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help of the papers in the
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records.

CL/21-11-1942.

1093 Fort St. George May 1781

2

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

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 Caranogely having thereby devolved upon you.

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 Sir

Fort St. George
2. May 1781

Your most Obedient Servant
Thos. Drake
Secy.

Received the following Letter from Bengal.
The Honble Chas. Smith Esq.

President &c. Select Committee at
Fort St. George
Honble Sirs & Srs

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

We have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your several letters of the 23rd 25th 26th & 30th ultimo. We have great pleasure in congratulating you on the success of the Company's arms against the Fort of Caranogely achieved in a manner not less favorable 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 Wandewash and Vellore, and the necessity under which the Enemy has found himself to raise the siege of these places. We derive great hopes from the Change which these successes must produce not only in the minds of the troops by inspiring them with confidence and

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1094

1094 Fort St George May 1781

1095

Fort St George May 1781

2 every good occasion of assisting your military expenses in a remittance of treasure by sea, at the same time you must be aware that these occasions must depend entirely on our certainty that the road is clear of French Ships of force, or on obtaining escorts from the Admiral, to whom we have written and shall continue to write for them. We trust that on his arrival on your Coast you will be enabled by joining your endeavours to ours on this occasion, to prevail on him to give us the aid which we so 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, not only as it is a port 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 representation which you have made to us of the disinclination manifested by the Nabol and the Rajah of Tanjore to afford those aids which you have desired of them, for the Conduct of a War in which they are so much more immediately concerned than the Company, Nids to which in our opinion you have a Claim of right independent of every Consideration. The Nabol can no longer be considered as the Proprietor of the Carnatic, while every part of it not immediately protected or wrested from his 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 Nabol 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. His refusal ought to be construed as it would virtually prove a

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Fort St. George May 1781

2 declared separation of his Interests from those 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 expenses and hazards 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 Majah of Tanjore whom we are sorry to see in a State to refuse what any other power standing in the same relation to him as you do would have taken; the Wealth and produce of a Country which he holds by no Sovereign right and must lose whenever your protection is withdrawn from it. Our opinion therefore and advice are in this case that you should without hesitation or reserve exact and apply both to the General relief and preservation of your Government of which he is a dependent Member. We shall certainly apply the Wealth of these provinces in the relief of the affairs of your presidency while we can do so without imminent hazard of losing the whole, but a period may at sometime exist when we must cease from sending you Supplies, or when the resources from which they are drawn may fail us. This reduces the Question to a very short alternative, whether the Safety of the Carnatic shall be wholly provided for by the resources of a home and foreign State, or in part by its own, or in other words, whether the Nabob and Mahaj of Tanjore are to derive their existence and every Advantage from the protection of the Company with the Hazard of its destruction, and without any return even of Support in some great Cause, 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.

The want which you suggest of more authentic information than now at present we receive from the Board of the Nabob

1097

Fort St. George May 1781

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Nizam ally Saib has induced us to give Orders to M^r Holland to Correspond 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 desire not only on the Ground of Justice to M^r 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 hearty unious Concurrence of the two Presidencies in their support of the Common Cause.

We have a just conce of the proof 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 Orders sent to 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 Pearce. A Letter which we have this day received from him informs us that he was on the 15th Instant at Budnuck, a place about 21 Coos distant from Balasore, and we have the pleasure to believe that his passage will be entirely unobscured by the Troops of the Rajah of Berar, who it was supposed in common report would not permit them to march thro' the Province of Cuttack 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 Sir Egmont's Force and after providing as well as circumstances would admit for the defence of our own provinces, added to the resolution which we originally took, to wait for the advice which we expected from Berar before we ordered it to pass the boundary of the Province, prevented its moving sooner than the 21st. Ultimate but we are convinced that

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Fort St. George May. 1781

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little time has been lost on this account, as the Country thro which the troops must pass is so lowly situated that the water remains for a Considerable time after the Conclusion of the rainy season, so as not to permit a passage of any Troops over it.

It gives us pleasure to inform you that the operations of the Detachment acting to the northward on the other side of the River Sumner under the Command of Lieut. Colonel Gamble have been very successful, that we are in possession of Sippore & many other Forts in the Malva province which belongs to the Maratta Chief Madajee Sindia and that there is an early 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 shew every sign of the satisfaction which they would experience in a change of Masters.

In your letter of the 23rd Ultimo is enclosed copy of a Letter received by the Nabob from his Viceroy at Poona, by which you say that you are happy to perceive the Administration there are inclined to pacific terms. In so the conclusion is very different, and we are sorry to be compelled to draw it in Conclusion if any other we wish for peace with the Maratta State but we will not make peace on terms dishonorable to ourselves, We will not disgrace the English name by submitting to conditions which cannot be complied with without a sacrifice both of our honors, our Interest. & yet such are the conditions prescribed in the paper 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 Seringapatam, such terms were agreed to be proposed to the Maratta State thro the mediation of the Rajah of Poona as appeared to us very reasonable, and such as might be honorably yielded to on both sides, they were such therefore we thought would not be refused by the Enemy, but the effect has we fear been much otherwise, Instead of finding them inclined to make peace, the distress

1099 Fort St George May 1781

2 which the Company's arms had suffered in the Carnatic, and their belief of our consequent inability to support the war against them, has raised their presumption, and induced them to insist on terms for the conclusion of it which the worst state of our affairs would not warrant us in yielding to. We are now morally 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,

Honble Sirs & Sirs

Your most obedient

Humble Servants

Warren Hastings

Edw. Wheeler

Fort William
the 26th February 1781

5th
To The Honble Chas. Smith Esq.

Received the following Letters.

President & Select Committee

Fort St George

Honble Sir and Sirs

From M^r Holton
advising that the
negotiations have
been endeavouring to
withdraw the troops
from the Vizams
interests and enclosing
a letter to him from
Bengal

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 two Letters from Sir Eyre Coote of the 12th & 22nd 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 Honors &c of the 15th March and of my Letter

Fort St George May 1781

5

to the Governor General of the 3^d 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, unless I shall hear of the appointment of a successor, until June, or until I shall receive further Instructions grounded on yours and Sir Eyre Coote's communications to the Supreme Council, and on the important tenor of the Letters I have had the honor to receive and to answer to them as above mentioned. —

An attempt was made soon after Fazel Beg Cawn's death, by some of his near relations, among whom I am told of his Brother Subit Beg's Son, was the foremost, to get possession of the Seal from his Son a youth of 16 years of age, and to draw over the troops to act against the Nizam's authority, they were however defeated in this intention, by the exertions, as I am informed, of one of the late Amiers principal Servants named Rustum Ally Khan; some of them it is said have by the orders of Fazel Beg's Son, been since executed, and the affairs of that Country are at present quiet. His Highness has given orders to the Zemindars and Agents of those Districts to account for their tribute and rents to Fazel Beg's Son and to consider him as possessed of the same authority with his late Father. The death of this Amier, of which I informed the President in my Letter of the 2^d Instant, is a very important event, and might if his Highness were at present ill disposed to us be considered as deeply affecting our political Interests at this Court. Fazel Beg was a powerful Counterpoise to his Highness's movements to us, might in certain situations have been successfully employed to obstruct the latter in any view of hostility against the Company's Government, he had raised himself to great power and independence, was possessed of a large army and treasury and many strong Forts, and was not only

Beg's

to vast

1101 Fort St. George May 1781

5 from the nature of his situation, but possibly also perhaps from habit and Esteem having served 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.

Fazil 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 I see as I am told, are privately set over them, to watch their motions, his brother's son who is at Sirmat, is, as I am informed a man of courage and enterprise, there are some very strong Forts in the possession of the Family, among these Nirmat is the principal, great sums were laid out by Fazil Beg in fortifying it, and it is said to be a very strong piece of Work, as so many of Fazil Beg's Family are here, and his eldest son now at Sirmat is a more youth, his Highness has a better chance of succeeding in any views he may have upon the decayed Ameer's possessions, but if it should happen that the heir should take the line of resisting his Highness's authority, and of defending the Fort, it will cost his Highness's army from their want of skill in Engineering, a great deal of time and trouble to reduce them, and even their utmost efforts may fail. The places are said to be well stocked with a very large Quantity of that kind of provisions that is made up in this Country for keeping good for years. His Highness, as I am told, has written very kind Letters to Fazil Begs son, with assurances of his protection, and of security in the possession of his Father's Honors & Fortune, and he has employed all those other ingratiating methods so usual at these Courts, in points of ceremonious attention to conciliate the heir's submission and obedience.

At a visit which I paid to his Highness

1102 Fort St. George May 1781

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Some Days ago, I informed him of Col. Parces arrival in the Circars and expressed a hope that he would assist the Army with Provisions in their march by Guntur, to which he replied, tho' still either from a tenaciousness of Character or from a dislike of giving offence to the Marathas, with a degree of reservation regarding his unsettled Claims, that what that Country afforded should be supplied, but that the produce of it was Panaloo, which might not, he thought, be acceptable to the Bengal Seapoys, who had probably been used to Price; he still continued to recommend strongly, as he had often 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 out march our main army as to have sufficient time to destroy them.

On my informing his Highness that many of Hyders people had come off to us, he told me that he had received letters from all his principal Officers, offering assurances of being entertained to quit Hyders service and to come to Hydrabad.

I am Most Obedient Servant

With Great Respect
your most Obedient
Humble Servant
John Holland

Hydrabad 24th April 1781

John Holland Esq^r

(Copy)

President at the Court of his Highness the Nabob Vizier Ally
Sawm — at Hydrabad —
Sir

We have received your letter of the 25th Ultimo, and the Governor General has laid before us your address to him, the same date.

to

Bengal

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 forcible 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 Nizam Ally Cawn, and as an acknowledgement of the services performed by you during your residence thereat, 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

Sirs

Fort William
the 19th March 1781

Your most obedient
Humble servants

(signed) Warren Hastings
Edw. Wheeler

To The Honble Chas. Smith Esq.

President and Governor & the Select Committee of

Fort St. George

Honble Sirs & Sirs

From Col. Dixon informing
of the depredations com-
mitted by the Enemy
& sending a return of the
troops in his Garrison -

I had written to your Honors of the Enemy
having visited this Country and after burning and plundering for
several days on the north side of the river, and between this and Tanjore
retired to the Eastward the 22nd Inst. since which we have been quiet
and I now hear Hyder himself has advanced to Tanjore, which must
prevent the lately elevated Rajah of Ramnad from proceeding on his
march to his own Country, indeed without money & a sufficient force
it would be as much in vain as it must be dangerous to him, notwithstanding

Fort St George May 1781

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the professions of some Mutineers who would very reluctantly lay down their usurped power. The Forts in the Maravar Country: the four principal excepted have fallen into their hands and from the latest account they have possessed themselves of Adingee and another Fort in the Tanjore Country which I hear had been ordered to be evacuated - M^r De Souza has been very dilatory and in spite all I could say he waited and delayed still increasing his and the Rajah's difficulties till it is now too late and I believe he has laid down the Idea of proceeding or moving the Rajah from hence at present as well because of the danger as want of money our own wants are great the Europeans not paid for marching M^r Ram without hopes of realizing any Cash. The produce of the Country is not equal to the Subsistence expences or as the last resource I have sent a party of Europeans to Madras to collect down some Cash at the Company's wish which I had intended myself to obtain from a Sugar & for which your paymaster will grant Bills in favor of me at Madras whose head Gornastah here has very often supplied our wants but his business being greatly impeded and himself highly disgusted at having the sale of his Grain prevented by the Receiver of any man deserves indulgence for political reasons, it certainly is this man because he has it in his power effectually to stop all Credit and Circulation which between the Receiver & Mahar Cawri has suffered already very considerably the blame before which rested on one man is now divided between them never the less we carry on the Publick Works in spite of these impediments - The Troops of this Garrison of which I have now the Honor to send you a return consist as follows: -

Company's Cavalry mounted	50
D ^o Dismounted	291
Artillery Sepas	16
6 th Battalion fit for duty Officers &c included	570
19 th Battalion D ^o	1119
Total	1846

Fort St. George, May, 1781.

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

Trichinopoly 27th April 1781

Honble Sir and Sirs

most faithfull

your Medical Servant

Eccles Nixon

P. S. I beg leave to mention to your Honors that M. Morris has been essentially useful in superintending the Works of this Place a 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 presumption in requesting it. I have received the Cypher in the 2^d Column.

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

Semed^r Narmapah of 6th BattⁿD^r Eastory Nague D^rD^r Lall Bah D^r

having advanced 100 Star Pag^s each
bounty money for the raising of 300
recruits for the Service appointed
Subidars the 27th February 1781 -

Abdel Cawder Semid^r of the 2^d Troop Comp^y having paid 100 Star Pag^s for the above purpose appointed a Subidar the 24th April 1781 -

Shamheri Cawon, having raised at his own private expence 40 recruits for the Service appointed a Semid^r the 24th April 1781

To The Honble Chas. Smith Esq.

Governor &c. Select Committee

Fort St. George

Honble Sir and Sirs

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter dated the 23^d and have everything in readiness for my march at a moment's warning - I am just informed that the Venkatgheri people

From Capt. Edmunds mentioning the defeat of the Venkatgheri people by Lallah

1106. Fort St. George May 1781

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5 had a skirmish with Lallaho party near Achamafoath in which the former were worsted. I have the honor to be with respect.

Humble Sir and Sirs

Orangethorpe May 1781

Your most Obedient
Humble Servant

6 received the following Letter from Mr. Edw. Edmunds Esq.

To The Honble Chas. Smith Esq.

President & Governors & Select Committee

of Fort St. George

Gentlemen

I had the honor of writing you on the 10th Inst. and of enclosing for your information Copy of a Letter I had received from Gen. Goddard dated from Condolah above the Gants the 5th Mo. I have since received intelligence from Hyder's Camp, and which corresponding in the material point of there being no hopes of peace with the Marattas. I shall here relate the particulars as they have been communicated to me and wish most sincerely we had not such good Grounds as those we are possessed of to believe the whole to be true.

Hyder has received a Letter from Vasingh his Officer at Ponnah dispatched about twenty days ago wherein he writes him as follows -
"I have before acquainted you of Halkor having come hither because of sick ness - he is now recovered and returned to Camp. The English Army is now encamped near to the Village of Pirna Willy, there has been no fighting of late and there is no appearance of Peace - I have sent for one and spoke to me as follows - "I see no hopes of peace taking place between us and the English"
"They told me that every thing should be settled agreeable to our wishes but they do not - upon the strength of that assurance I for some time was disposed to coincide with them but the whole has been a promise - On these

Goddard, From Sir Eyre Coote -
advising of his expedition
against the Nizams and
enclosing a Correspondence
dated from St. Holland -
the Inhabitants of
Pondicherry - Ch. Lang
& Lieut. Blau -

an empty

1107 Fort St. George May 1788

6 " These reasons I shall write a Letter to your Master and do you also write a Letter
" to the following effect, that in the space of two months the rainy Season will
" commence in this Country, and we shall both (alluding to the English and
" themselves) " go into Cantonments, whatever is to happen will be after the
" rains. Conformably to my Engagements I shall send to him five thousand Three
" under Mullagee's trust, 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.
" These are the terms in which Hanna desired me to write - Hanna wishes
" were that Pragonaut Row should be delivered up to them, and to have restored to
" them all the Country the English have conquered - but the English do not
" and I am certain never agree to it - I have gained to your side Hutter, it will
" be proper therefore you shew him regard -"

Hyder upon reading this Letter was much
rejoiced and sent for the Gomastah of Bichangee the Banker 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 Hutter
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 support his Interests and
Connection with the Marattas to that which we have adopted and so
strenuously persist in - To Conciliate, it would appear is a principle exploded
from our Politics, it may be agreeable to the rules usually practised in
Political pursuits, but I confess neither my reason nor my judgment will
allow me to subscribe to the Expediency of its 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 pulling
a period to our Wars in some Quarter or another -

Enclose for your information Copies of Letters which I have
received from Col. Lang & Lieut. Pao - It is of the utmost importance
that Col. Lang should receive a supply of Cash. I entreat if you therefore

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Fort St George May 1781

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to use all possible means of sending him some, as it appears by the foregoing Intelligence from Mysore Camp, that Buchanenge's Gomastah has been the person employed to remit money to Poonah in order to support Mysore's interests with that nation. I see no reason why Buchanenge himself whilst reaping the benefit of living under our protection at Madras should not be obliged to assist us in the present instance, which he may certainly do without much difficulty as the Garrison of Wallah is at no great distance from Arcot, where I know it for a fact he has Agents. If he refuses I should apprehend that he would afford too good grounds for suspecting him of an improper attachment to the Enemy's Cause.

