's being unfit for the Management of the Country, was his connection with the Cot Rajah, under whom his family had for — merly held the Rentership of this Country, his extensive family connections, and hereditary Influence over the Poligars, Capt. Edingtoun considered as dangerous and disqualifying circumstances, Altho' in fair reasoning — they appeared to me in a very contrary light, but if it is considered that this Man's private fortunes — are involved in the fate of the Country, that the Male part are actually in the possession of Capt. Edingtoun, and that he has offered to remove the Rest of his — family, within the Fort of Pallamcotah, those objections may perhaps appear to your Honor &c. as they have already done to me/to be rather far fetched, and — without foundation — I do not wish to hazard a — conjecture, but still it seems strange that Capt. Edingtoun should have formed such unfavorable presages of the Rentir's future Management, knowing as he might

have

13th have done, that he had given full satisfaction in that capacity two years before — And here it may not be unnecessary to remark, that the Renter is neither a Man of great enterprize or Intrigue, his manners are soft and peacable, and before he came into this Station, had attained a very respectable Character as an industrious Merchant, in the Neighbouring Country of Ramnad — your Honor &c. are already informed that the present Phousdar was not intended for that Station, but was only named in the mean time to hold it — tile Chepauk Cawn could be spared from Arcot — this want of the necessary Qualities for that station has deprived the Circar of that Influence which they ought to maintain — With a man of a Contrary description, or of the Character of the Man who was intended for this Station, things in all probability would not have gone the lengths they have — Had placed great dependance on the Renters Influence in settling with the Poligars, in which I thought it would be our Interest to support and make use of him on such occasions, but I was surprized to find that Capt. Edingtown after permitting him to correspond with them for some time, had threatened him with punishment, if he was ever found

Chep
His

Supp

Fort St George May 8th 81.

13th found corresponding with the Poligars, in any way-
or should he dare to receive their Vakeels.—

But to procead to what relates more particularly to myself, I shall mention to the best of my Recollection the different occasions in which it happened that I had an opportunity of giving my opinion at all.—

The first time I was applyed to, was concerning the demand for delivering over the Nabobs troops to Capt. Edingtoun, which I wished to enforce with my ready concurrence, Capt. Edingtoun having no direct orders to that effect, they also was to be expected in their stations- stated objections at which Capt. Edingtoun was much irritated, and having sent for the Renter and Phousdar to the Fort, where he ordered them to be confined till the Troops demanded were given up, which was soon after done.—

Capt. Edingtoun charged the Renter with being in alliance with the enemys of the Circar, in permitting the Ulcar Poligar to build a mud Fort within twenty Miles of Pallem Cotah— The Renter declared he had wrote the Information of it to Capt. Edingtoun and that he would have prevented it himself, but from the want of force to do it— Also Capt. Edingtoun from his intelligence must have known of this from

the

Fort St. George May 1781.

13th the begining, and likewise knew that the Renter had not power to stop it — I do acknowledge the accusation of Treachery in this account seemed to me — frivolous; — Another charge of disaffection, for to use Capt. Edingtons own word of Treason, was on Account of the Inhabitants quitting their Villages — and not supplying Detachments marching through — the Country with Provisions — The Renter alledged in his defence the impossibility of his restraining the people, his inability to inforce his own orders in — that state of depression and Restraint to which he was subjected, a fact his having given positive — orders to the Managers to Remain in the Villages — and to supply the Company's Troops with every — thing they wanted — That he had even proposed — one of his own family should accompany each — detachment, to see that their orders were obeyed, but — it was impossible for him to be of any use, when — he was not acquainted when or where the detach — ments were ordered, as his assertions when not contra — dicted in effect, by any specific fact — I likewise thought that this charge was ill founded. —

One chief chief complaint against me as I understand, is my incredulity in not believing

the

1176 Fort St. George May 1781

19th the Renter a Trayter upon a delay of certain supplys which were demanded, amounting to a very large Sum, and for Cooleys for the Repair of the Fort — the Renter ispued out orders immediately to the Commandants of the different districts for their supplys and gave orders for impressing the Cooleys, but there were delays in both, which the Renter before pointed out would happen from the Season of the year, and from the circumstances of the Country, which he could not prevent; with regard to the Cooleys I myself in particular did point out that several difficulties had occurred when the Troops were on their March to Mahé, which were removed and the business effected by the Commanding officer taking the orders from the Renter in a regular way, and sending out his own people to get them excuted — but Capt. Edingtoun having convened the officers of the Garrison, with whom I was summoned to hear these complaints, declared in their presence, his Resolution of confining the Renter, a full account of which, with my Reasons of objection are already mentioned in my last Letter I took the Liberty of laying before your Honble President, nor is it evident to me at this hour — after any inquiry

177 Fort St. George 6th May 1781.

13th enquiry and Information, that the Renter had done
in his power to do more than he did at that time.
His confinement was attended with circumstances
of Rigour for twenty days — I was apprehensive of
much confusion ensuing, because the Renter under
his distress was determined to resign, and Capt. Edingtoun
went the length to send his aid de camp to me to provide
as I understood it that he, Mr. Dalt, and myself should
take the Management of the Country into our own
hands — The Renter had repeatedly applyed to me
for protection and assistance at this time, but I could
give him neither; my advice was all I could give,
which was to remain steady in his employment,
and to forward the publick Service, as the best
Means of obtaining Justice and redress for his
present sufferings — I recommended to him in the
strongest terms, a compliance with Capt. Edingtoun's
demands, and that he should do what he required
of him, because Capt. Edingtoun would be held
responsible; and I recommended that he should
give up a part of his family, / his only Son and his
two Nephews, / as pledges of his fidelity, and he accor-
-ding by agreed to any Request which Capt. Edingtoun
made, and his Son and Nephews were sent into the
Fort.

Three

1178 Fort St George May 1781.

13th There were several other matters of this Nature which Capt Edingtoun occasionally mentioned to me. I did think some of them had an odd appearance at first, and that others had the appearance of folly and misinformation, particularly in Regard to a Relation of the Renter who Capt Edingtoun said was sent by him to the Col Rajah,—upon further enquiry into this matter—I found that this man had been made a Manager by the Renter, but being a man of mean capacity and unfit for business, it was thought necessary to place a person with him to direct him, upon the death of whom, wanting to become his own Master, and unwilling to submit to a similar contract, which the Renter thought still necessary—he went off in disgust—and I believe it will be generally admitted that this man whatever his intentions were, was totally incapable of doing any sort of Harm—And regarding the Renter having knowledge of a Vakeel of Hyder's, being with Cuttupunague while his own Vakeel was likewise there—The matter upon enquiry turned out thus—Yar-Caun who had formerly been in the Service of Capt Caun, and was sent by him during his Rebellion to entertain some of Hyder's disbanded Horse near Dindygul—since when he has been in the Service of the Rajah of Travancore, and of the

Rajah

Fort St. George May 1781.

13th Rajah of Tanjore, but being of a restless disposition he had again come into this country, had run in great distress when Suttapunague took him in a kind of Charity, as these people apart — Nothing has since happened to justify any suspicions of this Man — having any connection with Hyder, —

It were endless to enumerate the various causes of suspicion which Capt. Edingtoun has at different times brought against the Renter, all of them in my opinion founded upon frivolous and slender grounds, nine of them wen admitting of any sort of Proof, —

It is neither my wish or inclination to enter upon a Justification of the Renter's conduct — He will be judged by it, and must stand or fall by his own actions — What I have said is forced from me, as a necessary — information to your Honor &c. Regarding the part I — have taken in supporting (as Capt. Edingtoun calls it) this Man. And I believe I have stated to your Honor &c. every thing of any sort of consequence that has — happed, in which I have had occasion to speak at all — What influence my opinions have had, is obvious from the disregard which has been constantly paid to them, and that countenance which I gave to the Renter was the effect of humanity, and pitying — his distresses — Not with any design of holding — out

118 Fort St. George May 1781.

13th and protection from Capt. Edingtons power which
Power disputed, and which was well known to the
Rentr Secretary of Fort —

Soon after Lieut Burn's return from his second
expedition into the Country, Capt. Edingtown named
Durrow of treaty with Cattrumangue the Pandaram
Colleky Polygar, and offered certain terms which the
Rentr was desired to offer in his Name, if was agreed
that if the terms were accepted, I should go with
the Rentr and Capt. Edingtons Dubash to settle
the Terms — The Rentr of
=ingly, and received for Answer, that having also
had a Letter of a different import from Capt. —
Edingtons Dubash, he was at a loss what to think,
and desired an explanation — This circumstance
mentioned myself to Capt. Edingtown, who —
said that his Dubash's Letter was of a Prior date
and that his writing showed the Polygars want
of Inclination — and the matter was here dropped.

The Rentr and his Son were afterwards
seen when twice with Lieut. Burn, under the orders
of Capt. Edington to the Shevelliputtur district,
where it seems his Conduct had not answered the

1181 Fort St. George May 1781.

13th tells me, sent in complaints on this head — The Rintia says, that he was close guarded all the time, and had it not in his power to write even a private Note on his family affairs, without undergoing the Inspection of the Black officer put over him; in this situation he was to treat with the Polligars — The Man very shrewdly observes that this suspicious policy appeared to him very extraordinary, because, if he was to effect the purpose, he must be trusted and confided in — But when this — publickly suspected, if not affronted, it is well known that he used every means to bring in the Cahuls, and that even did actually arrive almost immediately after they left the place — The officer under whose Command he returned, and indeed every officer who was there, to whom I have spoken on the subject - declare their intire approbation of his care and attention in providing them with what was wanting. —

Since his Return I have reason from his different conversations with me, to believe that were he properly encouraged, his intentions for the promotion of the Service are good, particularly

1180 Fort St George May 1781.

13th and protection from Capt. Edingtoun's power which — I never disputed, and which was well known to the Renter I could not approve —

Soon after Lieut. Burn's return from his second expedition into the Country, Capt. Edingtoun seemed desirous of treaty with Cattapunaigue the Pandalum Colleby Polygar, and offered certain terms which the Renter was desired to offer in his name, it was agreed that if the terms were accepted, I should go with the Renter and Capt. Edingtoun's dubash to settle the business — The Renter wrote to the Poligar accordingly, and Received for Answer, that having also had a Letter of a different import from Capt. — Edingtoun's dubash, he was at a loss what to think, and desired an explanation — This circumstance I mentioned myself to Capt. Edingtoun, who — said that his Dubash's Letter was of a Prior date and that this shuffling showed the Poligar's want of sincerity — and the matter was here dropped.

Coolchy

The Renter and his Son were afterwards sent upon Service with Lieut. Burn, under the orders of Capt. Edingtoun to the Shevellipotter district, where it seems his Conduct had not answered the expectations of that officer, and who, as Capt. Edingtoun

tells

Fort St. George May 1781.

13th tells me, sent in complaints on this head — The — Renter says, that he was close guarded all the time, and had it not in his power to write even a private Note on his family affairs, without undergoing the Inspection of the Black officer put over him; in — this Situation he was to treat with the Polligars — The Man very shrewdly observed that this suspici- ous policy appeared to him very extraordinary, because, if he was to effect the purpose, he must be trusted and confided in — But even this — publickly suspected, if not affronted, it is well known that he used every means to bring in the Cahuls, and that several did actually arrive almost immediately after they left the place — The officer under whose Command he returned, and indeed every officer who was there, to whom I have spoken on the subject - declare their intire approbation of his care and attention in providing them with — what was wanting. —

Since his Return I have Reason from his — different conversations with me, to believe that were he properly encouraged, his intentions for — the promotion of the Service are good, particularly from his propositions to me Regarding the assistance

the

he

1182 Fort St George May 1781

13th He is ready to give in settling the Confusions of the Country, which are already before you - And in consequence of which I have made the propositions to Capt Colingtoun, since the Rents has been in the Malum Tinnavelly Country, things have come more into order, the Keys of the Graineries which the Polligars had seized, and delivered to him, he is dividing the Grain, and putting the Gaydayum in the Inhabitants, and is sending in both Paddy and Money - The Marriage of the Poligar and his Brother has prevented them coming in, but as I foresee, that to secure this Man effectually in our Interest, and that the Matter will turn upon it, the delivery of the Father must be first agreed upon, I am most earnestly to request of your Honor &c. that you will take this under your most serious consideration and determine upon it without delay - The Chief officers of the Circar together with his Highness's chief European Agent and Military officer here are all clearly of opinion that it is a point essentially necessary, and that whatever good may be derived from it, then can no evil — upon the whole, without venturing to pronounce upon the causes which may have produced the disagreeable alterations that have taken place for a series of Months between the Chief Officers of the

Halvar. Granary's.

1783 Fort St George May 1781.

13th the Circar and your Military Commanding officer
Sire, I have no Hesitation in saying there has nothing
in the Conduct of these people appear to me of a
dangerous nature or any thing like disaffection to
the Publick Service, on the contrary it is my opinion
that were a proper Union established among our-
selves and a Regular Mode laid down of doing Busines
with them without degrading their consequence,
they would readily give their assent as well as
Assistance, to promote and carry into execution
every Necessary Publick Service that the emergency
of the times may Require, —

I am Sire to declare to your Honor &c that
throughout the whole of the Business here, I have been
actuated by a sense of duty alone, independant of
any prejudice or private View whatever, it is my wish
to act with openess and my sentiments are well
known to Capt. Edingtown, but I confess after long
experience and some circumstances I despair of
the possibility of our ever being able to act together with
that Vigour which your important concerns demand,
under the Pressure of this opinion, which is too well
founded, and as a duty I owe myself and my Honble
Employers, I must intreat of the Powers you have
been pleased to Delegate to me cannot be inforced
if
by

1184 Fort St. George 1st May 1781.

13th by your Authority, that I may be Relieved from the painfull anxiety which I feel in being thus detained - I am with due respect, -

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

Your very obedient
Humble Servant,
Will.m Light

Pallamcotah,
20th April, 1781.

P.S

I beg leave to Rectify a little inaccuracy which escaped me in my description of the Person who went off to the Cot.a Rajah - He was not a Manager nor in any trust, but placed under a Brother in Law of the Renter, who was Manigar of Sheuttahatoor, and being of a dissipated disposition and impatient of control, went off as about described. -

Cevla-
patoor }
above

To the Hon'ble Charles Smith Esq.r
President and Governor of
Fort St. George.

Hon'ble Sir,

From Major Mackay Acquainting the President in what Manner the Workmen & Coolies have been Employed since his last Report. -

I have the Honor to acquaint you that since my last Report, the Workmen under the Contractor for the Fortifications have been employed on the Sea Gate Tenaillon, one of the Gateways of which is nearly completed. -

The Coolies employed on Hoghill during the

1185 Fort St George. May 13. 1781.

13th The Coast Work have been to the Number of about —
Four thousand, they are now somewhat less from the
Work Decreasing. The Carts are about 300. —

The Contractor for Repairs is employed
on the Bridges and Gates of the Sea Gate and the
Palisadoes } of the Covert way, which are now — and
nearly compleated to the S. E. Angle. —

I have the Honor to be,

Hon.ble Sir,

Your most Obedient
and very humble Servant,

Geo. Maule,
Ch. Eng.

Fort St George,
13th May, 1781. —

#) Wrote the following Letter to Bengal

To the Hon.ble Warren Hastings Esq.r
Governor Genral, and Counc.l

Fort William.

Hon.ble Sir & Sirs,

It was not until the 2d Instant.
We received Duplicate of your address of the 26th Feb.y
The Original has not come to Hand. —

To Bengal expressing thanks for the relief they have afforded in supplying Provisions & Money — receive satisfactory satisfaction, in finding their opinion respecting the Conduct.

We cannot too warmly express our
Thanks for the Relief you have so Zealously
afforded

do

Fort St. George. May 1781.

of the Nabob and the Raja of Tanjore united with Hyder of the Committee — and the measures proper to be adopted —

The Nabob assures us of the timely and Seasonable Countries — Arrangements he has made to secure the Revenue — The Nabob forwards complaints against Mr. Ram, — a Deputation sent to Tanjore to raise Money — Mr. Holland returned to the Service — recommends an offensive and defensive Alliance with the Nabob — and Peace with the Mahrattas as the only means of driving Hyder out of the Carnatic —

?

13th afforded to the necessities of the Government in — supplying us with Money and Provisions, and we feel the more indebted for your attention to our wants, when we reflect on the Distress, which — without these Aids, we must inevitably have experienced, and of which we give ample Proof in assuring you that we yet stand in great need of your — Assistance. —

Enclosed we transmit to you a list of such Articles of Provisions and Stores, as our further necessities demand; and which we hope you will be able to send us in the Months of September and — January, as we shall concerned to inform you, that the situation of the Carnatic is such, as makes us fear our whole dependence for supplies of Grain must be placed on Bengal and the Northern Circars. —

† Surrounded as we have long been — with Difficulties of the most serious Nature, and seeing no Prospect of a Period to them, we receive infinite Satisfaction in finding your opinion relative to the Conduct of the Nabob, and the Rajah of Tanjore, and the Measures proper to be adopted towards them, so entirely consonant to our own — The striking View in which you have placed — them

Fort S.t George, May, 1781.—

13th their relative Situation and Connection with the Company, and the just Claim we have to all the Assistance their countries can furnish for the — Support of a Cause in which they are more — than equally interested with the Company, so fully comprizes every thing that can be said upon the Subject, that there is nothing left for us to add but our entire Concurrence in, and Determination eventually to adopt the Decisive Plan of Conduct which you have so strongly recommended — We say we will eventually adopt it because previous to the Receipt of your Letter, we had taken Measures for obtaining Money both from the Carnatic and from the Rajah of Tanjore, but are as yet ignorant of the Success that may attend them —

Finding ourselves greatly disappointed in the Hopes which the Nabob had encouraged, that a considerable Sum would be paid in from the Tinnivelly Country, and 8 Months having elapsed since the Commencement of the War, without having received from him the smallest Assistance of any Kind, it became absolutely necessary to fall upon a more certain mode of raising Money, than to trust any longer to his Promises — We therefore required

him

Fort St George May 1781

13th him to assign over to the Company during the Continuance of the War, the Trichinopoly & Tinnevelly Countries, and to allow him to send Company's Servants to those Countries to receive the Revenues to this the Nabob would only consent on such Conditions, as made us apprehensive at the time We agreed to them, that they would be productive of Disputes between his and our Servants, and accordingly he has already began to prefer Complaints against Mr Ram, the Gentleman we sent to the Trichinopoly Country, whose Conduct it is evident from the Complaints themselves, has been such as is best calculated to fulfil the object of his appointment while it is equally evident that there is a fixed design in the Nabob's Servants to do every thing in their Power to frustrate it — The inclosed Copy of our Letter to the Nabob will give you a clear Idea of their Conduct. — We are determined to support the Servants we have sent to the assigned Countries, and to wait a short time to see what Effect the above Letter will produce, and should we find that neither the assignment in it's present Form, nor the serious Expostulation our President has entered into with his

Fort St. George May 1781.

13th His Highness, are likely to operate to the Relief of our necessities, we shall then insist on His giving an unconditional Assignment of all the Countries, he stile hospesion in the Carnatic for the support of the War, intimating to him the Sentiments you have expressed on the subject as to the Propriety and Necessity of the Measure, and should he refuse to acquiesce, your Sanction will enable Us to proceed with the greater Confidence in taking Steps without his Consent for applying his Revenue to the Expences of the War...X

With respect to the Rajah of Tanjore, about the same time that we demanded of the Nabob the Assignment of the Trichonopoly and Tinnevelly Countries, We sent a Depulation to Tanjore with the same View of raising Money for maintaining the War - The Communication between us and the Southern Districts being in a great Measure cutt off, we are as yet ignorant of the Result, but should it prove unfavorable, We shall be disposed to adopt Measures equally Decisive with the Rajah, though it will be prudent to proceed with greater Caution, and conceal our

Intentions

Fort St. George May 1781.

13th Intentions while the Enemy continues in the Neighbourhood of Tanjore where he has been for some time overspreading with his Cavalry the whole of that Country, to within a few miles of the Capital. — It is also but Justice to the Rajah to discriminate in some degree his Conduct from that of the Nabob, who from the Commencement of the War in July to this Hour, has not paid one Pagoda, whereas the Rajah though certainly very backward and remiss, has from time to time paid in Sums for the Expences of the Garrison.

discriminate

We have a just Sense of your Attention in the orders you have given to Mr. Hollond to Correspond with this Committee, and have particular Pleasure in acquainting you that previous to the Receipt of your Letter we had Restored him to his Rank in the Service, and Resolved to admit him a Member of our Government. We did not concur in the Suspension of Mr. Hollond, and We feel great Satisfaction in having had it in our Power to do him Justice, and at the same time to evince to you a Reciprocal Desire on our Part to Promote and Maintain that perfect Union between the

Fort St. George May 1781.

19th. the Presidencies, which is so Essentially necessary for the Welfare of Both. —

By a Copy of a Letter to you from Mr. Holland which he lately transmitted to our President, We had the pleasure to observe — that the Subah seemed upon the whole inclined to favor our Interests, and as his own are obviously connected with our Success against Hyder Ally, and would be greatly endangered from the aspiring Views of that Prince, were he to prevail over Us in the present Contest, we are led to Hope that these Considerations would induce the Subah to enter into a Treaty of Offensive and Defensive — Alliance with the Company, provided Advantages were stipulated for him, adequate to the Risk — and Expence he would incur by taking Part in the War. — at least we should hope he might be prevailed upon to assist Us with a Body of Horse, without which Experience has shewn, and Sir Eyre Coote has declared it decisively as his — opinion, that it is impossible to gain any essential Advantage over the Enemy, and of course that there can be little Prospect of bringing

this

1192 Fort St. George May 1781.

13th the War to a favorable conclusion. Permit Us thereforecarnestly to Recommend this Subject to your Considera-

tion, and if you should concur in our opinion, to suggest that the following Stipulations might be proposed to the Nizam as the Basis of a Treaty.

That he shall furnish Us with 15,000 or 20,000 Horse to act with our — — — — — — — — — —

Troops during the present War, that in consideration thereof we will engage. —

5th ... To put him in Possession of the Cuddapah — Country. —

2d ... to Conquer for him all the Countries usurped — by Hyder, formerly belonging to his Family or oblige Hyder to cede them to him by Treaty.

3d ... to guaranty to him those with all his other Possessions against whomsoever shall Attempt to Molest them — and —

4th ... that immediately after the Peace shall be — established, the Revenues of the Circars shall be appropriated to the Payment of the Balance that shall then be due of the Peishcash, and to the Military Charges of the Troops actually Stationed in the Circars, and to no other Purpose whatsoever, and the Peishcash in future to —

&c

13.th .. be regularly and punctually discharged.—

We are happy to hear of the Succefs of our Arms under Lieu.t Colonel Farnat, and ardently wish that the Places he has conquired may be of such Consequence as to incline the Marattas to purchase the Restoration of them by coming to honorable Terms of Accomodation.— and here we cannot avoid expressing our Concern at the Latter part of your Letter, which affords so little Hope of this desirable Event — doubtless the unhappy Situation of the affairs of the Carnatic must have been a principal Cause of their disinclination to Peace — Until lately we have entertained the most sanguine Hopes that the Army on the Malabar Coast would have made such an Impression upon the Marattas as — might terminate in a Peace with them, and in their joining Us against Hyder Ally, but the operations on that Side being now changed into a more System of Defence they look to our Exertions for the Effects which we expected from Theirs, and we on this Side are beset — with Difficulties that are daily encreasing.—

and

Fort St. George:— May 1781.

13th and from which, supposing the War to continue, —
Nothing can extricate Us but a general and decisive
Action with Hyder Alley on our own Terms or the —
Assistance of a Body of Cavalry from the Soubah —
The First is an Event of which the abilities of our
Enemy and his knowledge of our situation preclude
the most distant Hope — concerning the Second we
have already stated our opinion — Were Hyder alone
our Enemy, We should not entertain a Doubt of the
Soubah's assisting Us on such Terms as those we
have suggested, the obstacle to it, which at present
arises from his Connexion with the Poonah Ministry
you are best acquainted with, and this leads Us to
the Point to which we wish to draw your most serious
attention. — If there should be any thing in the —
Sentiments we are about to deliver seemingly —
incompatible with the Ideas which your Letter
would inculcate, we Hope you will impute it to
our having a nearer View of the Situation of affairs
on this Coast, and of the Melancholy Prospect which
it presents to our owing on the Spot, what you —
best contemplate at a Distance, and not to our
being wanting in a Sense of what is due to the

National

1195 Fort St. George — May 1781

13th National Honor and Reputation — The Terms which you acquaint us were offered to the Marattas we doubt not were such as they might reasonably have accepted, but in a political View we think, and indeed the Event has proved, that they were warranted in rejecting them — It has ever been held dishonorable for a Nation reduced by the Events of War to encounter Danger and Distress, to submit to Terms of Peace adapted to its Situation — We conceive the Question which the Company would wish to have considered is, whether such a Peace as can now be obtained will be more destructive to their Interests, than the Consequences that may be expected from a continuance of the War — taking the Matter upon this Ground, and looking forward to what must be our Situation in two or three Months, without supposing any Sinister Circumstance to intervene, We do not hesitate to declare that we can scarcely conceive it possible for the Marattas to propose Terms of Accomodation that ought not to be accepted, and if such is our opinion without anticipating any Misfortune, you will readily conceive how much it is strengthened by the Probability of the Enemy being joined by a

Body

1196 Fort St George 16th May 1781.

13th Body of French Troops, besides our being as we have reason to fear on the Eve of Rupture with the States — Upon the whole we think it our Duty to make Use of this occasion, while Peace may be within your Reach to declare to you, that we think there is an absolute necessity for making Peace with at least one of the Powers united against Us, and that without it We apprehend the most fatal Consequences — The Power of making Peace or War is in your hands, and we should be inexcusable were we to conceal from you any Circumstance that could assist your Judgement in determining which is the most eligible — The greatest part of the Carnatic is laid waste, Arcot with many of its Forts in the Hands of the Enemy — The Poligars dependant on the Nabob have deserted his Cause — the Tanjore Country and the Company's District there, from which we expected Revenue and Provisions, have been Materially injured, without therefore the most constant and effectual Supplies from you, we should be unable either to subsist or Pay the Army in the Field — and should the

Resources

13th Rivarcio Jail from which those Supplies are drawn, which you have intimated to Us may be the Case, the Contest must be given up, and Hyder Ally remain Master of the Carnatic — impressed with the sincerest Conviction of these Truths, we trust you will approve the serious and explicit Terms in which we have inforced them.—

Immediately on receipt of the late Advices from Bombay, informing Us of the Defensive System that had been adopted by that Presidency towards the Marattas, and the consequent Resolution they had come to of sending back the Detachment of Madras Troops, We addressed a Letter to Lieut. General Sir Eyrefoote, Copy of which we transmit to you, stating in a political View our Situation under those Circumstances, which added to the expected Armament from England, and the appearance of a large Detachment in the Circars under Lieutenant Colonel Pearse, tended to enlarge the Plan of our Military Operations, and to require that some general System should be formed for the future Conduct of the War. — We enclose Copy of his Answer likewise, which contains a succinct

Account

Fort St. George May 1781

13th Account of every thing Material that has been effected since the Army took the Field.—

We have the Honor to be,

Fort St. George,
13. May, 1781.

Hon.ble Sir & Sirs,
Your Most Obedient
Humble Servants

15th Received the following Letters;

To the Hon.ble Charles Smith Esq.re &c.

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

Gentlemen,

I have herewith the Honor of Enclosing for your information copies of the following Letters — One from Messrs. Davidson and Jourdan at Tanjore to Myself, One from the same addressed to your Committee, transmitted to me by them — My reply to the former —

From Lieut. Gen.l Sir Eyre Coote, enclosing Letters to & from Messrs. Davidson & Jourdan, Col.o Braithwaite, Lieut. Eastland, & Capt. Edington,

As this Last contains my sentiments at large on the subject of their address to me, it is not necessary I should trouble you with

a

Fort St George May 1781.