Having received intelligence that a considerable Detachment of the Enemy not less than 20,000 Horse and Foot under Command of Meer Saib Hyder Khothari in Law would encamp at or near Tirichy on the 16th inst. I resolved to try whether I could not surprise them. Accordingly marched myself that night about 11 O'clock with a Detachment consisting of the Bengal Infantry six Battalions of Sepoys making in all about 2000 men, with their Complement of Guns, the European Troop of 27, & 400 of Black Cavalry with their Infantry and Guns. We pursued our march with expedition, good order and Silence, until about 2 O'clock in the morning when the advanced Guard alarmed a small Picquet of the Enemy's Horse which were standing ready mounted in the middle of the road, one of which discharged a pistol or Carbine & the whole rode off with the greatest precipitation. From that instant every hope that of surprising the Enemy vanished for we were then full six miles distant from the place they were said to be encamped and in less than ten minutes there were fires lighted both to the right and left in front of us which are the Signals whereby they not only mark our line of march but announce our approach to the head of their troops. Notwithstanding I cannot prospect of accomplishing my first Object, I had some hopes the Enemy from their numbers might be disposed to attack us, therefore pursued my march

Fort St. George May 1781

On Monday in a certainty that I should at last find some Bullies and keep fit for Provisions for the Army, at day break we had arrived within about two miles of Trividy when we discovered large bodies of the Enemy's Horse in our front and 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 Infantry and retask them. The Horse which appeared on our front betwixt us and Trividy retired, some part there that turn but the greater part behind a Tank (the Ground within which being swampy and broken showing a bank lying along the front on the right of our line of march) where they were joined by great numbers from the Southward & joining from the Village of Panrady to the Westward. Observing that they had collected in considerable force in our rear and were harassing them with rockets I ordered the line to halt and to form on the bank of the tank (which extends above a mile) and at the same time two Companies of the Infantry belonging to the Cavalry under Command of Lieut. Paris, to take possession of the Fort of Trividy, which he did without opposition. The Garrison with the Garrison surrendered at discretion, they were in number 22 and upon examination I was surprized to find that not only the Commandant but many of them were men formerly in the British and a Service and all of them inhabitants of this Country. A single man belonging to Hyder's Country amongst them, who had accompanied him from it. This is a very striking instance in proof of what I have already mentioned, that we were not only fighting against Hyder but the whole inhabitants of the Carnatic. The number of the Garrison as found upon examining the Commandant consisted of 300, of which 210 with the Mulla had gone off early in the morning upon hearing of our approach. The military Stores which we found and brought off from Trividy were as follows. Firelocks 20. Gun Powder 12 Barrels. Salt Petre Christianized L. B. Mucket & Mocket Cartridges 780. There was besides some Gun Powder which the Officer threw into a Well before he quitted the place. There was also found in it a pretty large quantity

1110 Fort St. George May 1781

Of Paddy and some Grain, besides many boards of both in the town of which the fellows brought off as much as they could carry the rest for want of Carriage we were obliged to leave behind it altho' as considerable as it was rendered the possession of it of the greatest importance in this Army in its present situation. I did not chuse to destroy it as we could derive no advantage thereby further than destroying the poor Villagers.

With respect to this Subject I beg leave just to mention to you that by a number taken of our cattle the 15th Inst. there were wanting to complete our Draught Poultrage and of Carriage Bullack and other necessary for carrying the Boxes and Camp Equipage belonging to the Army 27 and many of those which have been used upon in both Capacities are in the same return reported on for Service Carriage Bullack for Grain there are none. What few are now left to the Boats are no more than sufficient to carry what is necessary for the Boatmen &c. we can get for the general consumption of the troops. This simple statement of the Facts will serve to convince you how totally impossible it is to make the Army to any important Military operation without such a simple march of the difficulty with which it will be done when one party may require it.

After having formed the Line I found that the Rockets from the Enemy could reach us and altho' at an immense distance were thrown with great exactness. Such of the Trees as were within the range of our Cannon covering the Rocket boys were soon dispersed by a few shot which did some execution. A small party of Sepoys being advanced in front from the different Corps kept the Rocket boys at a respectable distance, at so much that they threw their Rockets in future with great uncertainty excepting on the bright Mark where fired by some Rocket and Mungoe. These then approached near enough to be able to throw them amongst us, but fortunately did no execution. Continued in this position during the day and then firing a shot when the Force came within the range of our Cannon. At length the Enemy retired.

1111 Fort St. George May 1781

6 to dress their Victuals and the Caraboy and Draught Bullocks to be fed and refreshed.

Having detached a Battalion of Seapoys and the Mharatta Cavalry in the morning to collect some Cattle to the Southward of Pondy, three or four of the latter having gone to too great a Distance from the rest of the Party were attacked by a superior number of the Enemy's Horse, who killed one of them & took another Prisoner with both Horses.

Altho I had certain information from a Mharatta taken Prisoner in Col. Baillie's action and who found an opportunity to come over to us that the Enemy had both Infantry and Guns and 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 Pondy, I resolved to return to Camp and accordingly commenced my march back in the Evening. It happened as I expected that we were soon attacked by the Enemy's Bricks and which they continued to annoy us with during the night and killed a Hindoostani and a Lascar belonging to the Bengal Artillery and wounded two Seapoys. A body of the Enemy's Horse mistaking our Rear Guard for some of their own Troops came close up to them & before they could recover themselves from their mistake we had time enough to salute them with five or six thousand of Grape & some Platoons from the Musketry of the Rear Guard & which as we have learnt by Villagers who are sincere in and our own Spies from their Camp that we killed and wounded about 100 Horse & 150 or 160 men among whom were said to be killed two men of Distinction both Commanders of Horse and one of them a near Relation of Meer Saib.

By the intercession we made with the Enemy and being obliged to move slow in order to bring in the Cattle we had collected, the Detachment did not all arrive in Camp until the 18th in the morning at nine o'clock.

Fort St George May 1781

6

The other Losses we sustained on this Expedition were Coning James of the Marchmen, who was unfortunately shot dead by a Musket belonging to one of his own people going off by accident - Wounding one Lance of the Coast Artillery, a Dragoon, and a Sepoy.

The Europeans stood out the march without and became extremely well, but on the 19th upwards of 50 of them were in the Hospital chiefly with Bilious fluxes. The weather is extremely hot and no wind from the above port, altho' it was not a Service of great fatigue and performed principally in the night, that when we come to march for any number of days together, it will prove fatal to our Europeans who are at present rather unhealthy.

What I have been saying with respect to this little Expedition convinces me more and more of the total impossibility of gaining any essential advantage over the Enemy without a body of Horse. It is an object of such necessary Importance to our carrying on the War with any chance of success against the Enemy that the Expence cannot be a matter of consideration, and every means ought to be exerted to obtain them. Our Finances it is true are low, inasmuch as to discourage our endeavours, but the signal advantages which almost instantaneously result by the Services I could perform with them would I am confident speedily revive our Credit.

Since we have left Pondichy the Enemy have reduced island all the Villages, no less than twenty miles round this Place, & have burnt all the Forage they could find anywhere on the Ground and drove every Sheep or Bull which they could discover far beyond the reach of a days march of the whole Army, & so that we which could not now with safety from the numbers and present situation of the Enemy go to procure them. So that this last supply of Cattle which was not small is the only one we are likely to have for some time to come.

That you may have every information in my power I forward you with Avenable you to form an Idea of the state of our affairs in General in as far as they relate to our connection with the British.

Fort St. George May 1781

6 encloses you the Duplicates of Letters which I have received from Mr. Holland his agent to 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 now 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 repeatedly 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 Marathas on our Terms will embrace the opportunity there is of joining the Nizam to our Interests. —

I have had the honor to receive your Letters of the 6th and 10th Inst. by the Sloop of War Capt. Stevens, and by the Success Galley, the former only stayed 24 Hours — What I could not bring within the Compass of a Letter for the information of the Admiral concerning the situation of our affairs, I trusted to Capt. Stevens to communicate to him verbally, and hope that I shall in consequence soon have the pleasure of seeing him here. The presence of the Fleet will be of the utmost utility in countervailing and giving Spirit to all our Operations, which it cannot fail of having an opposite effect in those of the Enemy. —

The arrival of the Success Galley has proved a most favorable circumstance as our Stock of rice was within four 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 send me as reasonable a supply and I trust that your good intentions will soon be fulfilled by the speedy arrival of these Vessels. As to my hopes of supplies from the Southward, I can rely upon none. Mr. M. Entickhorn whom I hope wrote you had given permission to proceed to the Trathur with a view to obtain Grain &c. for the use of the Army, had a conference by Letter from him and Mr. Mitchell a Gentleman belonging to your Sagore

Factor

1114 Fort St George May 1781

6 Factory, & who likewise having offered his Services in the same way at Negapatam, I accepted of and acquiesced in his going, got no further than Trimlicach the 22nd altho they left this place the 6th Inst. M^r Mitchell sent for my information a very civil Letter which he had received from the Governor of Negapatam with a Boat to carry him down to that place, and on board of which he says M^r Mitchell and himself were about to embark. —

I much approve of the Steps you have taken for the security of Bellore, & am happy that your Exertions with the Adet to get him to unite in and Countenance this important point have met with success and I trust that he will in no degree relax in obliging his Agents to implicitly obey his Orders. This becomes the more necessary as I shall instruct Col. Pearce to take up his Station at Bellore on his arrival there unless circumstances shall have enabled me to determine finally regarding the further progress of the Detach^{ment} more precious to that point. At all events it is of the utmost consequence there should be a large quantity of Provisions collected at Bellore, and as many Bulls as can be had to carry them. In our present situation there cannot be too much of the former or too many of the Latter. —

The 2 Carriages I never meant should have remained here, that but the Vessel on which they came last from Negapatam had landed them & it said for your place before I had time to send an order for their continuing on board they would have proceeded to you by that opportunity to Madras, they shall therefore be sent to you by the first good opportunity. There has been some mistake in sending 4 Carriages from Madras on board the Alfred, as it was false, nothing but the Carriages being required. —

I return you thanks for the Copies you have so obligingly sent one of Col. Pearce's Letters to your Committee. I have myself received several Letters from him by which I find he has rec^d two of mine. The various accidents and Calamities which have befallen his Detach^{ment} must

1115 Fort St George May 1781

are truly lamentable, are the more to be regretted as happening at so distressful a period which require that it should have arrived in the fullest vigor and spirit. With respect to reinforcing him with Drafts from the Circar Battalions, ordering any of the Battalions entire to join him are both of them Steps, which I should be happy could be avoided. The former entirely disapprove as a measure which might be productive of many discontents; indeed I conceive it would be altogether impossible to reconcile the Leaders of the two Services to act cheerfully together in the manner they would unavoidably be intermixed as Drafts. The reinforcing of Col. Pearse's Detachment by complete Battalions is subject to one very material objection, viz. that it would leave the Circars, which are now our only certain money resources, almost defenceless. However as I see the absolute necessity there is that Col. Pearse's Detachment should be sufficiently strong to repel any probable force the Enemy might send to oppose its march, it may be proper to order one or two of the Circar Battalions to join him. But I confess I wish their numbers could be converted into a body of Cavalry as they could be infinitely more serviceable to him, at all events whatever diminution the present force in the Circars may undergo I would recommend its 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 Vizianam Rautya joining Col. Pearse is a point which I should chuse to rest upon his opinion and judgement as by having an opportunity of seeing them personally he can best determine what utility they may be

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1116 Fort St George May 1781

6 of so him, if Vizianam Passage has any number of Horse they ought by all means to be obtained to accompany him.

The Letter I received from Sir Edward Hughes & the Committee of Bombay the last bearing date the 23rd Feb^r are chiefly concerning the state of affairs between us and the Marathas, and in the sentiments they express only predict what we have already had too seriously confirmed true by Gen. Guder's last Letter, the little probability of effecting peace. The Admiral speaks with seeming certainty he should be able to sail from Bombay with his whole Squadron by the 15th of this month at the furthest. I think therefore that we may expect to see him here by the 16th of the ensuing Month.

I am well satisfied with your having availed yourselves of the Circumstances of Mr. Caches being at the Presidency to make use of his Services for a time, and cheerfully acquiesce in his absence during which time, I hope he will in justice to himself and the Service select a proper Person to execute the Duties of his Office with the Army.

The Master of Carington has paid the 2000^l Pay^l agreeable to my order for the payment of the Troops in that Garrison, and has also laid in a good deal of Grain. I believe not a man of the Nabob's Affair Garrison where he has Agents have done any thing of this sort. Not even at Chingliput, where there has been at least an equally good, nay better opportunity than at Carington.

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.

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

1117 Fort St George May 1781

6 Detachment as you have been informed in a former Letter went there under the Command of Lieut. Col. Owen of my Answer and their replication.

On the 2nd in the morning about 1500 of the Enemy's Horse having appeared in front of our Encampment. The Field Officers of the day moved out with a small Detachment composed of the grand Guards and Picquets consisting of 40 Horse & 70 Infantry with two six Pounders and one three Pounder in order as is usual 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 Enemy's Horse which issued from the Mangoe trees & Groves all around the whole computed to be about eight Thousand. The Detachment immediately formed in strong Ground and by keeping up a hot fire from the Guns in every direction all the Enemy's attempts to close were checked. Unfortunately whilst in that situation one of the six pounders burst, killed two Artillerymen and wounded two others and at the same instant a Corps of the Enemy's Infantry appeared in sight advancing regularly by Files towards the Detachment upon which the Officer in Command Lieut. Col. Owen moved on to a still more terrible post which lay in front being a Village with a small surmounting Pagoda and to which he had at first sent a Company of Sepoys to prevent the Detachment being rocketed from under the Cover during this movement the Sepoys behaved with the greatest steadiness, chiefly owing to the good Order Capt. Durochet kept amongst them, nor did the Enemy attempt to force them altho' so much superior in numbers, and the Body of Infantry which appeared at a distance retired. Advice 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 Priddy Passooty where they are said to have left their arms & Horse with their Infantry in charge of their Guns and Baggage. Apparently the Intelligence we have since received that this was a concerted scheme planned by Meer Jeeb who was said to have been personally present with 6000 of his best Horse and Guns from the Sanoot Rajah with the

Sanoot Rajah with

116 Fort St George May 1781

6 of to him. If Vizianam Range has any members of Horse they ought by all means to be obtained to accompany him.

The Letter I received from Sir Edward Hughes & the Select committee of Bombay the last bearing date the 23rd Feb^r are chiefly concerning the state of affairs between us and the Marathas, and in the sentiments they express only predict what we have already had too seriously confirmed to us by Gen. Goddard's last Letter, the little probability of effecting a peace. The Admiral speaks with seeming certainty he should be able to sail from Bombay with his whole Squadron by the 15th of this month at the furthest I think therefore that we may expect to see him here by the 1st or 6th of the ensuing Month.

I am well satisfied with your having advised yourselves of the Circumstances of Mr. Cahoon being at the Presidency to make use of his Services for a time, and cheerfully acquiesce in his absence during which time, I hope he will in justice to himself and the Service debate a proper Person to execute the Duties of his Office with the Army.

The Master of Caringby has paid the 2000 Pag^{as} agreeable to my order for the payment of the Troops in that Garrison, and has also laid in a good deal of Grain. I believe not a man of the Nabob's at the Garrisons where he has Agents have done any thing of this kind. Not even at Chingleput, where there has been at least an equally good, nay better opportunity than at Caringby.

The death of Fazel Beg Khan 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.

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

1117 Fort St George May 1781

6 Detachment as you have been informed in a former Letter went there under the Command of Lieut. Col. Owen of my Answer and their replication.

On the 25th in the morning about 1500 of the Enemy's Horse having appeared in front of our Encampment the Field Officers of the day moved out with a small Detachment composed of the grand Guards and Picquet consisting of 40 Horse & 70 Infantry with two six Pounders and one three Pounder in order as is usual 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 Enemy's Horse which issued from the Mangoe trees & Groves all around the whole computed to be about eight Thousand. The Detachment immediately formed in strong Ground and by keeping up a hot fire from the Guns in every direction all the Enemy's attempts to close were checked. Unfortunately whilst in that situation one of the six pounders burst, killed two Artillerymen and wounded two others, and at the same instant a Corps of the Enemy's Infantry appeared in sight advancing regularly by Files towards the Detachment upon which the Officer in Command Lieut. Col. Owen moved on to a still more terrible point which lay in front being a Village with a small swampy Pagoda and so which he had at first sent a Company of Sepoys to prevent the Detachment being retreating from under the Cover during this movement the Sepoys behaved with the greatest steadiness, chiefly owing to the good Order Capt. Davis kept amongst them, nor did the Enemy attempt to force them altho' so much superior in numbers, and the Body of Infantry which appeared at a distance retired. Advice 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 Priddy Parooty where they are said to have left their worst Horse with their Infantry in charge of their Guns and Baggage. Happenly by the Intelligence we have since received that this was a concerted Scheme planned by Meer Saib who was said to have been personally present with 6000 of his best Horse and Guns from the Arcot District with a

1118 Fort St. George May 1781

6 To cut off such a party as they knew from our former practice would move out on a body of Horse shewing themselves in front of our encampment and attacking our Camp Butters and Camp followers this intention has however been fortunately defeated 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 most obedient

Thumble Servant

Eyre Coote

Camp Newborn
28th April 1781

P.S. Whilst writing the above the Indas arrived.

Sir

A very bad state of health has laid me under the necessity of applying to the Gov^t Gen^l & Council for leave to resign this Station; but I may probably continue here until about the falling of the rains and the swelling of the River; and I shall employ that interval to the best advantage in my power in keeping his Highness steady in his present line of neutrality. There is not I think any probability for this year at least of your receiving any interruption in your operations from any army from this Quarter. I have herewith the pleasure to enclose to you a Copy of my last Letter to the Governor General and Council, by which you will perceive that as far as words may be relied on his Highness entertains no intention at present of joining the Arms of an Enemy.

I am happy to learn by a Letter from M^r Smith that the French Fleet had no troops on board & that they left the Coast to return to the Mauritius. I have lost a fine opportunity at the river and the

enemies

1119 Fort St. George May 1781

Q Reduction of our Power, & as far as numbers and resources go of giving a Preponderating Weight to the Enemy's scale. I heartily hope that Sir Edw. Hughes may fall in with them, & disable them from making another Trip; it is evidently so much their Interest to bring Hyder a powerful Reinforcement, that their neglecting to do it, will be a egregious defect of exertion and duty, and will not, I think on our part be trusted to. If Hyder should give you an early opportunity of engaging 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 with his usual Judgement protract the contest in expectation of the French Success.

His Highness still continues with all his Family taking the Pleasures of the Country and Hunting Sports.

I am, Sir,

With Respect

Your most obedient Humble Servant

John Holland

Hydrabad
15th March 1781

Lieut. Genl. Sir Eyre Coote R. B.

Commander in Chief &c. &c. &c.

(Copy)

The Honble Warren Hastings Esq.

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 Jan^r, & my Letter to the Gov^r Genl. advised of my having received his Letter endorsed by Mr. Colclough for his Highness the Nizam.