15th a repetition in this place, all I shall add is, — that General Munro's opinion and Mine are the same. —

I have the pleasure to inform you — that the Alfred is at last arrived — of the Bullocks sent on board of her, I understand only 50 of them have arrived alive and them in a very bad — condition. Upon the whole they promise little towards assisting my present wants on that score — the Charlotte has not yet arrived. —

In the Invoice of provisions sent by — the Success Galley, and signed by the Agent Mr. Dobbyn, I remark there is included a charge for freight on Rice and Grain of twenty Pagodas Fl- gare, making in all Pagodas 1417. 11. 40. As the Success Galley is in the Monthly hay of the — Company, this charge appears to me somewhat strange, and has induced me to make this — mention of it, that it may claim your attention.

I enclose for your information copies of Letters which I have received from Colonel — Brathwaite. The Enemy persevere in the — blockade of Tiagur, but which runs no risk — unless

1200 Fort St George 4th May 1781.

15th unless from want of Water — The Officer in Command expressed no apprehensions on that Account in his last Letter. I should imagine therefore that they have a pretty good supply. The Enemy there I am informed are a good deal distressed for water, being obliged to bring it the distance of three or four Miles —

The full Moon being over and the danger Apprehended from coming at that time upon the Coast consequently passed, I hope daily for the arrival of the Admiral with the Fleet —

The Europeans are very sickly. I have had returns delivered to me by the Surgeons to the different Corps, whereby I observe that besides that will continue in our Hospitals here, there are above a hundred which it will be absolutely necessary to send to Madras: this unpleasing Circumstance is not a little aggravated by the disagreeable report made me this morning of a Corporal and three Gunners belonging to the Bengal Artillery being absent since last night — Their desertion alarms me not a little, as I cannot

divine

1201 Fort St George May 1781.

If I could assign any probable reason for their being
15th divine the cause of it, nor indeed to take such a
Step. — Having been credibly informed that
the Northern Circars abound with grain, I beg leave
to refer it to your consideration whether in the present
dismal prospect of Scarcity at the Presidency, and
the little chance there is at this Season of being
of being Supplied from Bengal, because of the great
danger with which Ships must effect a passage out
of the River, it might not be advisable to endeavor
to procure freight, and to send it to the Ships and
Residents at your different Settlements who I am
perswaded would one and all of them exert —
themselves in loading all the Vessels you might
send them — In short I am willing that no means
of procuring Supplies should remain untried —
whilst our Necessities so much demand it of us.

I before wrote you that the Renter
of Caringoly had paid for the use of that Garrison
Two Thousand Pagodas. He has at present a balance
in his hands of Two Thousand Five Hundred Pag.s
more, which I have likewise ordered him to pay
into the Hands of the Officer commanding. Besides
these

1202 Fort St George, — May 8th 81.

15th Thro' Sams, he has delivered into the Garrison a larger quantity of grain than he originally engaged for, and continues to lay in more — Dam hopeful therefore that should nothing happen to impede him in his exertions, we shall have a good stock for the use of the Army, should it at any time take post at Caringoly —

I enclose you a Letter addressed to me by Lt Eastland, the contents of which having been confirmed by General Munro, you will act therein as you may think most proper.

I have the Honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant,
Eyre Coote.

Camp Newtown
9th May, 1781 —

P.S.

Since writing the above, I have received a letter from Capt. Cadenglown, whereof I enclose a Copy for your information. — It was brought me by two Sepoys belonging to the Garrison of Trichinopoly who inform me that every thing there is in good order to give the Enemy a Warm reception should they make any attempts against it, That all the

Fort St. George. — May 1721.

15th the Polygars excepting Vondeman[s] are joined Hyder, they also inform me that the young Rajah of Ramnaud is still at Trichinopoly, finding it impossible to proceed to his Country on Account of the Enemy being all round. —

To Sir Eyre Coote Kt. B. &c. &c.

Sir,

We have frequently endeavoured to. — transmit to the Select Committee our Proceedings at this place as first the Rajah promised every thing in — his power; and We flattered ourselves with the Hope of obtaining Money and Grain, but when we came to particulars We found evasions. The advance of Hyder into the Country soon convinced us that during his stay nothing could be expected; the — Occasion will not admit of entering fully into the Causes, but we think it right to represent to you that from information we have obtained, it appears Necessary to us for the Welfare of this Country, that Butchanah should be removed from the Rajah, every part of his conduct shews an aversion to the English, and without bringing proofs of improper correspondence with Hyder, it will at — Present be sufficient to Remark that notwithstanding

The

1204 Fort St. George — 4 May 1781

15th the frequent and earnest Representation Made to the Rajah, to secure the grain and Revenue of the Country to assist the Company; existing a quantity of grain laid in for the Garrison, scarcely any hath been brought in, and very little money paid to the Company. These are facts which convince us that no Money can be collected here, till the Removal of Butchanah; unless you your self find it necessary to cross the Coloroon, since he might have assisted the Company, and expedited their affairs. And might have obstructed Hyder's Attempts but hath not done so. We are,

Sir, Your Most Obedient Humble Servants

Tanjore
30th April 1781.

/Signed/ A. Davidson,
F. Sourdain,

To Alexander Davidson & Franc.s Sourdan Esq.rs
Tanjore.

Gentlemen,

I have had the Honor to receive the Duplicate of your Letter of the 30th Ultimo, enclosing

Duplicate

1205 Fort St. George — May 1781

15th Duplicate of your Address to the Select Committee of the same Date, to whom I have also transmitted Copy of your Letter to me. —

I can easily believe the little Effect with which your Endeavors can be exerted whilst the occasion furnishes the Rajah with such powerful Excuses to support his Plea of Inability, I am fully sensible of the Change which might be worked in His Disposition by any favorable Crisis in our affairs, And to that I apprehend it would be most prudent to trust, rather than by any violent Measure to risk Consequences to which the immediate Advantages to be derived by the publick might prove inadequate That, in my Opinion is the Scale by which our Conduct in all present Transactions in the Tanjore Country ought to be weighed, nor can I admit of the present Conjuncture being a Seasonable Period for attempting the Removal of the Rajah's Prime Minister, unless it is a Step which he himself is heartily disposed to join in, and ready to sanctify by the most publick — Testimonies of his Approbation — The very Circumstance of Beckina's Aversion to the English is the most

Powerful

Fort St George — May 1781.

15th Powerful Reason why the Rajah should be rendred the Chief Instrument of his Degradation — If this Business therefore is undertaken on any other Plan, those Schalt be held blameless as to any of those injurious Consequences which may ensue. —

These Gentlemen are my own sentiments however as the power of deciding rests with the Select Committee, you will of Course be guided by whatever Orders they may think proper to send you. — As you are already Circumstantially acquainted with the Situation of this Army, it is unnecessary to enter into any Explanation of the Cause of its Detention at this Place. —

I have the Honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most Obt Servant
/signed/ Eyre Coote. —

Camp Newtown,
9th May, 1781.

Attested by
George Tyler

To the Honble Charles Smith Esqr
President and Governor &c. Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Hyder having ravaged and
destroyed

Fort St George — May 1781

15th destroyed this Country with fire and Sword to the very gates of Tanjore, has prevented our transmitting our proceedings to you, containing a full account of our transactions here; we have communicated our Sentiments to the Commander in Chief, and it is necessary to inform you for the present briefly, that no dependance can be put in any resources from Tanjore, unless there be a change in the Ministry here, or unless the Army have occasion to remove to the Southern Countries —

The instant the Country is open, Mr Davidson in consequence of the Presidents Letter of the 30th March, will proceed to the Presidency with the packets of the Deputation, and Mr Jourdan will remain here to execute your — instructions, —

We are Respectfully,

Your most Obedient Humble Servants,

A. Davidson.
F. Jourdan.

Tanjore,
30th April 1781.

/signed/

A true Copy
G. Tyler.

No 208
15th

Fort St George May 8th 1781.

To Lieut Genral Sir Eyre Coote K.B.
Commander in Chief &c &c &c

Sir,

Since I had the Honor to address you last under date the 16th of which Inclosed a Duplicate, Hyder has advanced with his Army to near Trivitar, and lays between the two Rivers about nine miles from hence; Two days ago he sent about 3,000 Horse in Hopes of carrying off our 150. but they just reached the Pettah into which the Enemy charged with them full Mell— our horse behaved well and disputed the entrance of the Pettah against great odds indeed, and— did much execution with their Swords, and the Sebendies Stationed there with a Six pounder soon made the Enemy retire: We had a Jemmadar and two Troopers badly wounded, six slightly, fourteen Sebendies killed, and as many wounded Our party did not loose an horse; took of the Enemy's, and killed fourteen. By the last Accounts the Enemy had 27 Men killed, and near one

Hundred

1209 Fort St George May 8th 1781

15th hundred wounded — It is now said that Hyder will move Westward — We are too well prepared — that I believe he will leave us. —

I have the Honor to be with
great Respect
Sir
Your Very Obedient Servant
John Brathwaite

Tanjore
8th April 1781.

To Lieut. General Sir Eyre Coote, K. B.
Commander in Chief &c. &c. &c.

Sir

I had the Honor to address you — yesterday, of which I now send a Duplicate, my information this day is that Hyder is about to move his Camp, some say to Tiagar, some to — Trichinopoly; it is certain he has ordered Four — thousand Horse and an Host of Polygars to — endeavor to prevent any provisions from getting to us. We have six Months untouched yet for the Troops, and if he really moves to any distance, we will easily beat up his blockade. —

I have the Honor to be with greatest Respect — Sir Your Very obedient Servant
John Brathwaite —

Tanjore,
29th April 1781.

To

12th Fort St George. — May 1781.

To 15th Sir Eyre Coote K.B.

Commander in Chief of India.

Sir, I embrace this opportunity of informing you that previous to your arrival from Bengal I had the appointment of Adjt to the 1st Batt.n 2d Regiment, now on service on the other Coast, but as my wound was not at that time perfectly healed, I declined the said appointment in favor of Cav.r St Campbell, under promise from the H. E. Commander and Sir Hector Munro, that I should be preferred to the first Vacancy in that line. Solo in consequence of a vacancy now at Tanjore in Capt.n Brunow's Detachy, I take the liberty of explaining this Matter, in hopes that it may Merit the Honor of your Approbation

I am with the highest Respect

Sir Your Most Obt & Hbly

Humble Servant,

R. Cartland

May, 9th 1781.

To General Sir Eyre Coote K.B.

Commander in Chief of India, &c &c &c

Sir, I have just received a Letter

from

1211 Fort St. George. — May 5th 1781.

15th From the Chief of Tulacurren, Acquainting that Dr. Hamilton of the Nabob's Service with the — greatest part of the Garrison of Cornery in the Morrowa Country had arrived at the Dutch — Settlement of Killany on that Coast, where he had been permitted to march agreable to the terms on which he delivered up the Fort, and which he had been obliged to do for want of Provisions.

By my intelligence the Morrawar Colonies had been assisted in the reduction of the above Fort by the Poligyars of this Country.

Herewith I enclose a Paragraph of a Letter just Received from the Resident of Anjengo, which I have taken in Cypher — The Resident also informs me that having no authority to open the Lady's Packets for Bengal and Fort St. George, no copy of them were taken there —

I have the Honor to be —

Sir,

Your most Respectful & most Obedient Servant,

/Signd/ James Pidingtown.

Palamcotah
24th April 1781.

P.S.

In former Letters I wrote that there

was

1212 Fort St. George May 15th 1781.

15th was a General combination among the Polygars since which there has bin some desertion amongst them, which if properly managed, might be the means of bringing the whole back to their duty.

I. C.

With Respect to Genl Goddard, I understand by the last accounts he was fortifying the ground on which his Troops were encamped on the Ghauts, and that a considerable Detachment under Colonel Brown, which escorted a large convoy of Provisions, was attacked about Six weeks ago by a Numerous Body of the Enemy who killed several of our Men, and carried off about 2,000 loaded Bullocks.

Select Committee

To The Honble Charles Smith Esqr President and Governor &c. Select Committee at Fort St. George.

Gentlemen,

The late considerable Loss of Gunpowder from our Magazines has reduced &c

From Select Committee Bombay requesting a supply of 1000 or 1500 Barrs Gun Powder

1213 Fort St. George May 1781.

13th so much the Stock necessary to be kept in this Garrison, that it is not possible for us to replace the Quantity wanted, by our own Mills. We are therefore obliged again to request you will supply us with 1000. or 1500. Barrels as soon as possible, a part of which may be sent round on the Royal Admiral, and the remainder by such opportunities as may offer. —

We have the Honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most Obedt
Humble Servants
Wm Hornby,
D. Draper,
N. Nath

Bombay Castle
2d May 1781.

16 Received the following Letter from the Garrison Storekeeper —

To the Honble Charles Smith Esqr
President and Governor, &c Gentlemen of Council
Fort St George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

At the desire of the Honble the Presidt

Reg

From the Garrison Storekeeper enclosing

Fort St George — May 1781

16th Beg leave to lay before your Honor &c. a Statement of such Provisions, and Garrison Stores as appear necessary to be provided at Bengal for the Use of this Presidency, and to be imported here as soon as the Season will admit, and Tonnage can be procured for that purpose, —

Altho the Amount of the Rice specified in the Accompanying Statement is far beyond the limit of an Indent for the Garrison Stock, Yet as all the Grain imported Here on Account of the — Honble Company is placed under the Charge of the Garrison Storekeeper, and as the Supplies from Bengal are what this Statement has Chiefly to depend on, I have stated therein the quantity which I apprehend must be wanted Here for the — Genral Consumption of this and the Early part of next year. —

Even if all the Grain should be Received which can be Expected to arrive Here from the — Northern ports on the Coast, I do not Conceive that two Lacks of Cags will appear to your Honor &c. in the present state of the Country to exceed the quantity which will be required for Supplying the Army — for the Use of the Garrison — and for the

Fort St George — May 1781.