Finding that there was uncertainty with respect to the time of his Highness's return, to town, I sent out my servants and went

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to

1120

Fort St. George May 1781

6 To his Camp Yesterday, to deliver the Governor General's Letter, upon Perusal of
 it, his Highness expressed himself, with every appearance of Sincerity, in terms
 of great satisfaction; he was exceedingly well pleased with the Declaration
 made of your acquiescence in his taking the management of the Gentoo
 Affairs, & with the tenor of the Letter in General, which he said was grounded on
 a just and Candid view of the various circumstances, that had excited his alarm
 and resentment. He added in that high style which seems to be the Etiquette
 of this Court, that it was true he had given permission to some of our Enemies
 to take such steps as they might think proper in the prosecution of their
 own Quarrels with us, that it could not reasonably have been expected, under
 the provocation and disgusts he had received, that he should have taken
 the friendly part of interposing in our behalf, but that we had still Enemies
 who waited his movement, and were restrained only by his Moderation,
 that altho' it was the Style of most Governments to seize opportunities
 of extending their possessions, he had nevertheless from a strict regard to
 justice & to the Faith of the treaty subsisting between him and the Company,
 forbore to take a hostile part against us, altho' powerfully solicited to do
 by our Enemies, and he believed we should readily acknowledge, had he been
 ill disposed to us, that the Occasion was fair for his drawing Advantages from us, but
 that what gave him singular pleasure in the Letter he had now received, was that
 you seemed to be sensible of the value of his friendship, & being painful where
 important favors were conferred, that the party receiving them, should be acquaint-
 ed with their weight & merit. He did not urge any thing upon the Subject of the
 Petition at present, & added that what he says upon public business during the
 Conference, was that as the Letter was very full and explicit, it had only left
 me to express a Hope, that his Highness would henceforward consider the Company
 as his firm Friends, & the Differences that had subsisted between them, amicably
 and cordially accommodated. I shall use my best endeavors to engage him
 to make some specific declaration to this Effect.

As no object appears to be more interesting to his Highness
 than the Settlement of affairs with the former Ministers to the conclusion of the

than a settlement of
 Ministers

enemies
 advantages

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Fort St. George May 1781

Q^d Mr. W. as there is our Subject, in which I have had more frequent occasion to take pains to conciliate his good humours, I have however never found him well disposed to credit the declarations, I have at different times made him, relative to our connection with Mangaraut Row. His reply has been uniformly that you had taken no steps to satisfy the Marathas, and to verify your assertions on that point, that had the Bombay Government acted without your orders in an affair 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 repeating so often the same declarations against such fixed incredulity. I must however acknowledge, that I was enabled to execute this duty with the less impatience from an idea of the just apparent grounds on which his Highness's mistrust was founded, and of the Effect, that the contradictory appearances subsisting must necessarily have produced in opposition to what I strive to establish. Truth connected with interesting political Objects, in the belief of which important events are involved can never find an easy entrance in the minds of those who from the nature of a despotic Government, have been bred from their youth in Suspicion. Those which I had to enforce were not only liable to be disbelieved as being of this Character, but further more particularly so from the circumstance above mentioned of your forbearance towards the supposed offending Party, and from the assertions running counter to former Usage between the English Government and this Court, a point I justly 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. Altho I had no 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's mind easy upon the Subject of our connection with Mangaraut Row, which will appear by my Letter to the Select Committee of the 31st Aug^r 1779, but independent of this attestation, & of my consequent declarations to his Highness,

1122 Fort St. George May 1781

he
Q founded on the Instructions, received from the Governor General of the 16th Dec^r 1779, his Highness has in his possession, the Governor General's Letter of the same Date upon this Subject, and has therefore, if the Interest he takes in the affair would allow him to believe it, the fullest Information of the nature of our connection with the Marattah Chief; it is in reality a point concerning which he will not cease to be uneasy, as long as it shall remain in Suspence.

As the Gov^r General's Letter to his Highness, takes no notice of this interesting subject, I thought there might have been some degree of Indiscretion, in my making his Highness the declaration your Letter ordered relative to this point, during the Visit at which I delivered it. I should have done it of course with great propriety pursuant to your Order, had I had an opportunity of speaking to his Highness on the Subject, upon the receipt of the Letter. As the nature of our connection with Muzumdar was a point in which his Highness seriously interest himself, he would have been surprised that the Governor General's Letter, had been silent upon it, and my assurances consequently would not only, have not satisfied him, but have had a Tendency to bring my word into 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 I formerly had. ~ I am

Hydrabad 10th March 1781

Wthble Sirs Sirs

With great Respect
your most obedient

Humble Servant

(signed)

John Mollond

To His Excellency General Cote (Translation)

Sirs

It is with the greatest confidence that the Inhabitants of Pondicherry lay before you the particulars of this unfortunate affair.

1123 Fort St. George May 1701

Q which happened in this town on the 10th Inst. occasioned by the detachment under the command of Colonel Owen.

The news of Ariancapam (which is dependent on Pondicherry) having been plundered caused a general alarm in this town, where every person barricaded his house particularly the Puzas people many of whom sought their safety by flight. About 11 o'clock in the morning part of the troops composing the Detachment having entered the town, the Puzas and several houses in the black town were broken open and pillaged of every thing. They carried out of some houses even the very clothes the Women had on. The European houses were likewise forced open, in particular those belonging to an Officer of Artillery and to M^r. Mussy both of which are opposite to the Government house. This disorder by which the black people became the principal sufferers, at the same time falls heavy upon the French Inhabitants as the Persons who were plundered were their Merchants and Shopkeepers.

Surely Sir a Capitulation bought 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 dearth 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 separated from their Husbands, Widows and Orphans destitute of help or support and mere Beggars.

Such are the Inhabitants of Pondicherry who we know their misfortunes to you and demand your protection against your own Troops.

We address ourselves to you Sir with the greater confidence as we are firmly persuaded that it was contrary to your intention or that of Col. Owen that this disorder took place. The Inhabitants of Pondicherry

Fort St. George May 1784

6

know you too well for any one of them to wound your reputation with a suspicion of the kind. When you were last here we had fresh proofs of your integrity: no person had reason to complain of a single seizure and everything was carried on with the utmost order and tranquillity.

We hope that moved with our situation you will in future protect us from a similar misfortune. We call upon your humanity and justice & upon the terms of the Capitulation. In this expectation we flatter ourselves that you will quiet those fears which it is only in your power to dispel.

We are with respect

Sir

Your very Humble

and obedient Servant.

The Inhabitants of Pondicherry

Signed, Deslauriers, Vallur, Dela Salle, Manichanre, Francois De Bury, Martin, Dinkert, Reynaud, Deshayes, Baucher, Chouchard, Germain, Hall, Monginon, Bayet, Danza, Coulon, Hurant, J. W. Vite, Barran, Le Chevalier Daut, De Bury, De St. Fulgence, Saurere, Deferamp, Le Chevalier De Baupet, Ferriole, Violotte Hugon.

At Pondicherry

12th April 1784

A True Copy

W. Jerney

Secretary

Gentlemen

I have received a Letter under a variety of Signatures of persons who subscribe themselves the Inhabitants of Pondicherry complaining of Distresses which they have suffered from the irregularities committed by a Detachment of the Army sent thither by my orders under the Command of Lieut. Col. Owen. What has been the conduct of the Subjects of the French Nation in general

1125

Fort St. George May 17 81

Residing at Pondicherry since the invasion of the Carnatic by Hyder Ally Cawn, is notorious to the whole world to stand in need of any commendation from me to mark its infamy. ~

Of this they cannot but be themselves sensible and ought to consider the Lenity hitherto shown them as Indulgences which they had far less right to expect than merit. This when joined to the open Desire which the Officers in command of the Detachment evinced by the publication he made for the protection of their Persons & Property, ought to have swayed them to clemency - the more especially as any hardships they may have suffered are not to be brought into comparison with the cruelties which are daily inflicted upon Pircarrahs and other People belonging to the English and their dependents when passing thro' Pondicherry. The detention and imprisonment of Men engaged in the Publick Service is such a heinous offence to the honor, as injurious to the Interests of the English nation, and so evidently calculated to serve the purposes of the Enemy, as would not only authorize but vindicate any acts of severity which either might have been, or hereafter may be exercised against the inhabitants of Pondicherry. And who if they are desirous of being fully informed of the many and aggravated Instances of their misconduct (which do not entitle them to expect much help to ask for the English protection) will send M. Gerrard to me for that purpose. ~

I shall conclude with the mention of one very remarkable circumstance the infamous treatment of the Wives of the English Seapays who had not only been deprived of their liberty by being confined in a Dungeon but many of them dishonored and which so irritated the minds of the Seapays that it was with the greatest difficulty Col. Owen could restrain them from giving a loose to their just resentment and Indignation, by setting fire to the town - and which Col. Owen has 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. Col. P. P. Carter

Camp Leeward
15th April 17 81

1126 Fort St George May 1781
(Translation)

To General Sir Eyre Coote. —
Sir

We have just received the Letter you were pleased to honor us with on the 15th Inst. in answer to the Representations we took the liberty to address to you in our Letter of the 1st Inst. — We see with equal Grief and Surprise the Sentiments of Indignation you express against the Inhabitants of this Colony and we venture to say that the just confidence we always reposed on the Equity of the English Government, as well as the perfect knowledge we entertain of your own Justice, induced us to hope that we should have been exempted from the reproaches, imputations, and that they would have prevented your imputing to us 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 frequently in this town. — For this reason we shall not to exculpate ourselves from the blame thrown on us in your Letter, because we are in no shape concerned. — We shall content ourselves with assuring you that there is not a present in this Settlement a single Inhabitant to our knowledge who has infringed the Rights of the strictest neutrality or who has rendered himself unworthy of so sacred a Right as the Capitulation of Pondicherry.

Be assured Sir, that we are more desirous of your Compassion, rather than of your resentment, and since the time that your Troops occupied the place we have been daily exposed to the most dreadful calamities and in continual apprehensions of experiencing greater. —

The best time you was at Pondicherry Sir, you were pleased to dissipate the apprehensions we had conceived from some ill founded Reports, which your Reputation ought to have prevented. — We have acted in no respect since that time to render us unworthy of a continuation of your Favor. We know well that your Word is inviolable and we call on it with the confidence you have always inspired us with. —

Agreeable to the desire expressed in your Letter, Messrs Gerard and two other Gentlemen would have been sent immediately to lay before

attempt

lay

1127 Fort St. George May 1781

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your assistance, but the want of a Boat prevented their passage by sea, and the going by land is too dangerous to be attempted - We must defer them until more propitious times an opportunity of recommending ourselves personally to your protection - In expectation of which Sir, We hope you will be pleased to suspend your judgement on the Inhabitants of this Settlement and receive with goodness our repeated assurances of an irreproachable conduct.

We earnestly entreat of you to listen to our Entreaties and remove the Centre of a deadly Storm, and a number of Families, whose existence will be rendered more happy if you will condescend to calm their apprehensions of their future Fate. - We are with Respect

Sir

Your most humble & most obedient Servant

The Inhabitants of Pondicherry

Signed. Desolminiac, Francois De Bury, Martin, Burrau Grand Cade,
J. White, Deshayes, Le Chevalier De Baupet, Servat, Chauchard, De Bussy,
De La Palence, Violette, Danyel, Degravot, Vallat, De Picamp, Grand Dinter,
Doyet, De La Salle, Marichaux, Saurayere, Couton, Manginon, Rivard, Bouchet,
Haizon, Le Chevalier Dent.

A true Copy

W. J. Jerny Secy

At Pondicherry 11th April 1781

To Lieut. Genl. Sir Eyre Coote - R. B.

Sir

I was last night favored with yours of the 21st Ultimo, I have now in Store 20000 Columns of Powder, each Column for 6, weight Pouches Sir, a small quantity of very old horse grain, Saltz, and plenty of supply and Army, as to meat I have never had any great plenty for a long one time, as my small Garrison could not protect them a sufficient distance to feed - and at present the Enemy has drove all the flocks of Sheep and Cattle to a great distance, that we shall find it a difficult matter to get any - As to Muck & Ammunition, we have four hundred thousand made up, great plenty of Lead, Flint and Gun Powder, We have four six, and four three Pounders, with their Trunnions complete with field Ammunition, and we can make up

128. Fort St George May 1781

6

deal

more if wanted, 270 Draughts & 293 Carriage Bullocks both good of their kind. I beg leave to inform you that the great want of Money here has obliged us to expend a deal of our Garrison Stock, & we are consuming it daily, although we have a plentiful Bazar but dear, Rice at six Measures for a Rupee and every thing else in proportion.

On receipt of your Letter I consulted Mahomed Ali Khan the Nabob's Manager who has supplied us with meat ever since his appointment most plentifully, he knows this District well & assures me that was there a force here sufficient to dislodge Hyder's people from Seringapatam and Calish Gurry lower Fort and to keep possession of them, that with money all kinds of Provisions that an Army may want can be got amongst these hills in a short time, a Battalion or a half of Europeans will be sufficient. I have for some time past been trying to get the Poligars to the Southward of this place to take possession of Chithur for me, but they have not yet done it. I have however got them persuaded to throw off Hyder's Yoke, and it is but a few days since that one of them whose Country is about 10 Coss from hence stopped a Detachment of Hyder's troops with 4 Guns and obliged them to retreat, those people supply our Bazar with Provisions but all day in the night and at a great price. I am well persuaded that those people would supply this place most plentifully had we but money and troops to protect them.

I have the Honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient Humble Servant

(Signed) G. Dyer

Prop Lang

Yellore. 10th April 1781

To Lieut Genl Sir Eyre Coote R. B.
Commander in Chief S. S. S.

Sir

last

Since my last Letter I have procured a thousand Bullocks and Cows, five hundred Sheep and Goats, and am very likely to succeed well in procuring Grain as the people of the different Villages are coming daily, I also am collecting a Quantity of Straw which I hope will be acceptable

1129
 6th Fort St. George May 1781

should the Army come here. — Vortachillum a Subendy Subidar, formerly in the Service of the Permacoit Amuldar had placed himself in the Allatone Pottam with two hundred Subendies and some ~~troops~~ ^{troops} and prevented any of the Village people coming or my securing Grain from that Quarter. At last was obliged to send a Detachment commanded by Ensign Stuart against him who in a very little time made himself master of the Pottam. I have a Nague and two Leopards slightly wounded, the Enemy had a much greater loss besides being drove entirely out of the District — I am loth to procure more Cattle as there is no pasture near the Pook and they are dying fast, small parties of the Enemy's 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 Pootly man whom I am making collect Grain, he is also very capable of collecting Cash, but in that shall wait entirely your advice. I believe he is one who was acting against this place at the time of the Siege. People of the different Villages have offered to bring Cash on the Company's account, I will be glad you will inform me if I shall receive it — My Hamildar 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 under hand with the Subidar above away. — I have the honor to be Sir

Permacoit 17th April 1781

your very obedient Servant
 Signed James Plaw

7th

Letters.

Received the following

To The Honble Chas. Smith Esq.

President & Governor &c. — Select Committee of

Fort St. George

Honble Sirs & Jrs

We have received your Commands

of the 10th Instant.

1129

1130
7th
Fort St. George May 1781

From Masulipatam
advising of M. Daniell's
arrival and of having
shipped Treasures on board
the Lively Brig Capt.
Forrest.

M. Daniell arrived here yesterday upon the
Snow Hastings and the charge of the Settlement has been
delivered over to him by M. Hodges conformably to his appoint-
ment to this Chiefship.

Agreeable to your Orders we have shipped
upon the Honble Company's Brig Lively all the Treasure we can
possibly spare amounting to as per the Enclosed Invoice Madras
Pagodas 50,000, Rupees 50,000 from this Settlement and 200,000
received here from Vizagapatam, leaving only in our Treasury Madras
Pagodas 2618.. 31.. 52 and Rupees 22,741.. 7.. 8, and trusting to our
expected Supplies from the Towns for the Exigences of this Settlement and
the immediate demands of the Bengal Detachment.

M. Daniell having informed us that it was the
Governors desire the Lively might call at Cuddalore in case of Capt. Forrest's
making the Land to the Southward of that Port, we have recommended to
Capt. 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

M. Daniell
James Hodges
John Peter Boileau
Thos. Barnard
Alex. Pringle

Masulipatam }
8th April 1781

To The Honble Chas. Smith Esq.
President and Governor & Select Committee

Gentlemen

Fort St. George

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

1131

Fort St George May 1781

7th

From Gen^l Goode
 enclosing a return of all
 the Publick in the Army
 and a Extract of a Letter
 from Col: Pearce.

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, I experience a singular pleasure in observing that none of those arguments which you have stated in order to evince the propriety 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 disapprobation and I flatter myself they should long since by realizing those advantages which they promised to produce, given to the publick 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 marched from the Mount. However as the form and manner in which your Sentiments have now been conveyed to me, tend 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 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 protect my Honor and Military Character from blame under the severest professional Test.

Permit me to call to your memory & whereof 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. But even to

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1132

7th

Fort St. George May 1781

enable the Army to enter upon this Service, it was found indispensably necessary to send from the Mount 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 Mount whereas four 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 that it happened to be the Cold Season it is a Drudgery which I confess on so very critical an occasion I should not have taken the trouble I did to persuade them into. Any 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 furthest place of its destination, it was absolutely necessary to send before hand the small supply of rice as above mentioned to Chingleput.

On these terms Gentlemen, did I put the Army in motion and without having resources that I 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 Enemy's hands before my arrival, and which no man could venture to say might not have been the case, and of which I can furnish you with 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 event without a single Grain in our possession that I could have recourse to for a supply of rice I apprehend it will be a difficult point to solve how I was to have subsisted the Army in making even another days march, whether it might have been to return, or to proceed to Permacoil 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

1133

7th

Fort St. George May 1781

being almost insurmountable, I must in candour and in justice to myself declare that nothing but my firm Zeal for the Honour and Interests of my Country would have prompted me to risk my Military Character in taking upon me the Conduct of an Army, numerically equipped and which was to bid defiance to an Enemy who besides possessing every convenience that could facilitate his operations, outnumbered it more than Ten-fold.

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

First, I took Carringtony which from the small supply afforded us of Grain proved to be an acquisition of that importance as alone to have enabled me to prosecute the Service for which I originally set out, Second, I raised the siege of Vandewash supplied the Garrison with corn money and made such arrangements for its future maintenance, as either the means I was possessed of, or my time would admit. Third, The approach of the Army had obliged the Enemy to abandon the Siege of Permaicot, 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 Permaicot, when I received Letters from your Committee informing me that a French Fleet was off Madras with such a piece of Intelligence before me, and considering it was a point previously ascertained to that Fort St. George was the grand national object and which in all eventual circumstances I was not to lose sight of, I had no alternative left but that of returning to its security. I accordingly counter-marched the Army and had a dragoon as far as Carringtony in my way back, when I received Letters from Capt. Bishop then commanding at Permaicot, informing me that several of the French Ships had passed to the Southward & were supposed to have anchored off Pondicherry. This determined me to take post at Carringtony and to wait the result of further advice from your Committee, which I was convinced would clear up the point.

1134

7th

Fort St. George May 1781

I anxiously wished to ascertain whether the French Squadron had made any disposition tending to endanger our Settlement of Fort St. George. Having by the information conveyed in your succeeding Letters been sufficiently satisfied that by sailing to the Southward they could have no immediate designs 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 altho the difficulties I then encountered as to the means of either procuring or carrying provisions had in no respect been either remedied or removed on the contrary the latter had by occasional failures in our Carriage been increased, whilst our prospects on the former score were in no shape improved by any hopes of supplies by land and those which it was agreed 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 Permacoit, 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 - I accordingly moved having in mind three objects, The relief of Permacoit by affording it what succours were in my power, the distressing of the Enemy's 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 Enemy, 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 I did march to the Southward - The First I accomplished, as I did also the Second, by spiking and rendering otherwise unserviceable, all the Gun and Military Stores I could find in Pondicherry, and burning all the boats except four which happened to be on board the Fleet and which have

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

1135

7th

Fort St George May 1781

since been destroyed together with a great number of Gallamars. These Services were performed when situated between Hyder's main Army & the French Squadron, to both of which I showed an Army on the red Hills with only one days Price in Time; In this unprovided and distressed condition, I moved to save this place (which from its defenceless state must have fallen into the Enemy's hand) altho I knew from the Letters I had received from your 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 arrival, and whilst digging the Earth to find grain for a daily subsistence, I marched the troops without the bounds of this place, and offered the Enemy then all around me a Battle; however they declined coming to an action, altho I sent parties forward to insult their advanced Posts and to endeavour to provoke them to it. The Enemy having upon this movement of mine marched to a greater distance, there was nothing in that moment more my wish than to have been so equipped in Carriages 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, an entire want of Provisions, did I feed and keep the Army together, until the departure of the French Fleet and the Supplies you were then at liberty to send 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 alleged that my distress for Provisions being removed, I had it equally in my power to prosecute my intention of going to the Southward, as I had to march from the Mount to Vandewash - The Observation may possibly be

1136
7th
Fort St George May 1781

very just ones, but it can be no good Argument in proof of the propriety 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 now can be made to argue in favor of any present movement of the Army and that might put to risk those advantages which have been acquired - The Credit of our Arms by the unhappy defeat of the Detachment under Lt Col. Baile, had suffered most severely, our Military Reputation as well as our Influence in the Carnatic were day after day falling into greater decay, and were then threatened with further mischief by having three important Garrisons closely besieged and hard pressed, Vizt. Vellore, Vandavasi, & Permacot, all of which have been happily relieved and are now free from molestation, nor will the Enemy dare to renew their attempts upon them whilst I keep my present position. These were in my mind considerations of such weighty importance, as to call for some uncommon exertion, whilst they served in a certain degree to vindicate me in running the risk. I do, by marching the Army from the Mount under the accumulated Disadvantages above related.

Having done more than fulfilled the Services which the Army took the field to execute, or were expected of it to perform, and having I flatter myself by that means, retrieved in a most essential degree the Credit and Reputation of our Influence in the Carnatic, and having repeatedly since my arrival here defeated the Enemy's Parties which lay within the little Circle to which I have necessarily been obliged to confine my operations, and always maintained a superiority & gained advantages with little or no loss, Reaping as we most certainly do all the beneficial effects arising from those acquisitions, permit me the liberty of stating

acquired

1137 Fort St George May 1781

7th

The question, how I should be able to acquit myself of those Employ-
-ers, or in the Eyes of my King and Country, were I in direct contradiction to
my own Judgement, but it is upon that important Military Trust which
they have done me the honor to charge me with, Voluntarily to expose
every thing to risk, by moving an Army when surrounded by a formidable
Enemy or ill equipped as not to have the means of carrying one stage piece
of which the Return I have the honor to Enclose you will bear testimony.
It contains an account of all the Bulls who belonging to the Army, & shews
that in the numbers requisite for moving the Artillery, Camp, Equipage
and necessary Stores, there is a deficiency of 92 Draught & 600 Carriage
Bulls. This being the real state of things, as they now stand in this
Army, I should be happy to be informed in what manner I am to march
it at all, much less to effect any important Military Operation. The
better to convince to you, what in a Military light is esteemed necessary
for an Army to have, I beg leave just to mention to you, that in a Letter
I have recd. from Col. Pearse dated the 11th April, he has informed me
that in order to be provided against all accidents, that he should require
7380 Bulls simply for the Carriage of Provision for his Army
which by the last return consists only of men. I must on this
occasion beg leave to refer you to the Return I have enclosed, whereby
you will perceive that the whole number of Bulls attached to the
different Corps and Departments of this Army falls considerably
short of the numbers estimated by Col. Pearse for the Carriage
of Provisions alone. For your more particular information, I send you
an Extract from his Letter:—

Having stated all these circumstances to you,
and which prove the impossibility of marching this Army at all, with
with the greatest difficulty and danger. It does not seem immediately
necessary that I should enter upon an enquiry whether a Southern or a
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 convinced that many advantages might have resulted from it.

Fort St. George May 17 81

7th

altho' 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. It is 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 the same part which he has done by means of his immensity of Country in the Carnatic, plundered and burnt every Village which might have lain in the tract of my march, and for many miles around, I 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 leave, have remained unmolested, and are now inhabited, which favors the hope, that at a future period we may reap the benefits to be expected from their present tranquillity. As to the Forts of Tanjore and Trichinopoly themselves, it has ever been my opinion, that whilst this Army kept its present position, Hyder would never make any serious attack upon either. As yet this opinion has been proved, nor do I imagine it is likely to fail, as I conceive he could not effect the reduction of either before the rivers would rise in which event he would 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 and however much they might argue in favor of my present position, which certainly has been and is now of service in keeping the Country to the Northward pretty free from the ravages of the Enemy and that is to be instanced in the good effects produced in the districts of Seringdy being an eligible one, the would not have been sufficient to have set aside my desire of going in search of the Enemy had I possessed the means, and I am persuaded you will not think me unreasonable in fixing my Estimate for Carriage of Provisions at less than 2, with less than

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1139 Fort St. George May 1781

7th which I could not in a just regard to either the Honor of our Arms or the true Interests of our Employers march the Army to the Southward, as upon that Stroke / in which I have made a very scanty allowance for either the impediments to be met with from the Enemy or the Delays from Draughted Bullocks / I should have to depend not only for obtaining the Tanjore Country, but for reaching the Garrison of Tanjore itself, as from that alone I could have any certainty of a fresh Supply. It would appear then that when necessity may require it, and it concerns me to tell you, by the more arrival of the Alfred or Charlotte that that necessity is near at hand having at the present time of writing not more than four days' Provisions 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 it is far from your Wish or Intention to abridge the powers which you have invested me with, - Whilst I entertain a proper sense of the fresh testimony of your willingness to acquiesce in whatever steps I may take towards the General Success of a most 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 to me a source of additional trouble and anxiety.

With respect to the Troops expected on board the Squadron from Bombay and Vellocherry, I have written to the Admiral upon my account to think of landing them at Arjengs, but to bring them round in order to join me here, as it is especially for the success of the War that this Army which is directed against the Enemy's main Force should be sufficient

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1140 Fort St George May 1781

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 do not as may best suit his own convenience; it being altogether out of my power to force him to it, or indeed to gain any essential advantage over him without a respectable body of Cavalry, unless he chooses to afford me the opportunity by coming to an Engagement which I have no reason to believe he will do. but on the contrary that he will pursue the plan he has hitherto observed of harassing us and cutting off all our Supplies.

I have likewise written to Col. Brown not to land at Arinj, but to come round on the Fleet, that should he however have landed, & there remained no possibility of his still coming by Sea, I left it in that case to his Discretion to effect a Junction with Cap^t Eding town at Palamcottah in the best manner possible.

The reinforcing Col. Pearces Detachment is a point which can be best decided upon when he comes nearer, and when by that means we shall be able to judge with greater certainty of the Enemy's intentions, which should they be to continue to the Southward to watch the motions of this Army. I conceive the Force he now proposes, augmented by one or two Circar Battalions with the assistance he can have from Vellore, and your Garrison, be sufficiently strong to retake Arcot. In whatever manner this Business may be undertaken, on whatever time it may be determined to carry it into Execution, I must therefore preadvise 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. Pearce 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 was therefore 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 Junction you gave me to take the whole of the Treasure

1141 Fort St George May 1781

7th come on her from Masulipatam should I have occasion for it, and have accordingly ordered the whole to be landed & your Paymaster M^r Welch to receive charge of it. Our present necessities stood greatly in want of this relief & I am satisfied that it will afford you much pleasure to know that it has proved a most reasonable one. The Letter which accompanied the Treasure from Masulipatam goes enclosed. Your Paymaster has been furnished with a Copy of the Invoice.

I shall now bring the Subject of this Letter to a Conclusion, by assuring you that altho I was convinced I should receive your support in any Plan, I might resolve on for the general success of the War. I experience a singular satisfaction in having on the delivery of your Sentiments on so important a Subject as the movements of this Army, received from you so warm a renewal thereof. - It affords me the occasion to do justice to both myself and the Service, by promising you that the Army I now command shall not remain a moment unemployed, if you will only supply me with Provisions and the means of carrying them. I am persuaded you will upon a mature consideration of the importance of the Service to be performed, not esteem me unreasonable in asking to be so provided as to be able to carry with me ten days provisions for the Army.

It was my wish to maintain my present Post until the arrival of the Admiral, to whom such a station must be of importance, as being to the Windward of Pondicherry where we may daily expect a French Fleet to arrive a circumstance to 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 terrible against any sudden attacks and that at a very considerable expense to the Company - You may conceive then it is to me no very agreeable reflection should I from the impossibility of finding time to maintain the Garrison, be obliged to withdraw it - Had I apprehended that whilst there was a possibility of assisting me with our Provisions from Madras, of which the Lively Drighnow performed the Voyage from Masulipatam to this place since the 10th of last month furnishes a recent Instance, you would have ceased in your Exactions, I should long

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1143

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Fort St. George May 1781

we now have given up all thoughts of maintaining this Station, satisfied 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 Breasts to adopt in the important Subjects to which they refer as you may think most expedient and proper. I confess for my own part that I tremble for the disastrous 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^r. Leads health has obliged him to return to the Presidency by this opportunity - being thereby deprived of his Services. 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 for a 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 Pay^{rs}. - In a former Letter which passed under your personal you would observe that they gave me permission to draw upon them. - If therefore any money can be obtained for Bills I will upon receiving from you information of the amount transmit you Draughts for the same.

I beg leave to acquaint you that any Letters you may in future send by Land will run risk of being intercepted at Pondicherry as formerly.

As Capt. Forrest, in the care punctuality and dispatch with which he has fulfilled your Instructions in bringing the money from Masulipatam, and in declining all offers of Presents made him there which had he accepted would have been to his Advantage, has shown a disinterested Zeal for the Publick Service. I trust that you may deem him deserving of your attention.

As it is of the utmost consequence that Col. Parce should have regular Intelligence of the Enemys motions to the Southward, I shall depend upon your sending him such as you may be able to obtain.

I have the Honour to be

Gentlemen

your most obedient Humble Servant

Eyre Coote

Camp Southward 7th May 1781

1143

7th

Fort St. George May 1781

Extract of a Letter from Col. Pearce dated Vizianagaram
the 11th April 1781.

"To this day I have not recd. a single line from
the Presidency. I cannot account for it. I have written for Maps and
Guides, and for an account of Provisions, and the places where laid up,
if anywhere, that when I arrive at the Krishna I may take my
measures accordingly. Our daily expence is 700 M^{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 M^{rs} 200 Bullocks are requisite. To carry food
for these Bullocks 21, therefore to carry one day's Provisions 221 Bullocks,
admitting therefore Obstructions included 30 days from Krishna 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.

S^r

From L^d Col. Maledon - did
the Committee purchase
Exhibited against Ensign Hawley
and if the proposed sentence of
the Court Martial, and also
requesting that Commissions
may be made out for the
Black Officers recommended
and be sent by the first
opportunity.

I have the Commander in Chief's Orders, to send to you in order to
be laid before the President and Select Committee, as Charge against Ensign Thos.
Hawley of the 2^d 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 Hawley of the 2^d Battalion 1st Regt. ordered
"in arrest by Capt. George Cunningham commanding the 2^d Batt. 1st Regt.
"the 23^d April 1781 for behaving unbefitting the Character of an
"Officer and a Gentleman."

1144

7th

Fort St George May 1781

Sentence

The court having attentively considered the Evidence for and against the Prisoner, Ensign John Hawley, as well as what he has urged in his behalf, they are of opinion that he is guilty of the crime laid to his charge, viz. of behaving unbecomingly the Character of an Officer and a Gentleman, which being a breach of the 20th Article of the 12th Section of the Articles of War do in consequence thereof a Judge him to be discharged the Service

(signed) W. Douglass (signed) Thos. Broton, Major
Lieut. Judge A. Pres.

I approve (signed) Eyre Coote

I have likewise the Commander in Chief orders to send to you the enclosed Certificate for promotion of black Officers in the 9th Battalion and the Independent Corps of Seaport Angels; the recommendation of a Commandant to the latter Corps is by Capt. Edwards, and approved by the Commander in Chief on account of the good Character of Subaltern Lisle 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, and forwarded by the first favorable opportunity. I have the Honor to be
Sir

Head Quarters
Camp near Vauxhall
5th May 1781

Your Most obedient Servant
Henry Mordaunt

Received the following Letters

To The Honble The President and Select Committee.
Honble Sirs & Sirs

As I have obtained a grant of your permission to proceed to Surinam, I would wish to settle my accounts with the Honble Company, should be happy to obtain a bond to run at Interest for the Sum due me in account of my Office earnings, and small sums advanced at times. I have the Honor to be
Honble Sirs and Sirs

your most obedient
most humble Servant
W. Heatley Capt. 5th Foot

From Capt. Heatley, requesting a bond to run at Interest for the Sum due him by the Company

Fort St George
8th May 1781

1145
7th
Fort St. George May 17 1801

Chas. Pakeny Esq. Military Secretary
Madras.

Sir

Enclose you a List of one Semidars too Haidars recommended for promotion in the 8th Carnatic Battⁿ which you will be pleased to lay before the Honble 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 their Situation.

That unfortunate accusation, that was brought against me of having deceived the Battⁿ, in promising what I was not able to perform was in a great measure the cause, for our loss of an officer & two dead in one night, while I was under arrest.

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

On the Evening of the 1st the Pioneers three Companies of European Grenadiers, Four Comp^s of Sepoy Gren^s two Battⁿ of Bengal Sepoys & my Battⁿ ascended the Ghauts. The Enemy opposed us at different places, but their shot were so ill directed they all went over our heads, & we got to the top without any loss; I believe they did not expect us to come, 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 they 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 Condola
Feb. 21. 1801

P.S. No doubt some of the wives or daughters of those that are dead here have died since we left the Coast. Mr. Munro the Paymaster ought to write out casualties, that the Pers. on here may draw his full Pay.

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

dese

7th

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1146

9th

Fort St. George May 1781

Received the following Letter
from Gen^l. Stuart.

To The Honble Chas. Smith Esq.

President of the Select Committee

Fort St. George

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

Gentlemen,

I had the honor to receive a Letter from Gen^l. Stuart's Esq.
dated the 5th Inst. in which he is pleased to express his Wish for
me to repair to the Army, and to make application to your Honor for
that purpose, which I now do, acquainting you that I am ready, with my
staff and family to proceed by the first occasion that offers. I do not wish to
lose no time. I beg leave to request your Honor to order the Lively Brig
Capt. Forrest, to convey me to Cuddalore, in to the nearest port on the
Coast, where the Army may chance to be, at the time of his arrival.

I have at the same time rec^d. an official Letter dated the 2^d Inst.
from the Adjutant General, acquainting me, that the Commander in
Chief desired Lieut. Colonel Harper, if his health permitted, may repair
to Cuddalore to take upon him the Command of the Military at
that place. I have enquired of Lieut. Col. Harper, who says there is
nothing to prevent him proceeding immediately thither. I am therefore
by the General's Instructions, to apply to your Honor for the necessary
Orders, to that effect. — I have the Honor to be

Gentlemen,

Your most faithful & most obedient

Humble Servant

Jas^l. Stuart.

Fort St. George
9th May 1781

there

Minute thereon

I grieve that the Capt. of the Lively is ordered to receive
Gen^l. Stuart on board and proceed to Cuddalore and that Lieut. Col. Harper
is also ordered by the same opportunity to take the Command
of that Garrison.

1147 Fort St. George May 10th 1781

At a Select Committee present—

The Honble Chas. Smith Esq. President
— — — — — Samuel Johnson

Thursday — }
10th May 1781 }

Lieut. General Sir Eyre Coote and
Major Genl. Sir Hector Munro absent on Service. —

M^r Davidson on a deputation
at Tanjore. —

Read the following Letter from
M^r Garrow Contractor for repairs. — — — —
Honble Sir

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

The Balance due me on account given in to the Committee
of Works, so long ago as the 2^d July last is Fifty Thousand Pagodas; of this I
am willing to receive in part 200 Candas of Copper, at the price it is sold at,
300 Candas of Iron at the price it sold at, the last October 13 Pagas of Candies
and 1000 Pagas in Bills on Bengal on the usual terms of Exchange.