Adviseing an Indent of Provisions & Garrison Stores Neaspary to be provided at Bengal for the use of this Presidency

16th The Subsistance of the many thousands under the Protection of, and depending on this Government for their Support. —

On this Subject I further beg leave to give it as my opinion that Rice from Bengal imported here on Account of the Company, notwithstanding the high Freight of three Sicca Rupees P.r Bag, and an uncustomary allowance of Agency Charged in the late Consignments from the Governor General and Council to your Honr.s &c.a must still prove the most advantageous Remittance that can be made from that quarter, untill the Carnatick is again Restored to a state of peaceable Cultivation; —

In Calculating the other articles to be indented for from Bengal, I have Confined the Estimates to the quantities Neccsary for the use of the Garrison for six Months — Making an allowance for a portion of each Article being furnished from the Northern Districts — I have the Honor to be with Perfect Respect.

Hon.ble Sir & Sirs,

Your Faithful & Obedient Humble Servant

A.r Brodie

Garrison Storekeeper

Fort St George
16th May, 1781.

an

1216 Fort St George — 4 Feby 1781.

6th An Indent of Stores and Provisions for Fort St George, to be provided at Bengal, and required to be at Madras in Sept. 1791. and in January 1792 Viz.t

Rice	20,000. two thousand Bags
Wheat	2,000. Do
Dear	1,000. Do
Red Gram and Dall	2,000. Do
Salt Provisions	1,000. Tierces
Ghee	250. Candys
Chillies	100. Do
Tamarinds	200. Do
Ginger	20. Do
Coriander Seeds	40. Do
Cummin Seeds	30. Do
Beetle Nut	20. Do
Rattan Baskets	2,000.
Mats	2,000
Lamp Oil	10,000. Measures
Gingely Do	10,000. Do

Fort St George
14th May, 1781.

A. Brodie
Garrison Storekeeper

1217 Fort St. George — May 1781.

16th Agreed that a Letter be written to — the Governor General and Council Representing what is set forth in the above Letter —

Wrote the following Letter.

To Captain Alexander Patterson,
Commanding at Nellore.

Sir

To Capt. Patterson advising him that two Vessels with 600 Troops & 4 twenty four Pounders with Stores &c. on board will sail in a day or two: and enclosing a letter from the 17th Nabob to his Manager

I am directed by the Honble President and Select Committee to inform you that having Come to the Resolution of strengthening your Garrison at Nellore, two Vessels with about 600 Troops and 4 twenty four Pounders with Stores &c. on board, will sail from hence in two or three days, in consequence of which you will be pleased to make every — Preparation for transporting the Guns, Stores, &c. to Nellore, as soon after they are landed as possible — Enclosed is a letter from his Highness the Nabob to his Manager, directing him to afford you all the Assistance in his Power. —

I am Sir
Your Most obed. Servant
T. Oakes. Secy.

Fort St. George
16th May 1781.

Received

1218 Fort St. George May 1781.

17th Recvd the following letters
6 Duplicate
Palamcotah 24th April 1781

To the Honble Charles Smith Esqr
President and Governor &c Select Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I have just received a letter from
the Chief of Tutacorin, Acquainting that Lieut.
Hammitton of the Nabob's Service with the greatest
part of the Garrison of Canery in the Morrawar
Country had Arrived at the Dutch Settlement of
Hillary on that Coast, where he had been Confined
to March agreable to the Terms, on which he deliverd
up the Fort, & which he was obliged to do for want
of Provisions.

From Capt Cubington
inclosing a paragraph
of a letter from the
Resident of Tinjivo.

coast

and

I have likewise information that the
Polygar Cuttabamaigue of this country had some of his
Men at the Blockade of the above Fort, and has
wrote a congratulatory letter on the Occasion to the
Maravar Chief, promising him further reinforcements
to assist in the Reduction of Pally Moody, notwithstanding
the negotiations now going on between him and our
Renter, of which I informed your Honours in a letter
of the 11th Instant, and which I am now Assured is to
end

17th end in the settling of this Country, provided I don't interfere to spoil it. This tho' a groß insinuation thrown out against me, I am resolved to comply with as far as possible, having already made all the interested people here my Enemies, and having received no orders from you for so long a time respecting my Conduct — gives me much uneasiness, as I have reason to believe it has been very falsely represented. Tho' at the same time I have that dependence on your Honors Candour as Assures me I shall not be condemned untried — My only View's have been to secure the Revenue from Embezzlement, to have a good Stock of Paddy and other Stores secured in the Fort, and money in the Cash Chest sufficient to enable me to carry any Orders I might receive into Execution and without which even the Garrison cannot be deemed safe — Having sent out a party for the purpose, a considerable quantity of Paddy is brought in daily, and here I must observe, the Renter wished me to delay this for some days, which I did not think prudent, and the officer Commanding on that Duty informed me, it was carrying off by the Polygars as fast as possible — I recommended upwards of two Months

1220 Fort St George May 1781

17th Months ago the selling the Godavy no the quickest
payment for our immediate want, and which would
have brought in between thirty and forty Thousand
Star Pagodas, this is not yet settled, tho' I have had
Assurances that it was and would be fc. fc. and was
a stop is put to the sale of the Company's Paddy at the
place where the Renter at present is, where I find he
has appointed for Tasildar, a man Recommended by
Gutapa Nagar, who has given him a private Bond for
a considerable sum this Country should and very
three days from four to Five Hundred Chuckrums at
Present not above one quarter of that sum is brought
in, —

In Conformity to your orders I think it my
duty to give you the above information concerning the
Revenue became the more necessary as it falls short of
the payments which I have within this five Months
advanced near Seventeen Thousand Pagodas to make
good. — I herewith inclose you a paragraph of a
Letter just received from the Resident of Anjengo which
I have taken in Cypher. —

I have the Honor to be,
Honble Sir & Sirs,
With the greatest respect,
Your Most Obt Humble Servt

1221 Fort St George ... 4 May 1781

17th P.T In former Letters I wrote you that there was a general Combination among the Polygars, since which there has been some divisions amongst them, which if properly managed, might be the means of bringing the whole back to their Duty - The Cypher sent over - Land not enclosed. -

To The Honble Charles Smith, Esqr.
President and Governor &c. Members of the
Select Committee.

Honble Sir & Gentlemen at Fort St George

From Cuyingo advising that the Garrison of Tellicherry was to be relieved, and that supplies of Stores & Provisions would be sent thither by the Fleet.

A Ship now proceeding from hence to Madras, I think it proper to advise your Honor &c. - that by private Advices from Tellicherry dated the 26th Ultimo, I am informed that the Factors there had - then just received a Letter from the Select Committee at Bombay, acquainting them that an unexpected circumstance having enabled them to support that Settlement, they had determined to send thither by the Fleet (which would shortly sail) a compleat Relief for the Garrison, with the necessary supplies of Stores and Provisions -

I am

1222 Fort St George — May 1781

17th

I am with the greatest Respect

Honble Sir & Gentlemen

Your most Obedient Humble Servant

Jas Morley

Inyngo
the 5 May 1781

Honourable Sir,

I had the Honour to adress you

From Colonel Lang Enclosing an Accot of the Troops in Arcot and Flydrs actions of that Fort —

the 5th & 30th of last Month regarding Arcott, since that I have had a Man from it that has given me a very particular Account of it, and as it differs a good deal from the Account sent you the 5th of April, I think it necessary to send it you under a different Cover this night, and if there is belief in a black Man, it is true — I request you will be pleased to deliver it to the Honble the Select Committee.

I hope you have received Mr Ogilvie's Letter regarding Money — I dare not venture to Commit to writing all that my duty requires on that Subject — the Nabob's Disposp are

More

1223 Fort St George — May 5th 1781.

17th More Trouble to me then our own — I hope this is Sufficient for you to know our Situation, I have the Honour to be —

Honble Sir,

Your Obed. Humble Servant,

Vellour, R. Lang.

6th May 5th/81.

Duplicate dispatched 11th.

Account of Arcot. Pittah Vale

14 f. Feet thick at the Foundation
12. Feet high.
3 Feet thick, the Parapet & three Feet high.
9. Feet wide the Rampart &c, slope at every Gate-way.
9. Feet between the bottom of the Wall & the ditch, but may be damaged by the rains. Vellore Face, a wet ditch and by far the strongest, the other parts of the ditch mostly dry at this season of the Year.

The above account is given by a Man that was at the laying of the Foundation, and — wrought at it till it was finished. since Hyder took it he has raised a Brick and Chunam work on the Parrapet, with loop holes all round, but I can not learn the height. —

Troops at Arcot.

1,000 Horse.
2,500 Match Lock Sepoys,
7,000 Chuckleers —
One 500 Bangalore —
2,000 Sepoys old and New.
150 Black artillery, old and New.

N B

1224 Fort St George Aboy 1781.

17th N 73. What is meant by new Sepoys and Artillery are those recruited in Arcott that defended it against Hyder —

Guns in the little Fort

24. Pounders. ——— 6.
18. Pounders. ——— 4.
Diffrent sizes ——— 16.

Pettah Wall

24. Pounders ——— 7.
diffrent sizes ——— 36.
before the Nabobs House. 3.

Provisions
5000 Collum Rice.
23000. Collums Paddy.
20000. Collums Paddy, is to be sent in from the Country

North face of Arcott from Preston's Battery to the Gate way, Hyder has made a covered way, and round the Glacis and round the North east Bastion a covered way is about half finished. Two thousand Coolies are at work in the ditch. —

A strong Thorn hedge made all round the Pettah Wall. The Guns mounted on the little Fort are said to be good, but all others are said to be such as Hyder did not think worth sending to the Mysore Country. —

Bring eporam Pagoda eight Miles west of the 500 Horse
4000 Match lock Sepoys
Calish Leany town Fort, five Miles Southwest

1225. Fort St. George May 5th 1781

17th 440. Match lock Peons.

Calyanna Stone Fort six Miles Northeast,

200 Match lock Peons.

100. Horse.

Ambour. Hyder is Fortifying it, and has got an Heavy Gun on the Hill, and another ready to be sent up —

Arnee Garrisoned by 400 Match Lock peons 4 twelve Pounders, and some small Country Guns, is — all I can learn they have there — only a few Topas Gunners. —

R. Lang.

Vellore

6th May 1781

Duplicate

Dispatched 11th

10th Received the following Letters —

To the Honble the President and Select Committee.

Gentlemen,

I am under the Necessity of acquainting you that I cannot get any Account of the Provisions from the Nabob's Manager, what Grain is come in since my Arrival is very little, and as for Cattle, —

there

From Capt. Pattoun complaining that the Nabob's Manager has not collected Provisions for the Bengal Detachment.

1226 Fort St George — May 8 1781

16th There is only Five Hundred and forty Seven Sepoys, —
Fourteen Hundred and Seventy Five, and Many of —
both Died since: the Seventh Instant I ordered four
Companies of Sepoys to Hold themselves in Readiness
to attend the Nabob's Manager to receive his Orders
to go into the Country: the eighth in the Morning
I heard the Enemy was Marching towards this —
Place, I immediately ordered the Sepoys not to March
till further orders, the Moment Consite heard it,
he sent for the Subadars and told them they were
to obey his orders, and not mine, or any of the —
Company's Officers. This is the Language he makes
use of to the Subadars in his Public Durbar, that
all the Nabob's Troops are under his Command, and
Not mine. Such Language to the Subadars Cannot
be Attended with any good Consequence to the —
Service, if other Measures are not taken with this —
Manager soon, the Bengall Detachment will be —
very badly off for every sort of Provisions. I can only say
I think it my duty to acquaint you of this Man's —
Conduct in time, with Respect to the Troops that was
in the Country before I ordered the four Companies, I

Consite

of

Refer

1227 Fort St George — 3 May 1781.

18th Refer you to the Return that Sent by the Sergeant the 1st Instant — I am

Gentlemen,

Your Most Obedient

and Most Humble Servant,

Alexander Patterson

Captain

Nellore,
10th May 1781.

To the Honble Charles Smith Esqr

President and Governor &c. Select Committee

Fort St George

Gentlemen

From Genl Coote, — Enclosing a Copy of a Letter from Col. Nixon.

I have this instant Received a — Letter from Colonel Nixon commanding at — Trichinopoly, whereof the enclosed is a Copy and which I lose no time in transmitting to you, that you may effect what is necessary with the — Nabob in confirmation of what has been — agreed to by Lt Colonel Nixon and others in — favor of the Reddy of Tirriore. I need hardly add that this Transaction which is so evidently for the Intrests of both the Company and the Nabob, and which promised us no inconsiderable p

Assistance

223 Fort St. George — May 1781

10th Assistance in prosecuting the War and distressing the Enemy, has received my entire approbation, and which I have expressed in the Answer I have written to Lieut. Col Nixon, and given him reason to hope that it will be ratified, and approved by yourselves and his Highness the Nabob. In this confidence permit me the liberty of requesting that the Necessary Papers in confirmation of Lieut. Colonel Nixon's Agreement be procured from his Highness, and sent me with all possible Expedition, that I may forward them without delay to Trichinopoly, where their early arrival, in the testimony they will give of our own and the Nabobs readiness to afford every proper and reasonable Encouragement to those People who are willing to Unite with Us against the Enemy, may prove the means of regaining to our Interests others who from want of confidence in our or the Nabob's Government have joined Hyder against Us. —

I have the Honor to be,
Gentlemen,

Your

approved

1229 Fort St George – May 1781

18th

Camp Newtown,
13th May 1781.

Your Most Obedt Humble Servt
Eyre Coote.