There will yet remain due to me 25,000 Pagas, which I am ready
to adjust by taking the Company's Bonds as mentioned above,
I am with Respect

Honble Sir

Your very Obedient
and Most Humble Servant
Edward Garrow. —

Madras C. May 17 1781

5 Lbto Bills,	2000 Pagas each,	Payable to myself —	10000
9 Bonds	2000 D ^s —	Payable to myself —	18000
1 D ^s —	3000 D ^s —	Payable to myself —	3000
1 D ^s —	2000 D ^s —	Pro ^o Padre Eustacio Coriam de Poragamea	2000

Fort S. George May 10th 1781

M^r. Garrows accounts to be
settled in the manner set forth
in his Letter. —

Repairs

Ordered that M^r. Garrows account with the Company
be settled in the manner set forth in his Letter, and in consequence that the
Accountant be directed to Debit the Committee of Works for the amount of the Bills
on Bengal, and of the Bonds, and to Credit Bengal Presidency and Bond Creditors
for the same in the general Books, and that the Committee of Works carry
the amount to the Debit of M^r. Garrows Contractor for Repairs. —

Read the following Letter from the
Honble Basil Cochrane. —

To The Honble Cha^s. Smith Esq^r.

President & Governor &c. Select Committee. —

Fort S. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

From M^r. Cochrane —
I do hereby certify that I have
and requesting the Committee
to order M^r. Baine to deliver
over the Charge of Grain to
him. —

On my arrival here in consequence of the Office
I had been honored with of Grain keeper and Collector on account of the Honble Company
in the Fort and Country of Tanjore, a demand was made by me to take charge
of the Grain in the Fort belonging to the Company; but M^r. Baine 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 is
that all grain rec^d. by order of your Honors in part of the Praja has to be delivered
for the use of the Garrison, or for Consumption, or for exportation to the Presidency,
was to be in my charge, and in one account with me, I am to report to your Honors
&c. will be pleased to signify your pleasure on this Head to the Deputation, so
that M^r. Baine may be ordered to deliver over the charge of such Grain, not
whether in Magazines in the Fort or as already commisioned on account
of the Garrison. —

I am with Respect
Honble Sirs & Sirs

Tanjore
2 May 1781

Your most obedient & very humble Servant

Basil Cochrane

Grain keeper and collector in the Fort and Country of Tanjore

Fort S. George May 10th 1781

Ordered to lie on the Table. —

Received the following Letter
from Lieut. Anderson. —

To The Honble President and Select Committee of
Fort S. George. —

Sir and Sirs

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

I have recd. your Letter to Lieut. Logan advising
the Perwanih from the Capt. to the Printer here which I delivered to him also
that of the 2^d by your Secretary. I have the pleasure to acquaint you that the
Grain collected amounts to 22,378 Bushels of Paddy, and 360 Bushels of
Wheat of rice. I have been obliged on account of some of the Enemies Horses
who are straggling about the Country in small Parties to drive in the Sheep
which have been collected, and were kept in the Jangles they amount to 2300.
The Horses at present have done very little mischief in the Country, some
near the Fort, I am getting in a quantity of Straw and firewood 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 in doing every thing in my Power for the
good of the Service. — I am With Respect.

Carrawayby
5th May 1781

Your most obedient Humble Servant
W. Anderson. —

Read the following Letter. —

from M^r. Garraw Contractors for repairs. —

To The Honble Cha^s. Smith Esq^r.

President and Governor of

Fort S. George

Honble Sir

From M^r. Garraw
requesting that his Contract
may be continued for the
space of 18 Months. —

As I mentioned in my address to the Committee

Fort St. George 10th May 1781

of W. ortho. the 20th June last, when I delivered in my account, certified that my Contract had expired in October last. I did then request the continuance of it, in certain whether my demands of near Fifty Thousand Pagodas would be discharged, which I stand Debtor for to a number of Individuals who have supported me through this Contract, and who in the present situation of affairs and scarcity of Cash, absolutely refuse to be satisfied with Company's Bonds and require from me other Security. This I am unable to give them, and the loss of Credit by discounting my Contract in such circumstances, unable to satisfy them would probably be my ruin. I have therefore earnestly to request that the Honble. Board should please to prolong it for such a period, as would enable me to complete such Works as I have in hand, and to settle account with my several Creditors, which I conceive cannot be done, in less than 18 Months from the Expiration of it. — I am very Respectfully
Honble Sir

Fort St. George
2nd May 1781

Your most Obedient and
very Humble Servant
Edw. Garrison.

This Contract to be renewed

The Committee having taken into Consideration the above representation from M^r. Garrison, Agreed that his Contract be continued for 18 Months from the time it expired in October last.

Minute of the President recommending that the True Briton and Speedwell be employed in transporting the Propriety to the East Indies.

The President informs the Committee that on enquiring he finds two Vessels will be necessary for transporting the troops and Military Stores to Nicobarpatam the nearest Port to S. Jellore which Garrison it has been deemed necessary to reinforce, and is offered the True Briton Capt. Pat. Lieut. Ruff. 7,000 for the Trip and the Speedwell Capt. Jeffries at 3,000 N. R. to be paid by Bills on Bengal. He is of opinion that these Vessels are properly equipped for this Service, and the Freight according to the best information he can obtain, reasonable. He therefore proposes

Senny

Fort St. George 10th May 1781

proposes that they be freighted and Orders given for filling up powder
Magazines for the reception of the Powder. — Agreed & accordingly
Received the following Letter from the
Committee of Works —

To The Honble Chas. Smith Esq.

President &c. Select Committee of

Fort St. George

Humble Servts

We beg leave to lay before you

Honour &c. sundry Bills received from M^r. Garraw the Contractor
for Repairs, and have to make the following Remarks thereon. —

In his Bill No. 1. we observe he has

executed Work at the New Powder Mills amounting to upwards of 7000^{rs}
without having deducted 700^{rs} agreeable to the terms of the Contract: In
his Bills Nos. 7. 8. 9. 10. and 11 we have the same remark
to make, in No. the Chief Engineer is of opinion it should be allowed him
because the Articles were furnished separately and at different Periods
for a Length of time —

The Bill for the Commence Barracks we
observe 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.

M^r. Garraw has represented to
us that he has nearly completed the additional Barracks for the
King's Regiment at Commence and he has advanced in the progress
thereof the Sum of four Thousand Pagodas, and requests the same may
be allowed him; We enclose to your Honour &c. the Chief Engineer's
opinion on this Subject, and request your directions thereon —

M^r. Garraw has applied to us

Letter from Committee
of Works containing their
remarks on M^r. Garraw's
Bills and recommending that
in future more precise Work
be executed without a previous
estimate of the Expence being
made. — And enclosing minute
of the Chief Engineer, and
Letter from M^r. Garraw to them.

Fort St. George 10th May 1781

to be allowed an Interest, or that the 1st Cent be remitted on the amount of such buildings as exceed five Hundred Pay^{ts}. We beg leave to submit to the Consideration of Your Honor &c. what Indulgence it may be proper to show him on this Point, but think it just to observe that we conceive he must have been considerably in Advance, and under difficulties in prosecuting Works of such extent with the small sums of money he has received.

And appears to us that the expence of Repairs has often exceeded what at the time of giving orders for them it has been supposed they would amount to. We take the liberty of recommending that Your Honor &c. will be pleased to direct that hence be hereafter executed without a previous Estimate of the Expence.

We are With great Respect

Honble Sir & Mrs

Your most Obedient

Humble Servants

"Edw^d 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. Garrison's application for the allowance of 2000 Pay^{ts}. on account of the additional Command at Pondamallee, I have to observe, that tho' they remain unfinished they are sufficiently advanced towards it his being allowed that Sum, as the Work done exceeds in measurement what he requires, and I therefore beg leave to recommend it be accordingly allowed him"

A True Extract

J. Balfour, Clk. to Com^{tee} of Works

1153 Fort St. George 10th May 1781

To Messrs Davidson Esq^r

President & Committee of

Works.

Gentlemen

I beg leave to lay before you my account to the 1st June.
In my statement of 7th June, I gave the Company Credit for Pay^t 2484 for
Stores which I had received from the Storekeeper to that Period. I have since
received to the 1st of August last Iron and other Store to the amount of Pay^t 4
1376 13 10 and Copper and Lead from the Import Warehouse keeper for the Works
for Pay^t 1002 3 4 50 which several sums I request may be paid with the
Employers by debiting my account for the amount, and an order for their being
wrote from Store Books.

The troubles arising from the present War prevented the Barracks
for the Kings Regt at Pondicherry from being completed, they are 67 1/2 Feet
in length, and 32 Feet in breadth, including the two Verandas, the Brickwork for the
whole is nearly done, the roof for 2 Wings and materials for the whole are complete,
on this account I have advanced for materials labour &c 2400 Pay^t which I hope the
Committee will please to allow me, when opportunity offers I shall be ready to complete
them and adjust the account by measurement.

The small sum I have received for the last two years compared
to the Magnitude of the Works carried on makes me hope that the Committee
will consider my request for an allowance of Interest reasonable, as that the
7th Cent be remitted on each building as exceed five hundred Pagodas.

The want of Lascars for Camp and the Public Service has prevented my
having had the full allowed by Contract for the last six months in lieu of them
I have hired Coolies at an expence of 440 Pay^t.

The terms of my contract expired in October last at a period when every exertion
towards completing the Port was necessary and Mr. Whitehill directed me through the
Chief Engineer to push forward with all expedition whatever should be judged necessary
some of the work then ordered is still in hand and consists of the draw Bridges the Inner
Gates

1370-

their
off.

4000

Fort St. George May 10th 1781

Gates, for the Gateways of the West Mount, the Bomb proof door for the Sea line, and the completing the Palliades, together with the small articles in Front and Rear constantly wanted during the progress of the Masonry of the East Line.

The accounts of the Forrieger, Bomb proof doors and the great Gates on the Sea Side have been most diligently in hand, which is the reason they have not been settled sooner.

I am with due Respect

Gentlemen

Your very obedient humble servant
Edw. Garrison

Fort St. George
22th Janry 1781

Resolved that Mr. Garrison be
employed the sum of 500^l which
he advanced for erecting the Barracks
at Portmouthe and to visit
the 10th Co. on the account of such
Building as he had 500 Pags.
- agreed likewise that for the
future every Work to be under-
taken or executed, that an ac-
count be first made of the
Expense attending it.

The Committee consent that Mr. Garrison be employed the sum of 500^l which he advanced for erecting the additional Barracks at Portmouthe for the King's Regiment and appears by the Chief Engineer's minute that altho the work was not completed that it was sufficiently advanced to authorize the Charge which is less than the measurement would have amounted to - whenever the situation of affairs shall make it advisable to complete the above Barracks the balance may be repaid by me account and the 500^l now advanced be included as paid payment.

Mr. Garrison has been obliged to advance large Sums for carrying on the Business of his Office the Committee think it but reasonable to remit the 10th Co. on the account of such Building as he had 500 Pags. and they consent to his charging the Pay of 4 Souldiers as allowed by the Contract as it appears that owing to the pressing demands of the Service he was not supplied with them and in consequence was obliged to hire Irish in their stead - The Committee agree entirely with the Committee of Works on the propriety of having the Expense of every Work to be undertaken, ascertained with as much precision as possible previous to its being put in hand and therefore direct that small accounts of the Expense of every Work to be executed be first made of the Expense attending it.

Agreed that Mr. Garrison's account be paid.

for

4000.

1155

Fort, St George, May, 1781.

12th

Wrote the following Letters,

To Brigadier General James Stuart, —

Sir,

To Brigadier Gen.
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 accommodate you on board the *Lively* Brig.

Fort St George,
12th May, 1781.

We are,

Sir, Your most ob^d Serv^t

To Lieut. Colonel Humphry Harper,

Sir,

To Lieut. Col. 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,

Fort St George
12th May 1781.

We are Sir
Your most obed^t Serv^t
Charles Smith
Secy Select Committee

To Captain James Forrest,

Commander of the

Lively Brig.

To Capt James Forrest, ordering him to receive on board the Lively Brig Brig^l General Van^l Stewart, & Lieut Col^l 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 Cypre Cote, 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

12th

Fort St. George May 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 Messrs. Macaulay
 and Amurthy, as
 likewise that Trusts
 and Stores will
 be sent thereby the
 Hybunia, and
 requesting Copy of
 the Proceedings of the
 Council of War by
 the first opportunity.

We have been favoured with your
 Letters dated the 11th, 16th and 28th Ultimo, and 4th
 Instant, the first enclosing two letters addressed to
 you, the One from Colonel Braithwaite, the other
 from Captain Alexander M. Kense - you omitted
 to forward the letter to us from Captain Ceding-
 ton, which you mention having enclosed but we
 are led to a knowledge of its 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
 wearied 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 Accus-
 ation against Captain Cedington, some of which
 are of the most serious Nature, in so much that

hèi

1158

Fort St. George - May 27 81.

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 Tondemam at so unfavorable a Crisis of our affairs, and when all the other Poligars have deserted the Nabol'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 letters we have received from the officers Commanding at Wandiwash and Caringoly, that a Quantity of Grain has been laid up in those Garrisons, and we have the pleasure to inform you that the Nabol 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 Pearse.

We approve of your having sent
M^r

d

deserted

Fort St. George May 27 81.

12th Mr. M. Intook 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 Artich 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 recommended decisive conduct in this Government towards the Nabol, 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 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 Nabol, 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

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 success that may attend the Appointment of Receivers in the Tinnivelly and Trichanopoly Countries as we have not had any advices from those parts owing we suppose to the Communication being interrupted by the Enemy - In addition to the abovementioned 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 entirely consonant to our own, and cautioning the Sentiments 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 presumptuous 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 immediate Supply of Money, as well as of an Increase of

Amud

1161 Fort St George May 5 1781.

12th Annual Revenue to the Company, we are to observe, — that an Investigation of this Nature took place a few years since, the assessments that were at that time laid on the Ground and Houseware collected with the greatest difficulty, and even did other circumstances ev 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 yielded 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 Buckingham whom you mention in your Letter of the 23rd Ult^o has contributed between 30 and 40,000 Pagodas for the relief of our out Garrisons by advancing Money for Bills on U 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 1878.

12th can be construed in that light - we are satisfied - with the conviction we feel 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 cheerfully vest the Merit of our Endeavours 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 were 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 have

were.

1163 Fort St George May 1781.

th We 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 increase, we can have no Share either in the applause or Responsibility attending such a Measure.

X It was judged necessary sometime 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 27 81

19th 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 Pearce.

The Ship *Opax* 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 threatened 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* Gallies, or both, they shall be loaded and sent back to you without Delay, and as the Land and Sea Breezes are now setting in, we hope the Passage may not be very tedious.

As the Governor General and Councils have
Desired

1165 Fort St George May 1781.

12th 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 Boy*, 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 27 81

12th as little Loss as possible.

We enclose to you Copy of a Letter we
been lately Received from Mr. Holland - you will
perceive the Nizam strongly recommends that the
Detachment under Colonel Pearce 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 impressed
with the utmost Anxiety to provide effectually against
the Repetition of so melancholy an Event, for which
we therefore again to submit to you the Propriety of
ordering the Detachment under Colonel Brown, on its
Arrival at Cuddalore bound 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 Pearce - This we

Conceive

1167 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 succor — we have received no late advices from Colonel Pearson, but our President learns from Mr. Daniell that he had received a letter from him dated at Vizianagram 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 Tappalhs have been received from the Northward for these few days past; —

Mr. Oakes having desired leave to resign
the

1168 Fort St George May 1781.

12th. The Post of Commissary to the army, we have appointed Mr Maunsell to succeed him in that Employ, and named Mr Kenworthy to fill the Vacancy thereby occasioned in the office of Deputy Agent at Camp. Mr Kenworthy 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 Field but as it must have escaped your Memory so to do, we beg you will be so good to send us a Copy of these Papers by the first Opportunity.

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

Sir Your Most Obedient Humble
Servants
Charles Smith
to be sent Home.

Fort St George
13th May 1781.

Received the following Letters
The Honble Chas Smith Esq^r
President and Governor &c Council

Fort St George
Honorable

1169 Fort St. George May 27th 1781.

13th Honble Sir & Mrs,

From Mr. Light,
Vindicating the
Conduct he has
observed towards the
Nabob's Managers,
and the fault of
his differing in
opinion with Capt.
Edington —

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. Edington having in his late Correspond-
ence 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
— Imputation, and am therefore to crave your indul-
gence in laying before you such parts of my Conduct
as have had any material relation, either with Capt.
Edington or the Renter, since the Receipt of the Orders
of his Highness and of your Honble Board, regarding
the Management of this Country. —

Yours

he

than

1176 Fort St. George May 15 1781.

13th Your Honor^{g^e} will please to advert that I could only barely give my opinion when called, while Capt. Colington 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, or 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. Colington I resolved to act with temper and patience by which if I could not alter, 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^{g^e} that it is not owing to any defect on my part.

The

1171 Fort St. George May 15 781.

13th

The failure of the Revenue and the disappointment which the Company are likely to sustain from the inability of the Circar to comply with their Claims, the disturbances which have ^{been} kindled throughout the district, 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 Honor's particular consideration - It is not for me to hazard an opinion 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. Edington and the Renter, which I wished by all means in my power to heal, and I urged with Capt. Edington 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 conversations on the Subject, Capt. Edington's mind was fixed, and that he suspected the Renter was disaffected from the time he met the Poligar chiefs, but when I demanded the

1173

Fort St. George May 1781

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

The principal objection I have heard Capt^r
 Edington make against the Renter'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^r Edington 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^r Edington,
 and that he has offered to remove the Rest of his
 family, within the Fort of Pallemottah, these 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^r Edington
 should have formed such unfavorable pre-judges of the
 Renter's future Management, knowing as he might

have

1173

Fort St. George May 1781.

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 peaceable, 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 Phouadar was not intended for that Station, but was only named in the mean time to hold it till Chephur 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 - I had placed great dependance on the Renter's 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 Cap^t. Edington after permitting him to correspond with them for some time, had threatened him with punishment, if he was ever found

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1174

Fort St George May 1781.

13th found corresponding with the Poligars, in any way or should be dare to receive their Vahels.

But to proceed 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 Nalob's troops to Capt. Edington, which I wished to enforce with my ready concurrence, Capt. Edington having no direct orders to that effect, they as was to be expected in their Stations, stated objections at which Capt. Edington was much irritated, and having sent for the Renter and Phonoolar to the Fort, where he ordered them to be confined till the Troops demanded were given up, which was soon after done.

Capt. Edington charged the Renter with being in alliance with the enemy's of the Circar, in permitting the Wear Poligar to build a mud Fort within twenty miles of Pollemfotah. The Renter declared he had wrote the Information of it to Capt. Edington, and that he would have prevented it himself, but from the want of force to do it. As Capt. Edington from his intelligence must have known of this from the

1175 Fort St. George May 15 1781.

13th the beginning 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 / or to use Capt. Edington's 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 enforce his own orders in that state of depression and restraint to which he was subjected, apart 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 detachments were ordered, as his aspirations when not contradicted 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

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1176 Fort St. George May 1871

13th the Renter a Traitor upon a delay of certain supplies which were demanded, amounting to a very large sum, and for Coolies for the repair of the Fort. The Renter issued out orders immediately to the Messengers of the different districts for these supplies and gave orders for improving the Coolies, 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 Coolies I myself in particular did point out that several difficulties had occurred when the Troops were on their march to Mahi, 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 executed - but Capt. Edington having conversed 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 Honorable President, nor is it evident to me at this hour - after every

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177 Fort St. George May 1781.

13th inquiry and Information, that the Renter had it 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. Edington went the length to send his aide de camp to me to propose as I understood it that he, Mr. Doh, and myself should take the Management of the Country into our own hands - The Renter had repeatedly applied 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. Edington's demands, and that he should do what he required of him, because Capt. Edington 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 accordingly agreed to every request which Capt. Edington made, and his son and nephews were sent into the Fort.

Thine

1178

Fort St George May 1781.

13th

There were several other matters of less note which Capt. Edington occasionally mentioned to me. I did think some of them had an odd appearance at first, and that others had the appearance of Golly and Misinformation, particularly in regard to a Relation of the Renter who Capt. Edington said was sent by him to the 1st 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 Vakul of Hyder's, being with Cuttupunague while his own Vakul was likewise there - The matter upon enquiry turned out thus - Yar Canon who had formerly been in the Service of Cuth Canun, and was sent by him during his Rebellion to entertain some of Hyder's disbanded Horse near Dindiyul - since when he has been in the Service of the Rajah of Travancore, and of the Rajah

1179 Fort St. George May 1781.

13th Rajah of Tanjore, but being of a restless disposition he had again come into this country, had been in great distress when Subapumague took him in a kind of Charity, as these people assert - 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. Edington has at different times brought against the Renter, all of them in my opinion founded upon frivolous and slender grounds, none of them even 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^{ty}. Regarding the part I have taken in supporting (as Capt. Edington calls it) this man and I believe I have stated to your Honor^{ty} every thing of any sort of consequence that has passed, 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

1180 Fort St George May 1781.

13th out protection from Cap^t. Edington's power which -
I never disputed, and which was well known to the
Renter I could not oppose -

Soon after Lieut. Burn's return from his second
expedition into the country, Cap^t. Edington seemed
desirous of treaty with Sattapunaigue the Pandalur
Colley Poligar, 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 Cap^t. Edington's dubash to settle
the business - The Renter wrote to the Poligar accord-
ingly, and received for answer, that having also
had a Letter of a different import from Cap^t.
Edington's dubash, he was at a loss what to think,
and desired an explanation - This circumstance
I mentioned myself to Cap^t. Edington, who -
said that his Dubash's Letter was of a Prior date
and that this shuffling showed the Poligar's want
of inclination - and the matter was here dropped.

The Renter and his son were afterwards
sent upon service with Lieut. Burn, under the orders
of Cap^t. Edington to the Shevillipetun district,
where it seems his Conduct had not answered the

1181 Fort St. George May 1871.

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 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 even this - publicly suspected, if not affronted, it is well known that he used every means to bring in the Lakuls, 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 entire 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 out protection from Cap^t. Edington's power which I never disputed, and which was well known to the Renter I could not oppose —

Soon after Lieut. Burn's return from his second expedition into the country, Cap^t. Edington seemed desirous of treaty with Sattapunaigue the Pandalum Collichy Poligar, 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 Cap^t. Edington'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 Cap^t. Edington's dubash, he was at a loss what to think, and desired an explanation — This circumstance I mentioned myself to Cap^t. Edington, who said that his Dubash's letter was of a prior date and that this shuffling showed the Poligar's want of inclination — and the matter was here dropped.

The Renter and his son were afterwards sent upon service with Lieut. Burn, under the orders of Cap^t. Edington to the Shevellipoture district, where it seems his Conduct had not answered the expectations of that officer, and who, as Cap^t. Edington tells

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1181 Fort St. George May 1878.

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 observes that this suspi-
-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 -
publicly suspected, if not affronted, it is well
known that he used every means to bring in the
Uakuts, 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 entire 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
He

thus

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 Cap^t Edington, since the Renta has been in the Haluar Tinnavilly Country, things have come more into order, the Keys of the Graineries which the Poligars had seized, and delivered to him, he is dividing the Grain, and putting the Gaydayum in the Inhalit - ants, 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 Circle 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, there 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

Haluar.
granarys.

1183 Fort St George May 1781.

13th the Circar and your Military Commanding officer
Here, 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 business
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 free 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 openness and my Sentiments are well
known to Capt. Edington, 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 Hon^{ble}
Employers, I must intreat of the Powers you have
been pleased to Delegate to me cannot be enforced
by

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1184 Fort St. George May 1781.

13th by your Authority, that I may be released from -
the painful anxiety which I feel in being thus situated -
I am with due Respect, -

Honble Sir and Sirs,

Your very obedient
Humble Servant,

Will^m Light

Pallemfotah,
20th April 1781.

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PS
I beg leave to rectify a little inaccuracy which
escaped me in my description of the Person who went
off to the Cotta Rajah - He was not a manager nor
in any trust, but placed under a Brother in Law of
the Renta, who was manager of Sheritahator, and
being of a dissipated disposition and impatient of
control, went off as about described.

To the Honble Charles Smith Esq^r

President and Governor of
Fort St. George.

Honble Sir,

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

From Major Maule
acquainting the
President in what
manner the workmen
& Coolies have been
employed since his
last Report.

Revula - }
Natoot }

above

1185 Fort St George. May 18781.

13th The last Week have been to the Number of about —
Four thousand, they are now some what 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
Palisades of the Covert way, which are now —
nearly completed to the S. E. Angle. —

I have the Honor to be,

Fort St. George,
13th May 18781. —

Honble Sir,
Your most Obedient
and very humble servant,
Geo. Maule,
Ch. Eng.

Wrote the following Letter to Bengal
To the Honble Warren Hastings Esq.
Governor General, and Council

Honble Sir & Sirs,
Fort William

It was not until the 2^d Instant.

To Bengal expressing
Thanks for the relief
they have afforded in
supplying Provisions
& money — receive infi-
nite satisfaction in
finding their opinion
respecting the Conduct.

We received Duplicate of your address of the 26th Feb.
The Original has not come to hand. —

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

1186

Fort St. George May 1781.

of the Nabob, and the 13th of the
Raja of Tanjore
coincides with those
of the Committee —
and the measures
proper to be adopted —

The Nabob assigns
over the Timerville and
Srichinopoly Countries
Managers sent to
receive the Revenue —

the Nabob's profuse
complaints against
Mr. Ram, —

a Deputation sent to
Tanjore to raise Money
— Mr. Hollis restored
to the Service —

recommenced an offensive
and defensive Alliance
with the Lunkah — and
Peace with the Marattas
as the only means of
driving Hyder out of
the Carnatic —

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 expe-
rienced, 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 all concerned to inform you, that the
Situation of the Carnatic is such, as makes the Year 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 Raja 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

1187 Fort St. 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 comprises 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 Sultan 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 Tinnevely 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

1188 Fort St. George May 1781

13th Him to assign over to the Company during the Continuance of the War, the Trichinopoly & Tinnevely Countries, and to allow us 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 enclosed Copy of our Letter to the Nabob will give you a clear Idea of his 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 its present Form, nor the serious Expostulation our President has entered into with his

1189 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 Counties, he still possesses 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 Expenses of the War. - X

With respect to the Rajah of Tanjore, about the same time that we demanded of the Nator the Assignment of the Trichonopoly and Tinnevely Countries, We sent a Deputation 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 cut 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 27 81.

13th Intentions while the Enemy continues in the Neigh-
 = borhood of Tanjore where he has been for some
 time overpreuding 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,

We have a just sense of your attention
 in the orders you have given to Mr. Holland to
 Correspond with this Committee, and have par-
 ticular 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. Holland, 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

discriminate-
 mate }

1191 Fort St. George May 1781.

13th The Providences, 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 essen-
tial Advantage over the Enemy, and of course
that there can be little Prospect of bringing
the

1192

Fort St George May 1781.

13th the War to a favorable conclusion. Permit us therefore earnestly to recommend this Subject to your Consideration, 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 -

1st To put him in Possession of the Cuddapah - Country -

2^d - 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.

3^d - 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 Pishcash, and to the Military Charges of the Troops actually Stationed in the Circars, and to no other Purpose whatsoever, and the Pishcash in future to -
be

Fort St. George May 5/81.

13th ... be regularly and punctually discharged.

We are happy to hear of the success of our Arms under Lieut. Colonel Larnac, and ardently wish that the Place he has conquered may be of such Consequence as to incline the Morattas to purchase the Restoration of them by coming to honorable Terms of Accommodation, 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 lost with Difficulties that are daily increasing.

and

be

1194 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 Ally 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 Poona 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 view 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

preclude

seeing

1195 Fort St. George - May 27 81

13th National Honor and Reputation - The Terms which you acquainted us were offered to the Marathas, 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 never been held dishonorable for a Nation reduced by the Events of War to imminent 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 Marathas to propose Terms of Accommodation 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 May 27 81.

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 Hand of the Enemy - The Poligars dependant on the Nabol have deserted his cause - The Tanjore Country and the Company's Districts there, from which we expect 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

1197 Fort St George May 1781.

13th Resources fail 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 arduous and explicit Terms in which we have enforced them.

Immediately on receipt of the late Advice 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 Detachments 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 these circumstances, which added to the expected Armament from England, and the appearance of a large Detachment in the Gierars under Lieutenant Colonel Pears, 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

1198 Fort St. George May 1781.

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

Fort St. George,
13th May, 1781.

We have the Honor to be,
Honble Sir & Sirs,
Your most Obedient
Humble Servants,

15th Received the following Letters,

To the Honble Charles Smith Esq^r
President & Governor &c. Select Committee
Fort St. George.
Gentlemen,

From Lieut. Genl.
Sir Eyre Coote, &
inclosing Letters
to Messrs. Davidson
& Jourdan,
Col^l. Braithwaite,
Lieut. Eastland, &
Capt. Cudington.

I have herewith the Honor of
Enclosing for your information copies of the
following Letters - One from Mess^{rs}. 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.

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

1199 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 Gally, and signed by the Agent Mr. Dobbyn, I remark there is included a charge for freight on Rice and Grain of twenty Pagodas & garce, making in all Pagodas 1417. 11. 40. As the Success Gally is in the Monthly pay 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 Tiagar, but which runs no risk - unless

1200 Fort St. George May 1871.

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 what will continue in our Hospitals here, there are above a hundred which it will be absolutely necessary to send to Madras. This unpleasant 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 27 81.

^{if induced as before any probable reason for their being}
15 divine the cause of it, nor induced 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 Chiefs and Residents at your different Settlements who I am persuaded 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 Loringohy 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 ^{there} Besides these

1202 Fort St George, - May 8th 781.

15th these sums, he has delivered into the Garrison a larger quantity of grain than he originally engaged for, and continues to lay in more - I am 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 Seringoly. -

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,

Oyrelooth.

Camp Newton

9th May, 781.

P.S.

Since writing the above, I have received a letter from Capt. Cidingloun, 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

1203 Fort St. George. - May 1781.

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

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

Sir, We have frequently endeavoured to transmit to the Select Committee our Proceedings at this place. At 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 various. 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 business, 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 Butchamah 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 - 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; excepting 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 Coleroon, 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. Jourdan,

To Alexander Davidson & Francis Jourdan Esqrs
Gentlemen, Tanjore.

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

1205 Fort St. George - May 27 81

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 place 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

1206 Fort St George - May 1781.

15th Powerful Reason why the Rajah should be rendered
the Chief Instrument of his Degradation - If this
Business therefore is undertaken on any other Plan,
I hope I shall 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 Obedt Servant,

/Signed/ Eyre Coote. -

Camp Newtown,

9th May, 1781.

Attest

George Tybr

To the Hon^{ble} Charles Smith Esq^r

President and Governor &c. Select Committee,

Hon^{ble} Sir & Mrs,

Hyder having ravaged and
destroyed

1207 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 on 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 President's 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.

Tanjore,

30th April 1781

(Signed)

A true copy

G. Tyler

We are Respectfully,

Your most Obedient

Slaves for ever,

A. Davidson

F. Jourdan

Z

1202
15th
Fort St George May 1781
To Lieut General Sir Eyre Coote R. B.
Commander in Chief ^{Gen} ^{Gen} ^{Gen}

Sir,
Since I had the Honor to address
you last under date the 16th of which I now send
a Duplicate, Hyder has advanced with his Army
to near Triviar, and lays between the two Rivers -
about nine miles from hence; Two days ago he
sent about 3000 Horse in hopes of carrying off
our 150. but they just reached the Pettah into
which the Enemy charged with them pell 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
Sepindies Stationed there with a six pounder
soon made the Enemy retire. We had a Munadar
and two Troopers badly wounded, six Slighly,
fourteen Sepindies killed, and as many wounded.
Our party did not loose an horse; took of the
Enemy's, and killed twenty. 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
Greatest Respect

Tanjore

8th April 1781.

Sir

Your Very Obedient Servant
John Brathwaite

To Lieut General Sir Cypre 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 Tragar, 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 -

Tanjore,

29th April 1781.

Sir

Your Very Obedient Servant
John Brathwaite -

To

1210 Fort St George. - May 1781
To ^{15th} Sir Cyre 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 Adj^t to the 1st Battⁿ 2^d
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 Ensⁿ St Campbell, under promise from
the H. S^t Committee and Sir Hector Munro,
that I should be preferred to the first vacancy in
that line. I do in consequence of a vacancy now
at Tanjore in Cap^t Burnous's Squadron, 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 Obedt & Very
Humble Servant,

May, 9th 1781.

To General Sir Cyre Coote K. B.
Commander in Chief of India &c &c &c.

Sir, I have just received a Letter
from

1211 Fort St. George. - May 5/81.

15th from the Chief of Futacurreen, acquainting that
Lt. Hamilton of the Nabob's Service with the
greatest part of the Garrison of Comery in the
Morroona Country had arrived at the Dutch
Settlement of Killony on that coast, where he had
been permitted to march agreeable 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 Morroonan
Colonies had been assisted in the reduction of the
above Fort by the Polygars of this Country.

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

I have the Honor to be...

Calamcottah

24th April 5/81.

/Signed/

P.S.

Sir.

Your most Respectful
& most Obedient Servant
James Cidingtown.

In former Letters I wrote that there

was

1212 Fort St George May 1871

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

J. C.

With respect to General 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 2000 loaded Bullocks.

Select Committee.

To The Honble Charles Smith Esq^r
President and Governor &c Select Committee
at Fort St George.
Gentlemen,

From Allet -
Commissioner Bombay,
requiring a supply
of 1000 or 1500 Bar^s
Gun Powder.

The late considerable Issues of
Gunpowder from our Magazines have reduced

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,

Bombay Castle
2^d May 1781.

Your Most Obedient,
Humble Servant,
W^m Hornby,
D. Draper,
N. Heath,

16 Received the following Letter from the
Garrison Stockup.

To the Honble Charles Smith Esq^r

President and Governor, &c Gentlemen of Council

Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Mrs,

At the desire of the Honble the President

From the Garrison
Stockup enc-
closing

I beg

sta
he

1214 Fort St. George - May 1781

I 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 Settlement has chiefly to depend on, I have stated therein the quantity which I apprehend must be wanted here for the General 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 bags 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

1215 Fort St George - May 1781.

downy an Indian
of Provisions &
Garrison Stores
necessary to be
provided at Bengal
for the use of this
Presidency.

16th The Subsistence 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 Sicea Rupees per Bag, and an
uncustomary allowance of Agency Charged in the
late Consignments from the Governor General and
Council to your Honor &c / 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 Estimate
to the quantities necessary 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.

Honble Sir & Mrs;

Your Faithful & Obedient
Humble servant

A. Brodie
Garrison Storekeeper
an

Fort St George
16th May, 1781.

1216 Fort St. George - May 1781.

16th An Indent of Stores and Provisions for Fort St. George, to be provided at Bengal, and required to be at Madras in Sep^r 1781. and January 1782 Voy^g

Rice	200,000. two maund bag
Wheat	2,000. L ^o
Pease	1,000. L ^o
Red Gram and Dal	2,000. L ^o
Salt Provisions	1,000. Tierces
Ghee	250. Candys
Chillies	100. L ^o
Tamarinds	200. L ^o
Ginger	20. L ^o
Coriander Seeds	40. L ^o
Cummin Seeds	30. L ^o
Beetle Nut	20. L ^o
Rattan Baskets	20,000.
Matts.	20,000
Lamp Oil	10,000. Measures
Gingely L ^o	10,000. L ^o

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 Mellore.

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
inclosing 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 Mellore, 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 Mellore, 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.