Sir,

I have just received from you a Letter dated the 21st Ultimo – To Lieut General Sir Eyre Coote K.B. &c &c &c

Sir,

The Perfidy of Reddy Row for some time past had been playing a double game, – having been lately ordered in peremptory terms by Hyder to join him with all his Forces, was under the Necessity to pull off the Mask, and whether it is his Fears or affections which have preponderated in favor of his old Master, the Nabob, the effects may be equally good to him – The Reddy probably attached to his old Master, sent a Vackeel here with his demands – The Chief Articles of which we have agreed to, and are as follows – That on Account of the –

desolate

1230 Fort St George — May 1781

18th desolate and diserted State of his Country,
he shall be forgiven this years Rent, that he
shall at his own expence raise and pay 4,000 —
Troops Join Monks, which he will employ —
against the Enemy, And Stop their communication
and Supplies at Aktoreyah, after which if the
War continues, his Troops are to be paid by
the Nabob — That his Family shall be received
into Tichenopoly and that the Nabob, the Governor
and Council, and the General shall grant him
a Coole to this Effect — After considering the
Matter, and it appearing that the Nabob had
no hopes of any Revenue from that Country during
the present Troubles, and knowing the Reddy
would not act for us without this being granted
and as we are surrounded by Enemies, Judged
it safest and most for the Interests of the Company
and the Nabob to secure a doubtful Friend,
rather than to make a certain Enemy. Did
not hesitate to forward the Business as soon as
Possible,

Fort St George — May 1781

10th possible, and this day signed a Cowle in conjunction with the Nabob's Manager, Mr Rum, the Killadar, and Several others, promising that it would be ratified by you and the Governor and Council and the Nabob, which was this day forwarded to him by his Vakel, and Hope in a very few days to hear of his Troops having Made a Diversion in our favor, —

I am sorry to inform you that — Tricatapully the Nearest Fort in the Tanjore — Country has been taken three days ago, and that all My Endeavors to get a letter into Trichinopoly have proved abortive — We keep a Strong post in Seringham, and have Mounted three Pon — Guns in that Place and Gumbakonam, which will in some measure keep the Enemy from — Approaching us in that quarter before we are aware of them — Since I have kept a Post — there, Several Spies of Hyder's have been seized — I have put them in Irons, and employed them on the Works, where they earn their daily — Subsistence,

1252 Fort St. George May 1781

10th Inclosure. I thought this a better Mode of treating these People, rather than by cutting off their Noses and Ears as Hyder does by our People taken in this Manner, which I hope will meet with your Approbation —

I have the Honor to be,
Your Most faithfull and
Obedient Servant
[Signed] E. Nixon

Trichinopoly
5th May, 1781.

P. S.

I have heard nothing from Tanjore for several days past, I have had the pleasure to receive your Letter by two Seapoys, whom I had sent with one to you the 4th Instant, to which your's is an Answer, they say that they are only Six days from Camp — The Rajah of Ramnaud has not been able to proceed.

proceed.

A true Copy
George Taylor.

Note

1233 Fort St. George May 1781

19th Wrote the following Letters.

To Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote K.B.
and Commander in Chief of the Forces
in India.

Sir,

To Lt. Gen. Coote — Enclosing a Copy of the Constitution of Amboor —

We have been favored with your Letters of the 9th and 13th Instant, together with the several Enclosures therein Mentioned —

The Conduct of Butchina has long been such as convinces us he is hostile to our Views, and that his Influence with the Rajah of Tanjore is very prejudicial to our Interests, yet we entirely concur with you in opinion that it would be impolitic at this time to attempt so great a Revolution in the Rajah's Government unless it were perfectly consonant to his wishes, which we understand is by no means the Case, and therefore all Idea of displacing Butchina from his office must be — dropped for the present —

You observe that a Charge has been made for Freight on Grain &c. shipped on board the

Success

19th Pucco Qally which appears to you rather —
extraordinary as that Ship is on the Monthly pay
of the Company — it is on this very Account that
we ordered the Freight to be charged in the Invoice
that the full Amount Cost might appear in
order that the Company might be no sufferers on
the Article of Grain, which was sent to Cuddalore
for the Use of the Cavalry and Bullocks — the
Captains Commanding Regiments have Contracts
for feeding their Horses, and the Bullocks owners
have been allowed an additional ½ Pagoda for
each Bullock — in propriety therefore it is their
Duty respectively to furnish themselves with —
Grain, but if this be attended with Difficulty
and that it be sent to Camp by Government
it surely is Lightly proper that the Expence —
attending it should be reimbursed to the Company
a Considerable Freight has been paid for transporting
the Rice &c. the Army has been supplied with
which greatly enhances the Price, and the Company
suffer a heavy Loss on all that is delivered to

the

Fort St. George — May 1781

19th the Troops owing to it's having been deemed —
necessary to supply the Sepoys and others coming
under the Denomination of Fighting Men at a
certain moderate Rate, but as this Indulgence —
cannot extend to the Followers of the Army, it
is necessary to include the Freight and other Charges
on the Grain &c. sent to Camp in order that the
full Price may be charged to all such as are not
included in the Return of the Army, —

Long before the receipt of your Letter
we had done every thing in our Power towards procuring
a large Supply of Grain from the Circars, the want
of Tonnage will we fear prove a great obstacle to
our receiving the Supplies which might otherwise be
sent from thence —

Having taken into Consideration the
Letter addressed to you by Lieut. Eastland, we shall
appoint him adjutant to the Corps of Lascars at
Tanjore, agreeably to his Request, so soon as we
are informed in which Battalion the Vacancy has
happened —

Your Letter of the 13th reached us
Yesterday

Fort St George — May 1781

19th yesterday, and we immediately addressed a letter to his Highness the Nabob on the subject of the Terms Reddy, expressing our entire approbation of the Measures adopted by Lieutenant Colonel Nixon, which appear to us very judicious and well calculated to advance his Highness's Interest — we have requested an immediate Answer, and hope to very shortly to transmit you the Necessary Papers confirming the agreement that has been entered into as we cannot doubt the Nabob's ready Concurrence in the Steps which have been taken —

We received the Night before last by the Ship Royal Charlotte, a letter from Mr Dorby at Anjengo, advising of his having been informed by Private Advices from Tellicherry dated the 26th Ultimo that the Factors there had just received a letter from the Select Committee at Bombay, acquainting them that an unexpected Circumstance having enabled them to support that Settlement, they had come to the Resolution of sending thither by Sir Edward Hughes's Fleet, a compleat Relief for the Garrison with the Necessary Supplies of Stores and Provisions.

Post Town

Fort St. George ~ May 1781.

19th Captain Falconar of the Ship Royal Charlotte ~ spoke with a Vessel off Tranquebar, by which he learnt that the Fleet had sailed from Bombay on the 22d Ultimo with 2000 Troops on board for Tellicherry; as likewise that a Report had prevailed at Bombay of an Attack from the Enemy on Colonel Brown's Detachment on his March back towards the Army, That he had suffered very considerably, that 10 officers were killed and wounded and 2000 ~ Bullocks with Stores and Provisions taken ~ that it was also reported that General Goddard having ~ marched from the Ghauts towards Bombay, he was attacked by a Body of 40000 Horse which made a considerable Impression on his Army, that part of the Line was broken, but that the Enemy was at last repulsed ~ that he had 17 Officers killed and wounded ~ amongst the former was Colonel Parker, that the greatest Part of the Baggage of the Army had been Taken also several Thousand Bullocks loaded with Provisions and Stores ~

Although the above Intelligence ~ appears too vague to gain entire Credit, still the Circumstances

19th Circumstance mentioned of Colonel Brown's Return to the Army and the March of General Goddard being in themselves far from improbable, afford too much Reason to think it is not altogether without Foundation — it was further said that Colonel Brown's Detachment was not to be sent back to this Coast

Brown's

We trust that the Squadron will have arrived at Cuddalore by the time this can reach you, however lest any thing should have happened to cause an unexpected Detention, we judged it proper to acquaint you with every Particular which has come to our knowledge —

Previous to the receipt of the foregoing Intelligence, we had at the recommendation of Brigadier General Stuart, determined to reinforce Pollore from this Garrison, with 1 Captain 3 Subalterns, and 104 European Infantry, including 4 Sergeants 1 Subidar 1 Colontar 1 Sergeant and 21 Artillery. 5 Companies of Sepoys of the 11th Battalion, 2 Subedars, Black officers and Sepoys 249 with four 24 Pr Guns, 500 Barrels of Powder, Shot, &c. but as in the Event of Colonel Brown's Detachment being

Fort St. George — May 1781.

19th Being detained on the Malabar Coast, you may think it more advisable that all the Europeans we may be able to spare should be sent to replace the Sick, you inform us you shall be under the necessity of sending to Madras, we shall detain the European Infantry until we are favored with your sentiments, which we beg may be as soon as possible: the Artillery, Sepoys, Guns, Stores, &c. will be embarked in a few days —

Enclosed We transmit you Copy of the Capitulation intered into by Capt. Keating for the Surrender of Amboor, as likewise a Paper he was obliged to sign on his arrival at Arcot, and request your opinion with Respect to the propriety of his and the other officers who were with him being employed. —

We are,

Fort St. George
19th May 1781.

Sir, Your Most obedt. humble Servt.
Charles Smith.
Lt. Col. Commr.

To Lieutenant Walter Anderson,
Commanding Carangoly.

Sir,

I am directed by the Hon.ble President

To Lieut. Anderson

Fort St George — May 1781

Approving of the Ships Return to secure the Cattle and of his buying in a quantity of Straw and Firewood

19th President and Select Committee to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter Dated the 5th Instant, and to express their approbation of the Steps you have taken for the Security of the Cattle &c. They approve likewise of your buying in a Quantity of Straw and Firewood, and desire you will afford all reasonable assistance which may be required of you by the Rentor towards the further Provision of Grain. —

Fort St George
19th May 1781.

Sam. Sir
Jon. Monckton Jun.
Hooker Secy.

20th Wrote the following Letters.

To Colonel Thomas Deane Pearse,
Commanding the Bengal Detachment.

To Col. Pearse sending him a Copy of a Cipher, and desiring he would acknowledge the receipt of it.

Sir, I am directed by the President and Select Committee to send you herewith Copy of a Cypher, in which should you have any thing of Consequence to impart, either to them or to

124 Fort St. George — 20th May 1781.

20th to the Commander in chief / you will be pleased to correspond. They likewise desire that you will not permit it to be seen, or any Copy of it taken, and that you will be pleased to acknowledge the Receipt of it as soon as possible.

I am Sir,

Your Most obe.t hum.e Servant,

Thomas Oakes Secry.

Fort St. George
20th May 1781

To Mr. Edward Saunders. —

Acting President &c. Members
of the Committee of
Works.

Gentlemen,

I am directed by the Hon.ble the President and Select Committee to desire you will hold One compleat Company of Lascars / such as have been used to act with the Artillery / in readiness to embark at a Moments warning on Service. —

To Committee of Works, desiring they will hold a Company of Lascars in readiness to be embarked on a Moments warning.

Fort St. George,
20th May 1781.

By order of the President & Select Committee
Thomas Oakes
Secry. to Govt

1242 Fort St. George, 21st May, 1781.

At a Select Committee

Present,

The Honble. Charles Smith Esqr President,

—— Samuel Johnson, ——

—— Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote,

and Major General Sir Hector Munro

absent on service. —

Monday 21st May 1781

Mr Davidson on a deputation to Tanjore. —

Minutes of last Committee read and approved.

Read the following Letter from the Civil Storekeeper —

To the Honble Charles Smith Esqr

President and Governor &c. Council

Fort St. George

Honble

1243 Fort St. George, 21st. May, 1781

Hon.ble Sir and Sirs,

From Civil Store Keeper, requesting an Order how to Charge for the Stores that he supplied the Success Galley & Escape Sloop with—

Several Stores having been supplied from my Employ for the Service of the Ship Success Galley and Sloop Escape, I request to be favored with your Honor S.a's orders under what Head they are to be charged on the Civil Storekeepers Books.—

I am with Respect.

Hon.ble Sir & Sirs,

Your Most obedient and Very humble servant,

Edward Garrow.

Fort St. George, 21st May, 1781.

Resolved that the Stores supplied the Escape Sloop with be charged under the Head of Secondary with Hyder.— And those that the Success Galley has been supplied with Capt. Tennant must pay for.—

The Committee taking the above into consideration, Resolve that the Stores which have been furnished for the Sloop Escape lately purchased for the Service, be carried to

the

1244 Fort St. George, 21st May, 1781

the Head of second War with Hyder Ally, but as the Success Galley has been taken up at a Monthly charge, the amount of the Stores supplied to her must be paid for by Captain Fennick. —

Read Letter from the Agent Victualler Dated 18th May —

To the Honble Charles Smith, Esq.r
President and Governor &c. Council of
Fort St. George.

Hond Sir & Sirs,

From the Agent Victualler requesting to have two hundred Candys of Copper as part payment of the Money he has borrowed for the use of his Employ —

By an estimated statiment of my accounts as Agent for the Army made up to the 30th Ultimo, there is a Balance in my favor of Thirty thousand Pagodas and upwards — The extensiveness and nature of my employ requiring regular and considerable advances of Money I made, such Indents from time to time as were deemed necessary for that purpose —

Some

Fort St. George, 21st May 1781

Sometimes they were complied with in a small degree, and at others not at all — This induced me to make repeated Representations to the Honble President, urging the impossibility of procuring Bullocks and sundry Articles required for the Army, unless some mode was fallen upon of supplying me with Money — To which I received for Answer "that as the State of the Treasury would not admit of making the necessary advances, I must endeavour to borrow upon my own Credit whatever was wanting for the Employ — In consequence of which I raised on Bond at 12 P. Cent. the Sum of Fifteen Thousand Pagodas, which forms part of the Ballance so due, and flatter myself that the same will meet with your Approbation — as I am given to understand that your Honor &c. cannot at this time with convenience discharge the above Balance, I do not ask for the whole in specie, but in order to appease the clamours of those to whom I am indebted

1246 Fort St. George 21st. May 1781

Indebted, Sir, to myself your Honor &c. will-
not hesitate to Order Two Hundred Candys of Copper
to be delivered, and the remainder to be paid-
From the large quantity of Copper which hav-
lately been issued a loss will of course arise -
upon the Sale of it, if charged at the outcry Price
I therefore submit to the consideration of your-
Honor &c. what deduction ought to be made on
that account. - I have the Honor to be with
the greatest Respect.

Fort St. George
May 21st. 1781.

Honble Sir & Sirs.
Your Most obedient
humble Servant,
W. Dobbyn.
Agent

Agreed that 200 Candies of Copper
be delivered to him at the price at which it
has been issued to others —

Agreed that 200 candies be delivered him.

Read Letter from the Contractor
for Bricks and Chunam.

Le

247 Fort St. George 21st May 1781

To the Honble Charles Smith Esqr.