Fort St. George
16th May 1781.

I am Sir
Your most obed^t Servant
J. Oakes. Secy.

1218 Fort St. George May 1781

17th

Duplicate

Received the following letters

Palamcottah 24th April 1781

To the Honble Charles Smith Esq^r

President and Governor &c Select Committee

Honble Sir & Mrs,

From Capt Cullingtown
inclosing a paragraph
of a letter from the
Resident of Angkor.

I have just received a letter from
the Chief of Tutacoryn, acquainting that Lieut.
Hammetton of the Nabob's Service with the greatest
part of the Garrison of Canery in the Maravar
Country had Arrived at the Dutch Settlement of
Killary on that Coast, where he had been permitted
to March agreeable to the Terms, on which he delivered
up the Fort, of which he was obliged to do for want
of Provisions.

I have likewise information that the
Polygar Cuttepanaigue 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
Quarter, of which I informed your Honours in a letter
of the 11th Instant, and which I am now assured is to
end

coast

and

1219 Fort St George May 1791

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 Views have been to secure the Revenue from Embezzle-
ment, 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 settling the Godany as 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 so. &c. &c. and now 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 Tapildar, a man recommended by Lutchenagae, who has given him a private Bond for a considerable sum this Country should send every three days from four to five hundred Chuchams at present not above one quarter of that sum is brought in, &c.

In conformity to your orders I think it my duty to give you the above information concerning the Revenue because 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 Amoy which I have taken in copy. —

I have the Honor to be,
Honble Sir & Sirs;

With the greatest respect,

Your most Obedt^h Hum^l Servant
Jm

1221 Fort St George - May 27/81

17th P.S. 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 paper sent over -
and not enclosed.

To the Honble Charles Smith, Esq^r

President and Governor &c. Members of the
Select Committee

Honble Sir & Gentlemen^{al} Fort St George

From Amoy
advising that
the Garrison of
Tellicherry was
to be relieved, and
that Supplies of
Stores & Provisions
would be sent thither
by the Flut.

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 Flut / which would shortly sail / a complete
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 Hum^{ble} servant

Ja^s Morley

Arjengo

the 5 May 1781

Honourable Sir,

From Colonel
Lang Enclosing
an Acc^t of the
Troops in Arcot
and Hydras situa-
tions of that Fort.

I had the Honour to advise you
the 5th & 30th of last Month regarding Arcot, 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 beliefin 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 Sappers are
more

1223 Fort St. George - May 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 Obedt. Humble Servant,

Vellore,

5th May 1781.

R. Lang.

Duplicate. Despatched 11th.

Account of Arcot's Pettah Wall

14 1/2 Yds thick at the Foundation

12 Yds High.

3 Yds thick, the Parapet & three Yds High.

9 Yds wide the Ramparts & 1/2 slope at every Gate-way.

9 Yds between the bottom of the wall & the ditch, but may be damaged by the rains. Vellore Yac, 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 Chumam wall on the Parapet, with loop holes all round, but I can not learn the height.

Troops at Arcot.

1000 Horse.

2500 Match lock pions.

2000 Chuchkum.

One 500 Bangalore.

2000 Sepoys old and new.

150 Black Artillery, old and new.

N 73

1224 Fort St. George May 1781

17th N.B. What is meant by new Sepoys and Antitany are those recruited in Arcot that defended it against Hyder.

Guns in the little Forts		Provisions
24. Pounders.	6.	5000 Collum Rice.
18. Pounders.	4.	22000. Collum Paddy.
Different sizes.	16.	20000. Collum Paddy, is to
Pettah wall		be sent in from the Country.
24. Pounders.	7.	
Different sizes.	36.	
before the Nabob's House.	3.	

North face of Arcot from Prestons 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 uporam Pagoda eight Miles west of this
500 Horse
4000 Match lock piccol

Calish Gunny tower Fort, five Miles Southwest

1225. Fort St. George May 1781

17th 440. Match lock pions.

Calghurra Stone Fort six Miles Northeast,
200 Match lock Pions.
100. Horse.

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

Arner Garrisoned by 400 Match lock pions &
twelve Pounders, and some small Country Guns, is
all I can learn they have there. - only a few Topaz
Gunnors.

R. Lang.

Vellore

6th May 1781

Duplicate
dispatched 11th

18th

Received the following Letters -

To the Honble the President and Select Committee.
Gentlemen,

From Mr. Pittman
complaining that
the Nabob's Manager
has not collected
Provisions for the
Bengal Detach-
ment.

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

1226 Fort St. George - May 1878

10th There is only five hundred and forty Swin; Sheep, -
four hundred and twenty five, and many of
both Dead 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 Consibe 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 Bengalee 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

Consibe

of

Refer

1227 Fort St. George - May 1781.

18th Refer you to the Return that sent by the Surgeant
the 1st Instant. - I am

Gentlemen,

Your Most Obedient
and Most Humble servant,

Alexander Paterson
Captain

Nellore,
10th May 1781.

To the Hon^{ble} Charles Smith Esq^r

President and Governor &c. Select Committee

Gentlemen

Fort St. George

I have this instant received a

Letter from Colonel Nixon commanding at
Trichinopoly, whereof the inclosure 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 L^d Colonel Nixon and others in
favor of the Reddy of Tirriore. I need hardly

add that this Transaction which is so evidently
for the Interests of both the Company and the
Nabob, and which promised us no inconsiderable

Assistance

From General
Booth, - Enclosing
a copy of a letter
from Col. Nixon.

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 satisfied, 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 8th 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 Nabob's 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.

Gentlemen,

I have the Honor to be,

Yours

approved

1229 Fort St George - May 1781
18th

Camp Newtown,
13th May 1781.

Your Most Obedient Servant
Cyre Foot.

Of The last Letter I had the Honor to
Receive from you bears date the 21st Ultimo.

To Lieut General Sir Cyre Foot K. B.
Ja Ja Ja

Sir,

The Terriore Reddy who 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 Vackul 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

10th desolate and deserted State of his Country, he shall be forgiven this year's Tent, that he shall at his own expence raise and pay 4,000 Troops four Months, which he will employ against the Enemy, And stop their communications and Supplies at Ahtorepuzh, after which if the War continues, his Troops are to be paid by the Nabob - That his Family shall be received into Trichinopoly and that the Nabob, the Governor and Council, and the General shall grant him a Comte 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, I 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. I did not hesitate to forward the business as soon as

Possible,

1231 Fort St George - May 1781

10th possible, and this day signed a Cowle in conjunction with the Nabob's Manager, Mr Ram, the Killowen, 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 Vakul, and I 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 Tricatupully the nearest Fort in the Tanjore Country has been taken three days ago, and that all my Endeavors to get a letter into Tiagar have proved abortive - We keep a strong post in Srirangam, and have mounted three Iron Guns in that Place and Pumbakhetra, 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,

1232 Fort St. George May 1781

10th Subsistence. 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 —

Trichinopoly

5th May, 1781

/Signed/

Have the Honor to be,

Your Most Faithfull and

Obedient Servant,

C. Nixon

P. S.

I have heard nothing from Tanjore for several days past, I have had the pleasure to receive your Letter by two Scapors, whom I had sent with one to you the 4th Ultimo, to which yours is an Answer, they say that they are only six days from Camp — The Rajah of Ramnand has not been able to proceed —

proceed.

Wm Long

George Tyler.

Note

1233

Fort St. George May 1781

19th

Wrote the following Letters.

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

Sir,

We have been favored with your letters
of the 9th and 13th Instant, together with the several
Enclosures therein mentioned.

The Conduct of Butchana 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 Butchana 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

To Genl. Coote -
Enclosing a copy
of the Capitulation
of Amboor. -

1234 Fort St George - May 1781.

19th Success Gally which appears to you rather extraordinary as that ship is in 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 $\frac{1}{2}$ 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 highly 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

1735 Fort St George - May 8/81

19th The Troops owing to its 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 securing a large Supply of Grain from the forecars, 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 Amindies 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

1236 Fort St George - May 1781

19th Yesterday, and we immediately addressed a letter to his Highness the Nabob on the Subject of the Terriore Ready, 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 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 Morley at Anjingo, 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 Mr Edward Hughissat, a complete Relief for the Garrison with the necessary Supplies of Stores and Provisions.

Captain

1237 Fort St. George - May 1781.

19th Captain Falconer of the Ship Royal Charlotte -
spoke with a Vessel off Tranquebar, by which he
learnt that the Fleet had sailed from Bombay
on the 22^d 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 its 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 Ghats towards Bombay, he was
attacked by a Body of 40,000 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 as also several Thousand Bullocks
loaded with Provisions and Stores -

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

1238

Fort St George - May 1878

19th Circumstances 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.

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 Vellore from this Garrison, with 1 Captain 3 Subalterns, and 104 European Infantry, including 4 Sergeants 1 Subedar 1 Volunteer 1 Sergeant and 21 Artillery. 5 Companies of Sepoys of the 11th Battalion, 2 Subedars, Black officers and Sepoys 249. with four 24 P. Guns, 500 Barrels of Powder, Shot, &c. but as in the event of Colonel Brown's Detachment being

1239 Fort St George - May 1781.

th19. 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 entered 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,

Sir, Your most obed^t. Hum^{ble} serv^t.
Charles Smith.
Lieut. Colonel.

Fort St George
19th May 1781.

To Lieutenant Walter Anderson,
Commanding Carangoly.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honble
President

To Lieut Anderson

1240

Fort St. George - May 18/81

Approving of the steps he took to secure the castle and of his laying 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 Castle Ship &c. They approve likewise of your laying in a quantity of straw and firewood, and desire you will afford all reasonable assistance which may be required of you by the Board towards the further provision of grain.

Fort St. George

19th May 18/81.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant.
J. Baker Secy.

20th

Wrote the following Letters.

To Colonel Thomas Deane Pearse,
Commanding the Bengal Detachment.

Sir,

I am directed by the President and Select Committee to send you herewith copy of a letter, in which should you have any thing of consequence to impart, either to them or

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

To

1241 Fort St George - 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.

Fort St George

20th May 1781

I am Sir,

Your Most Obedt^h Hum^l Servant,
Thomas Oakes^{Secy.}

To Mr Edward Saunders -

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

Gentlemen,

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

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

Fort St George,
20th May 1781.

By order of the President & Select Committee
Thomas Oakes^{Secy.} A.L.

1242 Fort St George, 21st May, 1781-

At a Select Committee

Present,

The Honble Charles Smith Esq^r President,

Samuel Johnson, —

— Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote,

and Major General Sir Hector Munro
absent on service. —

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 Esq^r

President and Governor &c Council
Fort St George
Honble

Monday
21st May
1781

1243

Fort St George, 21st May, 1781.

Honble Sir and Sirs,

From civil Store
Keeper, requesting
an order how to
charge for the stores
that he supplies 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 &c's orders under what
Head they are to be charged on the civil -
Storekeepers Books. -

I am with Respect,

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Fort St George,
18th May, 1781.

Your Most obedient and
Very Humble servant,
Edward Garrow.

Resolved that
the stores supplied
the Escape Sloop
with be charged
under the head of
second war 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 Gally has been taken up at a
Monthly charge, the amount of the Stores —
supplied to her must be paid for by Captain
Finnick. —

Read letter from the Agent
Victualer Dated 18th May —

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

From the Agent
Victualer 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 statement 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

12/15 Fort St George, 21st May 1781

Some times 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 Balance so due, and flatter myself that the same will meet with your Approbation - as I am given to understand that your Honor^{ship} 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, I flatter myself your Honor ^{Sh} will
not hesitate to order Two hundred sandys of Copper
to be delivered, and the remainder to be paid -
From the large quantity of Copper which has
lately been issued a loss will of course arise -
upon the sale of it, if charged at the ordinary Price
I therefore submit to the consideration of your
Honor ^{Sh} what deduction ought to be made on
that account. - I have the Honor to be with
the greatest Respect

Fort St. George
May 18th 1781.

Humble Sir & Mrs.

Your Most obedient
Humble servant,

W. Dobbins,
Agent.

Agreed that
200 sandys be
delivered him

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

Read Letter from the Contractor
for Bricks and Churnam.

To

1247 Fort St George 21st May 1781

To the Honble Charles Smith Esq^r
President and Governor &c. Select Committee,

Honble Sir & Sirs,

From the contractor
of Brick & Churnam,
inclosing a statement
his Acc^t. Requesting
and Advance of Cash.

I take the liberty of laying before
your Honors the enclosed 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 21 One Half of the
Advance made to me by them, for the carrying
on of my Contract, and the other Half by October
22. your Honors will see by the present state
of my Account, how much more I have done
than merely to comply with your Orders.

Being sensible of the
Necessity

1248 Fort St George 21st May 1781

Necessity there was of finishing the public
works, I made every exertion in my power to
procure the Quantity of Materials requisite,
attho' since 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 Honors 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 Transport of which property, I was
to depend upon for the payment of very large
Balances 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 Carnatic, 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 Loss upon the Materials furnished for completing the Fortifications, when it is well known Firewood is 300 ^{ft} Lint. 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 Loss, 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.

Fort St George,
17th May, 1781.

I have the Honor to be,
Honble Sir & Mrs,

Your most obedient servant,
Benjamin Roebuck,
Contractor for Bricks & Churnam,

1250 Fort St George 21st May 1781
 Dr The Committee

1777

April 30 To the Amount of Materials delivered
 this Month as p^d Bill

213.13.47

May 31 To Do Do Do 1394.21.12

June 30 To Do Do Do 2524.27.57

July 31 To Do Do Do 2928.29.4

August 31 To Do Do Do 2635.24.2

Sept^r 30 To Do Do Do 2682.21.59

Octob^r 31 To Do Do Do 1641.30.32

Nov^r 31 To Do Do Do 417.2.64

Dec^r 31 To Do Do Do 173.22.77

1778
 January 31 To Do Do Do 1271.4.48

Feb^r 28 To Do Do Do 3166.29.74

March 30 To Do Do Do 4544.34.41

April 30 To Do Do Do 5290.25.29

May 31 To Do Do Do 5228.16.27

June 30 To Do Do Do 5405.5.8

July 31 To Do Do Do 4248.13.75

Aug^t 31 To Do Do Do 3259.11.45

Sept^r 30 To Do Do Do 3534.1.13

October 31 To Do Do Do 1422.16.77

Nov^r 30 To Do Do Do 152.6.73

Dec^r 31 To Do Do Do 105.14.56

1779
 January 31 To Do Do Do 1756.21.46

Feb^r 28 To Do Do Do 4074.10.10

March 31 To Do Do Do 5946.7.9

April 30 To Do Do Do 4207.24.35

May 31 To Do Do Do 4397.1.41

June 30 To Do Do Do 4177.27.27

July 31 To Do Do Do 3750.3.18

Aug^t 31 To Do Do Do 4225.26.56

Sept^r 30 To Do Do Do 3991.26.16

Octob^r 31 To Do Do Do 2573.33.22

Nov^r 30 To Do Do Do 4830.47

Dec^r 31 To Do Do Do 985.8.60

1251

Fort St. George 21st May 1781.C^{of}

of Works.

1777	June 20.	By Cash Received.	700	—	—
	21.	By Do	100	—	—
	24.	By Do	807	34	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.	1.	By Do	2682	21	59
1778	Jan ^y	14.	By Do	417	2
	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	4544	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	2748	—	—
	11.	By Do	1470	—	—
	31.	By Do	30	—	—
Sept.	13.	By Do	1200	—	—
Octo ^r	13.	By Do	1000	—	—
Nov.	23.	By Do	2000	—	—
Carried Over			53866	4	13

1252 Fort St. George 21st May 1781

1780

January 31	To the Amount of Materials delivered this Month	Brought Over	93286.26.28
February 28	To Do		1937.26.70
March 31	To Do		2387.7.2
April 30	To Do		3350.10.42
May 31	To Do		3304.28.42
June 30	To Do		3042.26.4
July 31	To Do		2883.9.48
August 31	To Do		1824.22.64
Sept 30	To Do		556.26.65
October 31	To Do		412.13.66
Nov 30	To Do		1067.31.62
Decr 31	To Do		666.5.32
1781			1496.10.75
January 31	To Do		576.13.55
February 28	To Do		226.29.38
March 31	To Do		722.3.11
April 30	To Do		206.33.26

To Interest on the following sums from the Respector 119549 2 10.
 dated to 30 Apr 1781 @ 8 p Cent
 mo 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
	2632.21.59	43	768.34.62
	1641.30.32	42	459.24.14
	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
	5240.25.29	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	234.17.3
		6.000	13014.3.57

119549 2 10

1253 Fort St. George 21st May 1781

1778.		B. Over	53966. 4. 13
Dec ^r 30.	By Cash Recd.		2000. — —
1779.			
January 22.	By D ^o		3000. — —
Feb ^y 7.	By D ^o		3000. — —
March 15.	By D ^o		5000. — —
May 3.	By D ^o		5000. — —
15.	By D ^o		1000. — —
June 12.	By D ^o		6000. — —
July 21.	By D ^o		6000. — —
Aug ^t 13.	By D ^o		4000. — —
Sept ^r 30.	By D ^o		1000. — —
Nov ^r 30.	By Ramanajah & Nillana their Bal. Trans ^d	78. 1627. 7. 31	
1780.			
March 20.	By Cash Recd.		3102. 5. 40
May 23.	By D ^o		3000. — —
Aug ^t 16.	By D ^o		500. — —
21.	By D ^o		500. — —
Sept ^r 9.	By D ^o		1000. — —
Dec ^r 16.	By a Sett of Bills drawn by the Presidents		
	and Council for 2000 M ^s Pay ^d @ 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ %		2180. — —
			101775. 17. 4

By Interest on the fol^y Sum^s from the respective
dates to 30th April 1781 @ 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
M^s &

On 700.	46. 10.	216. 8.
100.	46. 9.	30. 31. 16.
207. 34. 60.	46. 6.	242. 33. 48
2450.	45. 6.	738. 7. 16.
74. 27. 57.	45. 5.	22. 16. 64.
2972. 29. 4.	44. 16.	869. 17. 61.
2030.	43.	581. 33. 48.
605. 24. 20.	42. 16.	171. 28. 3.
2622. 21. 59.	42.	731. 3. 48.
417. 2. 64.	39. 14.	110. 7. 16.
420.	39. 2.	109. 13. 22.
1947. 20. 32.	28. 16.	500. 10. 64.
	C. Over	4350. 31. 6.