President and Governor &c. Select Committee.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From the Contractor of Bricks & Chunam, inclosing a State of his Acct. Requesting and Advance of Cash.

I take the liberty of laying before your Honors the inclosed state of my Account with the Honble Company, and to make an application to you for some advance of Cash. —

At this period I am exceedingly — unwilling to make this Application, but my — Distresses compell me thereto. —

In the Month of June 1780 you — were pleased to Order that I should pay to the — Honble Company by October 1st. One half of the Advance made to me by them, for the carrying on of my Contract, and the other half by October 1782. your Honors will see by the Inclosed state of my Account, how much more I have done — than Merely to comply with your Orders. —

I am Sirs with the — Greatest Respect

1248 Fort St George 25th May 1781

Respecty thro' me of furnishing the Public Works, I made every exertion in my power to procure the Quantity of Materials requisite, — at the time Hyder's invasion, they have been much greater than my Calculate, and I have strained my Credit to the utmost with my Friends to procure Cash for Carrying on my Contract, — they are now very importunate for their respective demands, and I am unable to repay them — unless your Honor are pleased to afford me some relief: —

Tho' silent, I have been a very considerable Sufferer from the present invasion, I had — Mortgaged to me by my different Contractors a very Considerable Number of Carts and Bullocks, from the Labours and Transfer of which property I was to depend upon for the payment of very large Ballances due to me — These have been taken by the Enemy, and with them I lose both my property and the means of Carrying on my Business when Peace

1249 Fort St George 21st May 1781

Peace is happily restored to the Carnatick, Added to this Misfortune there has been a total stagnation of the private Sale of Bricks by which my Capital is increased at a time when I am least able to bear it, and your Honors will readily Judge what must have been my Loses upon the Materials furnished for completing the Fortifications, when it is well known Firewood is 300 p.Cent. higher than it was 12 Months ago, both Charcoal & Freight have Advanced nearly in the same proportion – If it will be any Satisfaction to your Honors I am ready to produce a Statement of my Loses, which I shall have Certified in any Manner you may think proper –

I hope your Honors from a Knowledge of my Situation, will excuse the trouble I have given, and that you will be pleased to afford me such Relief as you deem expedient –

I have the Honor to be,
Honble Sir & Sirs,
Your Most Obedient Servant,
Benjamin Roebuck,
Contractor for Bricks & Chunam

Fort St George,
17th May, 1781.

1250 Fort St George 21st May 1781

Dr. ... The Committee

1777.

April 30 To the Amount of Materials delivered
this Month as p Bill ... 213.13.42

May 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 1394.21.12

June 30 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 2524.27.57

July 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 2927.29.4

Augt 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 2635.24.2

Sept 30 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 2682.21.59

Octo 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 1641.30.32

Novr 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 417.2.64

Decr 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 473.22.77

1778.

January 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 1271.1.48

Febr 28 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 3166.29.74

March 30 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 1544.34.41

April 30 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 3290.25.29

May 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 5228.16.27

June 30 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 5405.5.8

July 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 4248.15.75

Augt 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 3259.11.45

Sept 30 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 3534.1.13.

Octob 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 1422.16.77

Novr 30 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 152.6.73

Decr 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 105.14.56

1779.

January 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 1756.21.46

Febr 28 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 1074.10.10

March 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 5946.7.9

April 30 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 4807.24.35

May 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 4397.1.41

June 30 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 4177.27.27

July 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 3750.8.18

Augt 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 4725.26.56

Sept 30 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 3991.26.16

Octr 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 2573.33.22

Novr 30 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 4330.47

Decr 31 To ... Do ... Do ... Do ... 985.8.60

Fort St. George 21st May 1781.

of Works ..... C/S

1777.				
June	20.	By Cash Received		700 — —
	21.	By Do		100 — —
	24	By Do		807. 31. 60.
June	24.	By Do		2450. — —
	25.	By Do		74. 27. 57
Aug.t	14.	By Do		2928. 29. 4.
Sept.	30.	By Do		2030. — —
Octob.r	14	By Do		605. 24. 20.
Nov.r	1.	By Do		2682. 21. 59
1778.				
Janu.y	14.	By Do		417. 2. 64
	28	By Do		420. — —
Feb.y	14.	By Do		1947. 30. 32.
	19.	By Do		53. 22. 77
March	10.	By Do		450. — —
	20.	By Do		3608. 19. 22.
	22	By Do		5000 — —
	30.	By Do		72. 8. —
April	13.	By Do		4511. 29. 42.
May.	8.	By Do		1000. — —
	10.	By Do		1000. — —
	15.	By Do		3290. 25. 29
June	9.	By Do		5000 — —
	11.	By Do		228. 16. 27.
July	8.	By Do		3000. — —
	25.	By Do		2405. — —
Aug.t	7.	By Do		2728. — —
	11.	By Do		1170. — —
	31.	By Do		30. — —
Sept.r	13.	By Do		1200. — —
Octr.	13.	By Do		1000. — —
Nov.r	23.	By Do		2000.
			Carried Over	53866. 13. —

Fort St George 21st May 1781

1780			Brought Over	93286.26.28.
January 31.	To the Amount of Materials delivered this Month			1937.26.70.
Febry. 28.	To Do	Do	Do	2387. 7. 2
March 31.	To Do	Do	Do	3350.10.42.
April 30.	To Do	Do	Do	3304.28.42.
May 31.	To Do	Do	Do	3042.26. 4.
June. 30.	To Do	Do	Do	2883. 9.48
July. 31.	To Do	Do	Do	1224.22.64
August 31.	To Do	Do	Do	556.26.65.
Sept. 30.	To Do	Do	Do	412.13.66.
October 31.	To Do	Do	Do	1067.31.62
Novr. 30.	To Do	Do	Do	666. 5.32
Decr. 31.	To Do	Do	Do	1496.10.75.
1781.				
January 31.	To Do	Do	Do	576.13.55
Febry. 28.	To Do	Do	Do	226.29.38
March 31.	To Do	Do	Do	722. 3.11.
April 30.	To Do	Do	Do	906.33.26
	To Interest on the following Sums from the Respective Dates to 30 April 1781 @ 8 p Ct			118549. 2.10.
		One 8		
On	213.13.48.	48.		68. 8.50.
	1394.21.12.	47.		436.33.20.
	2524.27.57.	46.		774. 8. —
	2928.29. 4.	45.		878.23.29.
	2635.24. 2.	44.		773. 4. —
	2682.21.59.	43.		768.34.62.
	1641.30.32.	42.		459.24.19.
	417. 2.64.	41.		114. — —
	473.22.77.	40.		126. 9.48.
	1271. 4.48.	39.		330.17.40.
	3166.29.74.	38.		802.19.73.
	4544.34.41.	37.		1121. 1.30.
	5290.25.29.	36.		1269.26.32.
	5228.16.27.	35.		1219.34.27.
	5405. 5. 8.	34.		1225. 6. —
	4248.15.75.	33.		934.35. 4.
	3259.11.45.	32.		695. 11. 4.
	3534. 1.13.	31.		730.13.16.
	1422.16.77.	30.		284.17. 3.
			Carr.	13014. 3.57.
				118549. 2.10.

Fort St. George 21st May 1781.

1778.		B. Own.	53766. 4. 13
Decr. 30.	By Cash Rcd.		2000. — —
1779.			
January 22.	By Do		3000. — —
Feby. 7.	By Do		3000. — —
March. 15.	By Do		5000. — —
May 8.	By Do		5000. — —
15.	By Do		1000. — —
June. 13.	By Do		6000. — —
July. 21.	By Do		6000. — —
Augt. 18.	By Do		4000. — —
Sept. 30.	By Do		1000. — —
Novr. 30.	By Ravanajah & Nellana their Bal. Transfd.		1627. 7. 31.
1780.			
March. 20.	By Cash Rcd.		3102. 5. 10
May. 23.	By Do		3000. — —
Augt. 16.	By Do		500. — —
21.	By Do		500. — —
Sept. 9.	By Do		1000. — —
Decr. 16.	By a Bill of Bills drawn by the President and Council for 2000 Msp. Pags. @ 9 ₣ C.		2180. — —
			101,775. 17. 1.

By Interest on the Sol. Sum. from the Restitution date to 30th April 1781 @ 8 ₣ C.

M. &

On.	700.	— — —	46. 10.	— —	216. 8. —
	100.	— — —	46. 9.	— —	30. 31. 16.
	807. 34. 60.		46. 6.	— —	248. 33. 48
	2450.	— — —	45. 6.	— —	738. 7. 16.
	74. 27. 57.		45. 5.	— —	22. 16. 64.
	2978. 29. 4.		44. 16.	— —	869. 17. 64.
	2030.	— — —	43.	— —	581. 33. 48.
	605. 24. 20.		42. 16.	— —	171. 23. 3.
	2682. 21. 59.		42.	— —	751. 3. 48.
	117. 2. 64.		39. 14.	— —	110. 7. 16.
	420.	— — —	39. 2.	— —	109. 13. 22.
	1947. 20. 32.		28. 16.	— —	500. 10. 64.
				C. Own.	4,350. 31. 6.

Card. Own. 101,775. 17. 1.

1254 Fort St. George 21st May 1781

		Brot Over	113549. 2. 10.
		Brot Over	13014. 3. 57
		m. s.	
On	152. 6. 73.	29	29. 16. 70.
	105. 14. 56.	28	19. 23. 61.
	1750. 21. 16.	27	316. 5. 61.
1756	4074. 10. 10.	26	706. 7. 24.
	5946. 7. 9.	25	991. 1. 37.
	4807. 24. 35.	24	769. 3. 59.
	4397. 1. 11.	23	674. 7. 54.
	4177. 27. 27.	22	612. 25. 72.
	3750. 3. 18.	21	525. 1. 76.
	4225. 26. 56.	20	563. 14. 51.
	3991. 26. 16.	19	505. 21. 48.
	2513. 33. 22.	18	310. 1. 60.
	48. 30. 47.	17.	5. 19. 16.
	935. 3. 60.	16.	105. 3. 23.
	1937. 26. 70.	15.	193. 27. 66.
	2317. 7. 2.	14.	222. 23. 64.
	3350. 10. 42.	13.	290. 12. 57.
	3304. 23. 42.	12.	264. 13. 53.
	3042. 26. 4.	11.	223. 4. 64.
	2382. 9. 43.	10.	192. 7. 54.
	1324. 22. 64.	9.	109. 17. 22.
	556. 26. 63.	8.	29. 24. 76.
	417. 13. 66.	7.	19. 8. 69.
	1067. 31. 62.	6.	42. 25. 53.
	666. 5. 32.	5.	22. 7. 44.
	1496. 10. 75.	4.	39. 32. 32.
	576. 13. 55.	3.	11. 13. 77.
	226. 29. 38.	2.	3. 17.
	722. 3. 11.	1.	4. 29 72.

20816. 27. 68.

239365. 29 72.

239365. 29 72.

Pagor

For St. George Battalion
per Bucle

3-0-71

Contractor

1255 Fort St. George 21st. May 1781.

			Bro.t Over	101775.17.4.
		Bro.t Over		4380.31.6.
On	53.22.77.	39.11.		13.24.31
	450.	37.20.		113.
	3608.19.12.	37.10.		898.3.67.
	5000.	37.8.		1242.8.5.
	72.8.	37.		17.28.64
	4544.29.12.	36.17.		1107.31.16.
	1000.	35.27.		239.12.
	1000.	35.20.		237.27.66
	3290.25.29.	35.15.		778.27.41
	5000.	34.21.		1156.24.
	222.16.27.	34.19.		52.26.32.
	3000.	33.22.		674.24.
	2405.	33.5.		531.27.67.
	2748.	32.21.		599.2.25
	1170.	32.19.		319.29.
	36.	32.		7.21.32
	1800.	31.17.		378.22.64
	1000.	30.17.		203.27.67.
	2000.	29.3.		388.
	2000.	28.		373.12.
	3000.	27.8.		545.12.
	3000.	26.23.		535.12.
	5000.	25.15.		850.
	5000.	23.22.		791.3.67.
	1000.	23.15.		156.24.
	6000.	22.12.		996.
	6000.	21.9.		882.
	4000.	20.12.		644.
	1000.	19.		126.24.
	1627.7.31.	17.		184.14.51.
3102	3103.5.40.	13.2.		270.8.56.
	3000.	11.7.		224.24.
	500.	8.14.		78.8.
	500.	8.9.		77.24.
	1000.	7.24.		51.12.
	2120.	4.14.		64.33.10.
				19834.9.61.
				121609.26.65.
1781. April 30.	By Balance			17756.3.13.

Pagodas 239365.29.78.

30th April 1781.
a Roebuck
Chunam

Dr^s

The Committee of Works ... Cr^s

1770			1771			
Nov^r 30	To Balance	25,635 12 –	April 20	By Cash Recvd on Account Advance		10,000 – –
			May 17	By Do	Do	3,000 – –
			July 10	By Do	Do	7000 – –
						20000 – –
				By Interest on the following Sums from the Respective dates to 30 Nov^r 1770 @ 8 P^r Ct		
				On 10000	3.7.10	2882.32 –
				3000	3.6.13	848.24 –
				7000	3.4.20	1907.72 – 5635.12 –
		25,635 12 –				25,635 12 –

Fort St George, 30 Nov^r 1770

E E

Benjamin Roebuck,

Contractor for Bricks & Chunam –

Fort St George 21st May 1771

Fort St. George, 21st May, 1761.

Ordered that Mr. Roebuck be supplied with 100 Candies of Copper, and that the Import Warehousekeeper be directed to debit the Commitee of Works for the Amount, who are to place the same to the Debit of Mr. Roebuck's Account in their Books.—

Ordered that Mr. Roebuck be supplied with 100 Candies of Copper.—

Read the following Ltrs—

To Captain Edward Edmonds,
Commanding at Ongole.

Sir,

The Communication being cut off between Ongole and the Presidency, we desire you will obey all such orders as you may receive from the Chief and Council of Masulipatam.—

To Capt. Edmonds desiring him to obey orders from Masulipatam & to Correspond with Col. Pearse also to send Mr. Ferguson to Nellore

We are likewise to direct that you Correspond with Colonel Pearse, and Convey to him all the Intelligence in your Power regarding the Enemy as likewise of the Roads he will have to pass in his way towards Ongole with Accounts of the Provisions he is likely to find on his Arrival there.—

Leaving

1758 Fort St George, 21st May, 1781.

Having judged it necessary to
send a Surgeon to Nellore, we desire you
will order Mr Ferguson to proceed thither
as soon as possible —

Ferguson

this &
ther

We are,

Fort St George,
21st May, 1781.

Sir,
Your Most obedient Servants,

To Captain Alexander Patterson,
Commanding at Nellore.

Sir,

To Capt. Patterson advising him of Troops and Stores that are to be shipped on board the True Briton and Shandell, and of the Signals to be made by the True Briton when in sight of Pulicat, & desiring him to obey directions from Pulicat & to Correspond with Col. Pearse —

A few days ago a Letter was
addressed to you by our Secretary, informing you
of our Intention to reinforce the Garrison of
Nellore with about 600 Troops besides Guns
Stores &c. — Some Circumstances have since
occurred to make it Necessary to desist at least
for the present sending the European Infantry
as at first intended — the Remainder of the
Troops, together with 500 Barrels of Powder, Guns
& Stores will be shipped on board the True
Briton Capt. Dring, and Shandell Captain
Jeffries

1259. Fort St. George 21st May 1781

Jeffries - three Vessels will sail from hence —
within two days, and on their appearing in
Sight of Vistnapatam, a Dutch Jack will be —
Hoisted at the Main Mast-head of the True —
Briton, —

We hope that every necessary —
Article of Bullocks, Carts, Coolies &c will be in
readiness to set off for Vistnapatam with a
proper Escort the Moment you receive advice
of the arrival of the Vessels there. The necessary
Orders have been given to the Captains of the
above Vessels not to begin the Disembarkation
until after the Escort arrives from Nellore. —

The Communication being cut off
between Nellore and the Presidency, we desire you
will obey all such Orders as you may receive
from the Chief and Council of Masulipatam,
— We are likewise to direct that you correspond
with Colonel Pearse, and advise him of the —
Quantity of Grain, Bullocks, Chuplies &c collected
for the Use of his Detachment. — We

12ko Fort St George 21st May 1781

We desire you will continue your —
utmost endeavours in forwarding the Collection of
such articles as the Bengal Detachment may
stand in Need of, and as the Security of Nellore
is become of great Importance, from the assistance
it will afford to Colonel Pearse, and likewise
from the considerable Strength of its Garrison,
you will do all that lays in your Power —
towards putting the Fort in the best State of
Defence possible. —

Having judged it necessary to send
a Surgeon to Nellore, we have ordered Mr —
Ferguson to proceed thither without Loss of
time. —

On the Sloop Escape which carries
this Dispatch to you, Fifty of His Highness —
the Nabobs Troopers are embarked, they carry
with them Horse Carbines and Saddles, and are
to be mounted at Nellore. —

So soon as the Reinforcement to
Arrives

1261. Fort St George 21st May 1781.

Arrived with you, we desire you will inform the Chief and Council of Masulipatam, as also Colonel Pearse of the exact Strength of your Garrison

We are,

Fort St George,
21st May 1781.

Sir
Your Most obedient Servts
Charles Smith,
Lieu Lieut Governor

1262 Fort St. George — May 1781

22.nd Received the following Letter,

To the Honble Charles Smith Esq.r
President &c. &c. &c. Council
Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Messrs Davidson & Jourdan informing of Hyder crossing the Coloroon & will endeavor to procure Grain.

We have the Honor to acquaint you that Hyder has crossed the Coloroon by the Way of Calycody, leaving it is said 2,000 Horse & 12 or 3,000. Foot at Coulreconum. — We hope that Mr. Davidson will be enabled in a very few days to wait upon you. He will carry with him all our Proceedings. —

So soon as the Country may be restored to Tranquillity, our utmost Endeavors shall be used to send Grain from this — Country for the Relief of Madras, —

We are
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your Most obedient
Humble Servants
Alex.r Davidson
Fran.s Jourdan

Tanjore
19.th May 1781

1263 Fort St George — May 1781

To the 22d
The Honble Charles Smith Esq.r

President Governor & the Select Committee —

Fort St George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I am sorry to Acquaint you —

From W.m Mc.
Intosh with
Intelligence.

that the Governor of Tranquebar would not Consent to my Landing there on my Arrival from Cuddalore, nor will he give me the — least assistance with provisions or Stock, as — the Enemy are very numerous About the Place I have therefore Got a small Vessell well — Armed to cruize at Carrical, Nagore, and the Different places to the Southward, as well to procure very intelligence Pcan of the Enemy for Gen.l Sir Eyre Coote, as to encourage and protect Boats to carry Grain for the use of our Army, —

This I Hope you will Approve of, as the Enemy has Armed Boats and Cattamarans at different places will Frighten the Sloop's Crew who

22d, who are Inclined to carry their grain to the Northward. There is still plenty of grain in the Tanjore Country, but Hyder has people Along the Sea Coast to prevent the embarking of it; the danes from all appearances are on Good Terms with Hyder, they have paid him 25,000. Pagodas, and their Ambassadors are Returnd. the dutch have not yet paid him any Money, their Ambassadors are still detained. But he has come down in his demands. Hyder is

Divicot

at present at Trecor about ten miles from Tanjore. – But I do not hear that he means to lay siege to it, they say that he is Cutting Channels to drain off the Water from that Country. –

I have no other news or intelligence worthy of your notice, I have the Honor to be with the greatest Esteem and Respect,

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your Most obedient humble Servant,

Edward Mc. Intosh

Negapatam,
May, 15. 1781.

N.B. The Danes have received a Present of Hyder's although they would not consent to my Landing.

1265 Fort St. George — May 1781

To 22d.
The Honble Charles Smith Esqr. —

President, Governor and Select Committee,
of Fort St. George,
Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Do —
with Do —

The Vessel which I dispatched to Admiral Sir Edward Hughes the 1st of Febry last is now returned, she sailed from Bombay the 29th Ult.o in company with the Squadron, I came with her from the Southward to this Place, the Capt.n Proceeds now to wait on your Honours with a Packet from General Sir Eyre Coote, and the Intelligence He Brings from Bombay, — which I am sorry is not very favorable. If the Vessel can be of any further Service to the Honble Company, I shall be Happy to continue her in their Employ. I have the Honour to be with Regard and the Greatest Respect —

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your Most Obedient & Most Humble Servant,

Edward Mc. Intosh

Cuddalore,
May 19th 1781.

1266 Fort St George — May 1st 1721.

22

To the Honble Charles Smith Esqr

President and Governor &c. Select Committee

Fort St George.

Gentlemen,

Lively — From Sir Eyre Coote with Intelligence respecting Sir Edr Hughes & Gunner Goddard. —

I have received your Letter of the 13th instant by the Lively Brig, which arrived here the 17th about Noon, with Brigadr General Stuart and Lieut Colonel Harper on board. — The Lively Brig shall be returned so soon as the Capt reports himself ready to sail, —

I am happy to observe that you have considered the conduct of Tondiman as deserving of your Notice, and that you have desired your President to express your sense thereof, as it will serve to convince him of the sincerity of those sentiments of Friendship and Regard, which I have assured him in repeated Letters, he would find in our Government, and have as a further

Proof

Fort St. George — May 1781

22.nd Proof promised him assistance in case he should at any time require it, on being hard prest by the Enemy. — I have perused the Copy you were pleased to send me of your Letter to the Nabob, and approve of the Sentiments therein expressed, — which I hope will have the desired Effect of awakening him to a proper sense of the Necessity, and the obligation he is under of affording all possible assistance to the support of his own Interests —

As the Governor General and Council seem so very Anxious about supplying you with Money thro' the Medium of Draughts, I am satisfied that under the distress you now labour for it, you will seek every possible Means of deriving Relief from the Credit they have granted.

I shall not take up your time — with replying to the further discussion you have judged it proper to enter into regarding the — Original and Subsequent Movements of this — Army, but content Myself with assuring you, that as far as the means I am possessed of can enable me to act for the Honor of our Arms —

And

Fort St. George — May 1781.

22d and the Safety of the public Interests, I shall —
receive a pleasure in employing them to those
desirable Ends — I have now by the aids you —
have afforded me, and the arrival of Several —
Vessels from Bengal, got together a pretty good
Stock of Rice, which I hope will be sufficient for
all my occasions whilst I may find it necessary
to Remain in my present position, —

I am well satisfied with the Measures
you have taken towards the Security of Nellore,
as it's Safety doubtless becomes daily More and
more an object of the greatest importance, it being
there our Bengal Army must not only for the
present take up it's Station, but be furnished
with what Supplies it may require to enter
upon any future Operations — I am in every
respect as anxious as you can be for Rendering
the Bengal Detachment sufficiently Strong
to Repel any Attempts Hyder might make —
against it — And Lower much I might be —
desirous of paying Attention to the reference you
have

Fort St. George — May. 1781.

22d have again made to me on sending Colonel — Brown's Detachment to join it, I am prevented from reconsidering the subject, by the Intelligence I have received of the Admiral's having left — Bombay on the 29th Ultimo, without having any part thereof on Board. If there is no reason to Suspect the Nizam himself of Sinister Designs upon the Bengal Detachment, I think the Opinion he has given concerning the Manner in which it would best proceed to Us, ought not to occasion — us any fresh alarm; his motive for giving such — advice being evidently to free himself from the Imputation which will doubtless be brought — against his friendship by the Mahratta State, for permitting our Troops to pass unmolested — thro' a part of his Territories, knowing as he did, that they were intended to act against Hyder Ally, who is in friendship and Alliance with them — Our latest Intelligence of Hyder is — that he remains on the old Ground, a little to the Westward of Trivear, between the Colleroon and —

12th Fort St George 4 May 1781.

22nd and the Cavary Tours – From whence I think he will hardly be able to make such rapid Marches as to engage Colonel Baird's Detachment before it shall have Reached and taken Post at Nellore where in my humble Opinion, with the advantage of chusing its ground, and the very compleat Train of Artillery it has along with it, it will be equal to Repel any attempts the Enemy may make against it.

The Invoice which accompanied the Treasure sent on the Lively Brig from Masulipatam and Landed here for the Service of the Army, contained no particular Account of either the Specie or quantity of the Rupees it was of course without any guide wherby to judge of their Value, or to determine at what rate they should be issued, so as to do Justice to the Troops, and to obviate any unnecessary Loss falling upon the Company – I know of no other or less exceptionable Method, wherby to remedy this want of Information, than to direct your Paymaster to ascertain the Rate at which

22.nd which they might be thrown into circulation —
and which he having Referrd to me, I sign'd
Orders for them to pass accordingly — And to
him I must beg leave to Refer you for a particular
Account of the whole —

Not having brought along with me
any copy of the Council of War held before the
marching of the Army from the Mount, it is
impossible for me to comply with your Requisi-
tion that head, I much approve of the Termin-
ation which you have written the Governor General
and Council, —

Captain Dawes of the Ship Carolina
Matilda arrived here on the 17.th of the morning,
left Bombay on the 29.th Ultimo, and brings us
the following Intelligence, which it concerns
me to find promises us no very flattering —
Prospect of future Success in that quarter, or
of any great expectations of advantage to be
formed therefrom; —

Captain Dawes says that it
has

1772 Fort St George 1st May 1781

Some 22d was the Admirals intentions to have left
Bombay on the 19th Ultimo, but waited for some
Indiamen that were to come with him to the
Coast, until the 29th, when the Fleet got under
way — that owing to his having laid further
off the Shore, he got clear of the Harbour half a
tide before them, that however he saw the whole
under sail — Detachment of Colo Browns Detachment
had imbarked, none having arrived at Bombay
— He reached Tellichery in five or six days,
where he intended to have waited the Arrival
of the Fleet, which bring with them a Reinforcement
for that Place; but the weather coming on
bad, and having parted from his Anchor after
a Stay of one day, he made the best of his way
to this Coast — He found Tellichery as usual
closely besieged, and the Nairs in Alliance with
us were very averse to every Idea of our
evacuating the Place — He spoke the Nymph
Sloop off Ceylon, where she was cruizing for the
Admiral — That before he left Bombay, Genl
Goddard being in possession of the Gantoo,

and

Fort St. George March 1781.

22.d and in want of Provisions, a Company of Sepoys
was sent with 300 Bullocks - all of which -
were taken, and the Escort, excepting the officers
who are said to have saved themselves by
getting into Boats / cut to Pieces. On or about
the 20.th Ultimo Col.o Brown, who had been
detached with 2 Battalions of Sepoys, a
company of Europeans, and ten or twelve pieces
of Artillery to escort Provisions / Rice bearing
at this time in Camp the enormous price of 5.
Rupees p.r Seer, / was attacked on his March
by a large body of Mahrattas, calculated 40,000,
but carried his convoy safe to camp, with the
loss of Several Officers killed or wounded - General
Goddard left the Ghauts on the 25.th or 26.th Ultimo
in order to return to Panwell, distant about
10 Miles from Bombay, near to which place
the Army were to be cantoned - A Bengal -
Battalion in the rear of this line of March -
was charged by an immense Body of Horse -

The

12/4 Fort St. George — May 1781.

22.nd The first and second attack they sustained and gave their fire at the point of the Bayonet, but the third charge it seems the Enemy — penetrated, and a considerable Slaughter — ensued — The Action about this time became more general, and the Enemy were repulsed with great loss; our Six Pounders are described making Lanes through them — Colonel Parker being ordered to take possession of a Gun belonging to the Enemy, which was erected on an eminence and that galled the Line, just as he was — Mounting his Horse, received a Gingall Ball in the Body, of which he died in two or three Hours. The Bengal Seapoys are said to have behaved with the greatest steadiness and bravery — that this action is the only one of any Consequence Genral Goddard has had all the others having been mere Skirmishes, the Enemy's Loss was said to have been immense — Ours also has been considerable, in which 17 Officers have been killed and wounded, and two or three assistant Surgeons —

bravery

The

Fort St. George ~ May 1781.