Card. Over 101775. 17. 4

1254 Fort St. George 21st May 1781

Br. Over. 118549. 2 10.

Br. Over. 13014. 3. 57

m. 8

On 152. 6. 73.	29	29. 16. 70.
105. 14. 56.	28	19. 23. 61
1750. 21. 16	27	316. 5. 61
4074. 10. 10.	26	706. 7. 24
5946. 7. 9	25	991. " 57
4807. 24. 35	24	769. 3. 59
4397. 1. 41.	23	674. 7. 54
4177. 27. 27	22	612. 25. 72
3750. 8. 18	21	525. " 76
4225. 26. 56.	20	563. 14. 51
3991. 26. 16.	19	503. 21. 48
2523. 33. 22	18	310. 1. 60.
48. 30. 47.	17	5. 19. 16.
935. 8. 60.	16	105. 3. 28.
1937. 26. 70.	15	193. 27. 66
2317. 7. 2	14	222. 28. 64
3350. 10. 42	13	290. 12. 57
3304. 28. 42	12	264. 13. 53
3042. 26. 4	11	223. 4. 64.
2822. 9. 48	10	192. 7. 54
1224. 22. 64.	9	109. 17. 22
556. 26. 65	8	29. 24. 76.
412. 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. 31. 32
576. 13. 55	3	11. 18. 77
226. 29. 32.	2	3. 17
722. 3. 11	1	4. 29. 72

20816. 27. 68.
239365. 29. 78.

Agood 239365. 29. 78.

Fort St. George
Benjamin
for Dr. & Co.

1756

3-0-71

Contractor

1855 Fort St George 21st May 1878.

		Br ^o Over	101775.17.4.
On	53.22.77.	Br ^o Over	4380.31.6.
450.		32.11.	13.24.38
3600.	19.12.	37.20.	113. --
5000.		37.10.	293.3.67.
72.8.		37.2.	1242.8.5.
4544.29.42.		37.	17.22.64
1000.		36.17.	1107.31.16.
1000.		35.27.	239.12.
		35.20.	237.27.66
3290.25.29.		35.15.	778.27.43
5000.		34.21.	1156.24.
222.16.27.		34.19.	52.26.32.
3000.		33.22.	674.24.
2405.		33.5.	531.27.67.
2742.		32.21.	599.22.5.
1470.		32.19.	319.29.
36.		32.	724.32.
1200.		31.17.	372.22.64.
1000.		30.17.	203.27.67.
2000.		29.3.	322. --
2000.		28.	373.12.
3000.		27.8.	545.12.
3000.		26.23.	335.12.
5000.		25.15.	250. --
5000.		23.22.	791.3.67.
1000.		23.15.	136.24.
6000.		22.12.	296. --
5000.		21.9.	232. --
4000.		20.12.	344. --
1000.		19.	126.24.
1627.7.31.		17.	124.14.51.
3103.5.40.		13.2.	270.8.56.
3000.		11.7.	224.24.
500.		8.14.	22.8. --
500.		8.9.	27.24. --
1000.		7.21.	51.12. --
2120.		4.14.	64.33.10.

1771.
April 30. By Balance

19824.9.61.
121609.26.65.
17756.3.13.

Pagoda 239365.29.72.

30th April 1878.
Rochuck
Chunam

Dr

The Committee of Works

Cr

1720
Nov 30 To Balance

1777

25635 12

By Cash Received on Account Advance

10000

May 17 By

Do

3000

July 10 By

Do

7000

20000

By Interest on the foregoing Sums from the

Respective dates to 30 Nov 1720

Am 10000

3 7 10

2882 22

3000

3 6 13

848 24

7000

3 4 20

1897 22

25635 12

25635 12

Fort St George 30 Nov 1720

Benjamin Roebuck,

Contractor for Works & Gunpowder

1256 Fort St George 21 May 1721

1237 Fort St. George, 21st May, 1781

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

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

Read the following Letters —

To Captain Edward Edmonds,
Commanding at Angole.

Sir,

To Cap^t Edmonds
desiring him to
obey orders from
Mashipatam
He Corresponds
with Col^l Pearse
also to send Mr
Ferguson to return

The Communication being cut off
between Angole and the Presidency, we desire you
will obey all such orders as you may receive
from the Chief and Council of Mashipatam —
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 Angole with Accounts of
the Provisions he is likely to find on his Arrival
there. —

Shewing

1258 Fort St George, 21st May, 1781.

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

Fergusson

Fort St. George.
21st May, 1781.

We are,
Sir, Your most obedient servant,

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 Spadwell, and

of the signal to be

made by the Gun

Boston when in

Sight of Keelapattam,

I desiring him to

obey all orders from

Keelapattam &

to Correspond with

Col. Pearce

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

and Stores &c. - Some Circumstances have since

occurred to make it necessary to defer 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. Irving, and Spadwell Captain

Jiffries.

1259. Fort St George 21st May 1781

Jeffries - these Vessels will sail from hence -
within two days, and on their appearing in
sight of Kistnapatam, 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 Kistnapatam 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 Pearson, and advise him of the
Quantity of Grain, Bullocks, Sheep, &c collected
for the Use of his Detachment. The

1260 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's
the Nabob's Troopers are embarked, they carry
with them Horse carbines and Saddles, and are
to be mounted at Nellore.

So soon as the Reinforcement is
Arrived

1261 Fort St. George 21st May 1781

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

Fort St. George,
21st May 1781.

We are,
Sir
Your most obedient servant
Charles Smith,
Secy. Select Committee

1262 Fort St George - May 1781

22nd Received the following Letters,

To the Honble Charles Smith Esq^r
President &c. Select Committee
Fort St George.
Honble Sir & Mrs,

From Mess^{rs}
Davidson & Jordan,
informing of Hyder
crossing the Coleroon
will endeavor to
procure grain.

We have the honor to acquaint you
that Hyder has crossed the Coleroon by the way
of Lalgoody, leaving it is said 2000 Horse & 2 or
3000 Foot at Combeconum. - 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 res-
tored to Tranquillity, our utmost Endeavors
shall be used to send grain from this
Country for the Relief of Madras; -

We are
Honble Sir & Mrs

Tanjore
19th May 1781

Your Most obedient
Humble servant
Alex^r Davidson
Fran^{co} Jordan

1263 Fort St George - May 1781

To the Honble Charles Smith Esq^r

President Governor & the Select Committee

Honible Sir & Mrs. Fort St George.

I am sorry to Acquaint you

From Mr. M^r
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 vessel well
armed to cruise at Carrical, Nagore, and
the different places to the Southward, as well
to procure very intelligence I can of the Enemy
for Genl. 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 Pattamaras
at different places will frighten the people
who

1264 Fort St. George - May 1781

22nd, 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 coasts 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 returned. The Dutch have not yet paid him any money, their Ambassadors are still detained. But he has come down in his demands. Hyder is at present at Treeror 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 Genl Gers,

Your most obedient humble servant,

Edward M^cIntosh

N.B. The Danes have received a Vacat of Hyder, altho' they would not consent to my Landing.

Negapatam.
May, 15th 1781

Triviot

1265 Fort St. George - May 1781

To the Hon^{ble} Charles Smith Esq^r -
President, Governor and Select Committee,
of Fort St. George,
Honble sir & sirs,

From D^o
with D^o

The Vessel which I dispatched to
Admiral Sir Edward Hughes the 1st of Feb^{ry} Ult^o
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 s^{ap}^t 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 farther 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 M^e Intosh

Cuddalore,
May 19th 1781.

1266 Fort St George - May 5th 1781

22

To the Honble Charles Smith Esq^r
President and Governor &c Select Committee
Fort St George
Gentlemen,

I have received your Letter of
the 13th instant by the Lively Brig, which
arrived here the 17th about Noon, - with Brigadier
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
expressed him in repeated Letters, he would find
in our Government, and have as a further
proof

Lively

From Sir Eyre
look with Intelligence
respecting Sir Edrd
Hughes & Governor
Gordon. -

1267. Fort St. George - May 1781

22.nd Proof promised him assistance in case he should
at any time require it, ^{on} being hard pressed 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

1268 Fort St. George - May 1781

22nd, 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 however much I might be desirous of paying attention to the reference you have

1269 Fort St George & May 1781.

22.^d 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 29.th 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 Maharatta 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 Trislar, between the Coleroon and

1270 Fort St George + May 1781.

22nd and the Savery Rivers - From whence I think he will hardly be able to make such rapid Marches as to engage Colonel Pears's Detachment before it shall have reached and taken Post at Nellore where in my humble Opinion, with the advantage of chewing its ground, and the very competent train of Artillery it has along with it, it is equal to repel any attempts the Enemy may make against it.

The Invoice which accompanied the Treasure sent on the Swifty 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. I was of course without any guide whereby 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, whereby to remedy this want of Information, than to direct your paymaster to ascertain the Rate at which

1271 Fort St George # May 1781

22.nd which they might be thrown into circulation -
and which he having Reported to me, I issued
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 Request
on that head, I much approve of the Terms in
which you have written the Governor General
and Council, -

Captain Daves of the Snow Carolina
Matilda arrived here on the 17th of the evening,
left Bombay on the 29th 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 Daves Says that it
was

1272 Fort St George - May 1781

22nd was the Admiral's intention 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. No part of Col. Brown's Detachment had embarked, none having arrived at Bombay. He reached Tellicherry 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 Tellicherry as usual closely beset, and the Nairs in Alliance with us were very averse to any Idea of our evacuating the Place. He took the Nymphe Schoon off Seylon, where she was cruising for the Admiral. - That before he left Bombay, General Goddard being in possession of the Gants, and

1273 Fort St George May 1871

22nd 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 20th Ultimo Col. 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 fact the enormous price of 5 Rupees per Seer, was attacked on his March by a large body of Maharajas, called 40,000, but carried his convoy safe to camp, with the loss of several officers killed or wounded. General Goddard left the elephants on the 25th or 26th April 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 his Line of March was charged by an immense Body of Horse -
The

1274 Fort St. George - May 1781

22nd The first and second attack they sustained, and gave their fire at the point of the Bayonet, but the third charge it sums 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 Gongar Ball in the Body, of which he died in two or three - Hours The Bengal Sepoys are said to have behaved with the greatest Steadiness and bravery that this action is the only one of any consequence General 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. - The

very

1275 Fort St. George ~ May 1781

22nd

The Admiral whom I expect 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 26th 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 Port Jib, 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

1276 Fort St. George - May 1781.

22.nd I shall have it in my power to send them a more perfect Account.

In a Letter of the 4.th 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,

Camp Newtown,
19th May 1781.

Your Most Obedient
Most Humble servant,
Cyre Cook.

Wrote the following Letter to Bengal

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

Fort William.

1277 Fort St. George + May 1781.

22nd Honble Sir & Sirs,

To Bengal
with Intelligence

Herewith We enclose to you Extract
of a letter 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,
22nd May, 1781.

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your Most Obedient
Humble servants.

23rd Received the following Letter from
Colonel Nixon

To the Honble Charles Smith Esq^r
President and Governor, & the select Committee,
of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I have had the pleasure to
receive your Letter dated 26th Ultimo by my
Mecarra,

From Lieut. Col.
Nixon joined by
the Army of France,

1278 Fort St. George # May 1781.

23^d 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 Forces, 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 Tondeman'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 receipt of the Reddy's Letter, Copy of which I send for your information - I did not hesitate 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

1279 Fort St. George - May 5781.

23.rd Most for the Interest of the Company's affairs to secure his friendship at all events, I shall be happy to hear if what I have done meets with your approbation: his Coulee is signed by Mr. Ram, the Nabob's Manager, the Kildedar 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 4000 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 hereafterward he is to receive 30000 Rupes ~~per~~ Annum for his own Expences, and that his Country is to be managed by the Nabob's people, Syder 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 Iundirstand still holds out -
hee

1280 Fort St George 4 May 1781

23rd We are making the best preparation in our Power here to receive the Enemy should their views be this way, of which I am 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 pay for the Sepoys for the Month of March - I have the Honor to be with Respect.

Trichinopoly,
8th May 1781.

Honble Sir & Mrs,
Your Most Faithful
and Obedient servant,
Occles Nixon.

Return of the Troops for April, 1781.

9. 27 ⁵	Effective Ye. Europeans.	11
36. 22. 19.	Invalids & Pensioners.	16
9. 27 ⁵ 20. 20. 7. 71. 22. 40. 43.		21.
90. 59. 1. 17. 4. 11. 59. 63. 55. 20. 24. 22. 61. 89. 36. 43. 58. 22. 22. 22. 100. 61. 43. 91.		52
6 th Battalion private	3. 4. 100. for Duty	552.
19 th Do & additional. Do.	50.	1078.
22. 39. 57. 112. 103. 121. 9. 27 ⁵ .		173
Total		<u>2,145</u>

1281 Fort St. George - May 8/81

23rd

Wrote the following Letter -

To Lieutenant Colonel Nixon,
Commanding Trichinopoly,

Sir,

To Lieut. Col. Nixon
approving of his
conduct respecting
the Reddy of
Tervion.

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 Tervion,
and of the Treaty you had entered 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 winced throughout
this Transaction, and so soon as the necessary
Papers can be prepared by his Highness the
Nabob, conforming the aforesaid Stipulations
they will be forwarded to you.

We are, Sir,

Your Most obedient Servant
Charles Smith
Secy to the Nabob

Fort St. George,
23rd May, 1781.

1282 Fort St. George - May 1781
To ^{23rd} Mr. James Daniell,
Chief &c. Council of
Masulipatam.

Gentlemen,

To Masulipatam
Mr. S. Statham
appointed Paymaster
to the Subbingsy.

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 Subbingsy
Corps at Masulipatam, with the Enrolments
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,
Fort St. George, Gentlemen,
23rd May 1781.

Your Most Obedient
Humble servant,
Thos. Oakes
Clerk.

To Major George Maule,
Chief Engineer.

Sir

1283 Fort St George - May 1781

23rd Sir,

To Major Maule
To remove the
inconveniences
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 Inconveniences
he complains of. I am,

Fort St George,
23rd May, 1781.

Sir, Your Most obedient Serv^t
Tho: Oakes
Secy

To Mr. Robert Duncan Munro,

Sir,

To Mr. Rob^t
D^r Munro -
to discharge the
Balance of his
Account with the
Comp^y.

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. -

Fort St George
23rd May, 1781.

I am, Sir Your Most ob^t Serv^t
Tho: Oakes
Secy

1284 Fort St George - May 1781

24th Received the following Letter

The Honble Charles Smith Esq^r

President and Governor &c. Council

Fort St George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

From Mr Light,
respecting the
Poligars in the
Tinnevely Country

I had the Honor of writing to you
on the 12th & 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
Cidington 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
has

1285 Fort St. George - May 1781.

24th was to be affected by compulsory and abusive means. - The servants of his Highness here like almost all of them I have known, are evasive and dilatory in the business of their departments.

Unaccustomed if not averse to the Control 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

certainly - I thought, accusations and

suspensions openly told in the face of these people was but a bad way to make them

better. - In my Letter of the 12th, Altho' I

mentioned that Captain Cedingtown had

agreed to the proposal regarding the Poligar

Cuttapernaique, yet I then saw he had very

different views from mine, of the Importance

of that measure, and in this I am not

Mistaken

1286 Fort St. George - May 1871

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 Poligar separately disclaiming my proposals, and refusing to condescend to any specific 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 Renter on the faith of my assurance, and of Captain Edington's support, was gone to war inevitably. 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 avowed to come in - with every obstacle in my way, having a good opinion of Subbaranaiah's disposition to us, I resolved to try what my personal Influence could do, and at all risks I went to meet him and his

seemed

1287 Fort St. George - May 1781.

24th 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 proof 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. I have taken a declaration in writing from him separately N^o 1. - and from five other Poligars. N^o 2. likewise a proposition from Cutchapernague for restoring the old Chocampetty Chief N^o 3. Copies of which I now lay before you, together with a copy of a paper, N^o 4, which I gave to Cutchapernague to recommend the Release of his Father, to your Honor &c. consideration. He has given me a List of 12 Poligars who are under

His

1288 Fort St. George # May 1781.

His influence, and for whose fidelity he answers, this paper is also enclosed N^o 5, 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 so 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, circumstances as these people are, and oppressed by the force,

sees

in

1229 Fort St George 4 May 1781.

2^d in whom they have no Confidence, is it surprising 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 hold out to them but threatening and future punishment.

It was my opinion at first, that a person in the service should have gone, and I would have gone myself, in whom the Poligars 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 doubtful disposition of our European Neighbours in this Country, the Number of French Companies who are daily passing through their Settlements, and the easy access which they may have to tamper with ^{the} Natives where

1290 Fort St. George - May 1781.

24th whose situation is more open to such attacks, 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 endeavors. - 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 Judgments of things are no very different. - Having given you so full a View of the State of

1291 Fort St. George May 5/81

24th of Matters 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 Eidington proposes for the Payment of the Arrears of the Sybandies taken into the Service, and which I suppose you will think it is necessary to discharge; altho' Captain Eidington 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 temporary Slights thrown on my Station.

As

1292 Fort S. George +. May 15/81

24th

As Mr Proctor is not yet arrived, I 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 endless altercations -

myself.

I trust you will likewise take into your consideration the appointing me jointly with Mr Proctor in superintending your business - I neither wish for Salary or Emolument, but submit to your Honor^{ty} my right to expect that after the trouble and anxiety which I have suffered, that I am not to be left a Cypher while my power and consequence is given to another, my Senior 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,

Callamptah,
12th May, 1781

Honble Sir & Mrs

Your most obedient humble servant
Will^m Light.