22.nd The Admiral whom I expected hourly, will no doubt bring us the particular Account of the above transactions, and also a Packet which had arrived from England over Land, bearing date the 26.th December, the contents had not transpired, but it was rumoured our Fleet consisting of 35. Sail of the Line, had been chased up the channel by the combined Fleets, consisting of 60 sail of the line — The Morning Star which brought the Packet from Bengal, was ordered immediately to take on Board Six Months Provisions and a Surgeon, and was supposed to be going express to England —

As the above relation was Verbally given me, and is now committed to paper from Memory, it is possible it may be incorrect, but still as I am satisfied it is Materially authentic, I could wish it to be forwarded by the first opportunity to the Supreme Council, when the Admiral arrives

I shall

12th Fort St. George – May 1781.

22.nd Shall have it in my power to send them a more perfect Account. –

In a Letter of the 4th Instant I acquainted you that any Letters you might in future send by Land would run no risk of being intercepted at Pondicherry, since then Hyder has made a change in the Government of that place, which renders the passage through it equally unsafe as before. –

I have the Honor to be,

Gentlemen, &c.

Your Most Obedient

Most Humble Servant

Camp Newtown,
19th May 1781.

Eyre Coote.

* Wrote the following Letter to Bengal

To the Honble Warren Hastings Esq.re &

Governor General &c. Council

Fort William –

1277 Fort St. George — May 1781

22d Honble Sir & Sirs,

To Bengal with Packetgram

Herewith We enclose to you Extract of a Ltr we have this day received from Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote, and shall not fail to transmit to you the first Authentic Account We may receive on the Subject it relates to. — We have the Honor to be,

Fort St. George,
22d May, 1781.

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your Most Obedient
Humble Servants

23d — Received the following Ltr from Colonel Nixon

To the Honble Charles Smith Esqr
President and Governor, &c. the Select Committee,
of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From Lt. Col. Nixon, joined by the Army of Tanjore,

I have had the pleasure to receive your Ltr dated 26th Ultimo by my Sircarra,

12th Fort St George 4 May 1781.

23d Hircarra, who had been taken prisoner on the road, and very severely punished, notwithstanding he brought your Letter safe to my hands. I wrote you a long Letter on the 27th Ultimo, which I hope you will have received — I now have the pleasure to acquaint you that the Terriore Reddy, who is — arrived at Sringham with his whole Family & part of his Force, after having for a long time past been playing a double Game, is come to the Resolution of joining us with a considerable Force, which in conjunction with Tondiman's people and some other Poligars whom I shall use my utmost endeavors to bring into the — alliance, shall be immediately employed to act offensively against the Enemy in their own Country upon the receit of the Reddy's Letter, Copy of which I send for your information — I did — not hesetate to agree to all his demands, and — promised to obtain your ratification of the same, together with the Nabob's and the General's — I hope I have not gone too far — as I judged it

Most

1779 Fort St. George — May 5th 1781.

23d Most for the Intrest of the Company's affairs to procure his friendship at all wints, I shall be happy to hear if what I have done meets with your approbation: his Cowle is signed by Mr. Ram, the Nabob's Manager, the Killedar and some others, Copy thereof is transmitted to the Nabob, which you will no doubt see at full length, the chief Articles of it are on account of the desolate and deserted state of his Country, he is to be forgiven this year's Rent — That he will raise 4,000 Men to be paid at his own expence for four Months, and are to be employed offensively against the Enemy — if the War continues longer they are to be paid by the Nabob — That hereafter he is to receive 30,000 Rupees ℔ Annum — for his own Expences, and that his Country is to be managed by the Nabob's people, Hyder — himself is at Trevior, and has Posts all round — Tanjore; Tricatapally has fallen into the — Enemy's hands, which is distant from us only 13 Miles. Tiagar Dundrotand Hills holds out — like

1280 Fort St George 4 May 1781

23.d We are making the best preparation in our power here to receive the Enemy should their views be this way, of which Dam under no immediate apprehension as some water is come down the River, which may send him once more across it, or cut off his communication from the largest part of his Army, - we have managed to get hay for the Horses for the Month of March - I have the Honor to be with Respect. -

Hon.ble Sir & Sirs,
Your Most Faithful
and Obedient Servant,
Eccles Nixon.

Trichinopoly,
8.th May. 1781 -

Return of the Troops for April, 1781.

9. 27.[5] Effective &c. Europeans		11	
36. 22. 19.[26] Invalids & Recruits		16	
9. 27.[5] 10. 20. 7. 7.[21] 22. 40. 49		21	52
90. 59 1. 1. 7. 9. 115 9 61. 55 20. 24. 22. 61. 42 16. 43. 55.[21]		2 X H. 1001. 61 43. 912.	
6.[h] Battalion Privates 3. 4. 100. for Duty		55.2.	
19.[h] D.[o] additional. D.[o] . . D.[o] . .		19 8.	
28. 39. 57. 112. 102. 121. 9. 27.[5] . .		17 3	
	Total	2,115	

Note

1261 Fort St. George — May 23d 1781

23d Wrote the following Letter —

To Lieutenant Colonel Nixon,
Commanding Trichinopoly,

Sir,

To Lieut. Col. Nixon approving of his Conduct respecting the Reddy of Terriore —

A few days since we received a letter from Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote, inclosing Copy of one from you to him, giving an Account of the Steps you had judged it adviseable to take with the Reddy of Terriore, and of the Treaty you had intered into with Him on the Part of the Company and His Highness the Nabob —

We feel Pleasure in expressing to you the Sense we entertain of the Zeal and judicious Conduct you have evinced throughout this Transaction, and so soon as the necessary Papers can be prepared by his Highness the Nabob, confirming the aforesaid Stipulations they will be forwarded to you —

We are, Sir,
Your Most obedient Servants
Charles Smith
&c &c &c

Fort St. George,
23d May, 1781.

1282 Fort St. George — 23d May 1781

To 23d Mr. James Daniell,
Chief &c. Council of
Masulipatam.

Gentlemen

To Masulipatam
Mr. Saml Statham
appointed Paymaster
to the Subsidy.

I am directed by the Honble President and Select Committee to inform you, that they have been pleased to appoint Mr. Samuel Statham Paymaster to the Subsidy Corps at Masulipatam, with the Emoluments usually annexed to that Employ, and without Prejudice to the allowance he may be in the receipt of as an Assistant at your Settlement.

I am with Respect,
Gentlemen,
Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant,
Thos Oakes
Secry

Fort St George,
23d May 1781.

To Major George Maule,
Chief Engineer —

Sir

1283 Fort St George — May 1781.

23d Sir,

To Major Maule to remove the Inconviniences complained of by Mr Baker. —

I Am directed by the Honble President and Select Committee to inclose to you Copy of a Letter addressed to them by Mr George Baker, and to desire you will remove as far as may be the Inconviniencys he complains of. I am,

Fort St George,
23d May, 1781.

Sir, Your Most obedient Servt,
Tho: Oakes
Secy

To Mr Robert Duncan Munro,

Sir,

To Mr Robt Duncan Munro to discharge the Balance of his Account with the Compy.

I Am directed by the Honble President and Select Committee to express to you their Surprize at your having so long delayed paying in to the Company's Cash the remainder of the Money still due, which you have been ordered to refund, and I am ordered to apply to you for the immediate discharge of the Balance of Account accordingly. —

I am, Sir Your Most obedt Servt,
Tho: Oakes
Secy

Fort St George
23d May 1781.

124 Fort St George — 24th May 1781

Received the following Letter

from the Honble Charles Smith Esqr

President and Governor &c. Council

Fort St George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Mr Light, respecting the Poligars in the Tinnevaly County

I had the Honor of writing to you on the 19th & 20th April, the former inclosing Propositions from the Renter for settling with the Poligars, and informing you of my Intentions in consequence — The latter regards a matter of Complaint against me by Captain Cudlingtoun for certain support which he says I gave the Renter, and which I thought necessary for you to know, and have therefore stated what has happened in the fullest extent — It is and has been my earnest wish that our business should be conducted here with unanimity and dispatch, and I do confess to you that I could not see how this

24th has to be effected by compulsatory and abusive means. — The Servants of his Highness have like almost all of them I have known, are evasive and dilitory in the business of their departments. Unaccustomed if not averse to the Controul of Company's Servants, I did think and I have still the same opinion that some — address was necessary in dealing with them, 'till we had once established such authority and Influence as might direct us with — certainty — I thought accusations and — suspicions openly told in the face of these people was but a bad way to make them — believe — In my Letter of the 12th Inst. I mentioned that Captain Eidington had — agreed to the proposal regarding the Poligar Cuttapomaigue, yet I then saw he had very different views from mine, of the Importance of that measure, and in this I am not — mistaken

Fort. St. George — May 15th 1781.

24th Mistaken, Instead of adding that weight which was necessary for my assistance, and which I had reason to expect he or his Dubash wrote to the Poligars seperately disclaiming my proposals, and refusing to condescend to any specifick time for the Release of his Father — Thus circumstanced, I was at a loss whether to proceed or to drop it, till I could hear from your Honor &c. But the Rentr on the faith of my assurances, and of Captain Eddingtons support, was gone to alter Dindegulty - Much time was lost and unnecessary discussion was likely to take place, because the Poligar could have no Confidence in a Man who he knew had no power to do him Service, and could not protect him, and he came averse to come in — with every obstacle in my way, having a good opinion of Lutchapanaigues disposition to us, I resolved to try what my personal Influence could do, and at all risques went to meet him and

seemed

his

Fort St. George — May 1781.

his dependants at that place — He came to me without delay, and seemed exceedingly pleased that he should certainly have the countenance of a Company's Servant, in whom he could trust, and he heartily agreed to every thing which I proposed — The best proofs of his sincerity is the assistance he has given in the Circar business, and the good order and quietness which is observed in the Countries under his watch, of which I am an eye witness. —

Conformable to the orders of your Honor &c.a I have taken a declaration in writing from him seperately N.1. — and C.t from five other Poligars. N.2. likewise a proposition from Cuttapannaigue for restoring the old Choutumpetty Chief N.3. — Copies of which I now lay before you, together with a Copy of a paper, N.4, which I gave to Cuttapannaigue to recommend the Release of his Father, to your Honor &c.a consideration — He has given me a List of 12 Poligars who are under

his

Fort St. George 11 May 1781.

2d his influence, and for whose fidelity he answers, this paper is also enclosed N5, as a further confirmation of this agreement, he is gone to Trichindore Pagoda with the Renter, to swear according to the Custom of the Country, and he has agreed to send his confidential Gomastah to reside with me. He has delivered up every Letter and paper which he has received from the enemy, and has given no little encouragement to Hyder's Emissaries that they have been gone from his Country long ago - In a word, from the character of this Man, I believe that if he is properly encouraged, he will do every good service in his power - He is ambitious of being Noticed by the Company, in whom alone he can place confidence. - He sees and conceives perfectly my Situation, and that I can only apply to your Honor &c. in his Favor, but he trusts to that support, and if no improper interference or disgust is given him, I will be answerable for his Conduct; circumstanced as these people are, and oppressed by the Great,

sees.

he

with whom they have no Confidence, is it surprizing
that they should act in the manner they do; or
is it to be wondered at that they should avail
themselves of our confusion, when nothing is
held out to them but threatening and future
punishment —

I was my opinion at first, that
a person in the service should have gone, and
I would have gone myself to whom the Polygars
would have confided, to explain matters to them,
to dispell their fears and apprehensions, and
to gain them over by proper assurances of support,
as their conduct shall be found deserving, and I
am now convinced that such a step taken —
some Months ago, would have been productive
of much good —

The doubtfull disposition of our —
European Neighbours in this Country, the Number
of French Emissaries who are daily passing —
through their Settlements, and the easy access —
which they may have to Tampore with Cuddapanagar
where

1290 Fort St. George the 10th May 1781.

24th whose Situation is more open to such a Stroke, made me still more desirous of securing Him, and as he offers his People for our Service, I shall Recommend that a Sufficient Number of them be presently retained. — His sole dependence is on my application for your protection, and I must therefore intreat to have your speedy decision — My future success will depend on that importance which your decision may add to my present endeavours — I trust that your orders on that head may be sufficiently explicit so as to leave no room for cavil with any of your Servants here, and that whatever Person I am joined with, a positive Rule of Conduct may be laid down for us, for after what I have lately experienced, I have every thing to dread from a latitude of Judging being left with two People, whose Views and Judgment of things are so very different — Having given you so full a View of the State

So

of

Fort St. George — May 1781

24th of Masters here in my different Letters, you —
can be at no loss what is proper to be done —
The Sum of 40,000 Pagodas contained
in your Assignment will all be Received in the —
space of a Week or two at Most, as a Sufficient
quantity of Paddy is now Secured, and selling
for your account; besides which there is about Nine
or ten Thousand Cottas of Paddy of the present
Crop sent into the Fort, which Captain —
Eidingtoun proposes for the Payment of the
Arrears of the Sybandies taken into the Service,
and which I suppose you will think it ne —
Necessary to discharge; altho' Captain Eidingtoun
rather improperly has taken this upon himself,
without thinking it necessary to consult me,
I shall meet with no hindrance from me
on that account, as I shall heartily promote
what is for the Service, without paying any
sort of Regard to forms, or taking notice of —
any tempory Slights thrown on my Station. —

As

292 Fort St George 4. May 1781.

24th As Mr Procter is not yet arrived, & should wish to receive your Instructions how I am to act in the mean time - Hampered as you are at present, I cannot take any thing upon me out of my own line without exposing myself to indless altercations -

myself.

I trust you will likewise take into your consideration the appointing One jointly with Mr Procter in superintending your business - I neither wish for Salary or Emolument, but submit to your Honor &c. my right to expect that after the trouble and anxiety which I have suffered, that I am not to be left a Cypher while every hour and consequence is given to another, my Junior in the Service - you will excuse my mentioning this - I am only desirous of being noticed by you, as my Conduct shall be found to merit - I am with due respect

Hon.ble Sir Yours

Tho.s Most obedient Humble Serv.t

Wm Light

Pallamcotah

12th May 1781.