The entries made in

pencil on the margin in the

Volume were made with the

help of the papers in the

bundle at the time of the

weeding and destruction of

records.

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OP/21-11-1942.

1293 Fort St. George May 1st 1721.

The 24th Honble Charles Smith Esqr.

President and Governor &c Council

Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Sensible how necessary unanimity among the Servants of our Honble Employers is at this juncture, and inclined to think well of the Abilities and Zeal of Captain Eidingtoun, in whom you have Reposed so great a trust, it is with some Diffidence I am to inform you that I could not approve of many of the Steps which he has pursued in Regard to the affairs of this Country. —

From Mr. Light complaining of the conduct of Captain Eidingtoun.

Your Honor &c. no doubt meant agreable to his Highness the Nabob's Letter transmitted by you to Captain Eidingtoun, that the direction of affairs should be vested in Timothy Lopez Mordaby Hunter, Tenderly Cannon Phaunden, Captain Eidingtoun and myself, which your Honor no doubt may already be advised

is

1293 Fort St. George May 1731.

The 24th Honble Charles Smith Esq.re

President and Governor &c. Council

Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Sensible how necessary unanimity among the Servants of our Honble Employers is — at this juncture, and inclined to think well of the Abilities and Zeal of Captain Eidingtoun, in whom you have Reposed so great a trust, it is with some diffidence I am to inform you that I could not approve of many of the Steps which he has pursued in Regard to the affairs of this Country. —

From Mr. Light complaining of the conduct of Captain Eidingtoun.

Your Honor &c. no doubt meant — agreable to his Highness the Nabob's Letter transmitted by you to Captain Eidingtoun, that the direction of affairs should be Vested in — Tiomaly a pak Mordely Renter, Fiduciary Cauvr Phauvdeur, Captain Eidingtoun and myself, which your Honor no doubt may already be advised

to

20th is not the case — when Captain Eedingtoun has choosn to speak with me / for I cannot — say I have ever been consulted / are generaly to hear Complaints against the Renter, and twice I was summoned in common with the whole Garrison on the same Subject — Upon such occasions I have scarcely ever had it in my — Power to offer an opinion, when I have, Captain Eidingtoun has, without any reason assigned declared he would take his own way — There was nothing put in writing nor any plan or Mode laid down for doing business with his Highness's Servants — With me all vague accusation and indefinite Conversation, which I was well inclined to drop as I saw no good could be derived from it. —

The official Correspondence of the — Renter and Phousdar with the Genter, will — shew the degree of authority they have lately held. —

Their grievances have often come — before me, which for the sake of peace I have been willing

1295 Fort St George May 8th 1781

24th willing to suppress, save on occasion of the imprisonment of the Renter by Captain Edingtouns orders in the Month of February, when I took the liberty of laying a State of that Matter before your Honble President —

I have no difficulty of saying that I did and do disapprove of many parts of Captain Edingtouns treatment of this man, which in my opinion could produce no other effect than to defeat the purpose which he aimed to expect —

Thus situated, I have in a Manner been necessitated to remain a Silent, tho' not an indifferent spectator of the means which Captain Edingtoun has of himself employed in executing your orders. It is my wish that the Circar and the Company may derive benefit from them —

But when I see actual hostility commenced betwixt the Company's Troops and the Poligars, I put myself impelled by a sense of Publick dangor to come forward — I have accordingly laid before Captain Edington certain propositions for promoting the Publick Service, Settling the Poligars, and establishing peace, in consequence of

1296 Fort St George — May 1781

24th of the Renters offers to me — A Copy of which I have the Honor to enclose —

The first proposition in Regard to settling with the Pandalum Cootchy Poligar — was agreed to by Captain Eidingtoun, as a Tryal of the Renters disposition, and he has accordingly set out to do his indeavours to accomplish that business —

But certain circumstances have since occured to convince me that Captain Eidingtoun has not the same views with me of the importance of this. However I do assure your Honor &c that nothing shall be wanting on my part to effect the Salutary purposes of peace — I am with due respect —

Honble Sir and Sirs,

Your Most obedient
Humble servant
William Light

Pallimcotah,
12th April 1781.

To the Honble Charles Smith Esqr &

President and Governor &c Select Committee
of Fort St George

Honble

1297 Fort St George — May 8th 1781

24th

Honble Sir and Sirs

From Major Maule recommending the Ground to be clearw on the outside of the Black Town wall.

Having thought it necessary to examine into the State of the Environs of the Black Town Wall, I find Houses, Topies, and Gardens much nearer to it than they ought to be, and that to the Northward in particular, the Safety of the Place is absolutely endangered by the Vicinety of the Washermens Village, Topies, and Gardens running close up to the Wall, and to a great Extent from it, I take Leave to propose that an intire and immediate Clearance be made for the space of 600 Yards from the Foot of the Wall round the whole Extent thereof. In the Conviction that I shall meet with your Honrs &c Aproval and Support of this Measure, I have already placed Flags as Marks, fixing the abovementioned Distance, and beg Leave to request you will take such Means as you shall judge most effectual to force the Inhabitants to comply with an Order — the Execution of which however essential to the future Safety of their persons and Property, they deem a Hardship and hesitate to obey. Some private Property must of Course suffer, but it cannot admit of a Doubt when a Good so general is to arise from carrying through the

Measure

Fort St. George — May 1781

24th Measure, that the partial Evil at the Same Time accruing ought not to be put in the Balance, how for your Honor &c. shall concur with me in this Sentiment, I cannot say yet if you should determine that Compensation ought to be made, I will endeavour, as well as I can not to lose further Time in prosecuting the Business, to arrive at such an Account of the private Property to be destroyed as shall enable you to satisfy at some more favorable Period the Sufferers in it —

I have the Honor to be,

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your Most Obedient and

Very Humble Servant,

Geo. Maule
Chief Engr.

Fort St. George,
23d May 1781

Resolved what the Chief Engineer proposes in his Letter Respecting the clearance of the Environs of the Black Town be carried into execution and Advertizements be published accordingly

Maintenon.

Wrote the following Letters

1299 Fort St George May 21st 1781.

To 24th
To Mr. James Daniel
Chief &c. Council of
Masulipatam

Gentlemen

To Masulipatam, Nellore & Ongole put under their Owers.

The communication being cut off between the Presidency and the Garrisons of Nellore and Ongole, we have directed the Commanding officers there to obey all such orders as you may think necessary to send to them. We are

Gentlemen,

Your Most Obedt Servts.
Charles Smith
&c. Select Com.

Fort St George
21st May 1781.

To Colonel Thomas Deane Pearce,
Commanding the Bengal Detachment.

Sir

To Col. Pearce advising him to [illegible] the Kistnah [illegible] Battalion on [illegible] to join him on this side of the Garrison of the [illegible] strengthened [illegible]

The Roads between this Place and Nellore have been so constantly infested by the Enemy's Horse for near a Month, that we have not Received the least Intelligence from the Northward during that time — the last advice of your Detachment was from Vizianagrum dated the 19th April —

The

1300 Fort St George May 8th 81

24th

The Necessity of your proceeding to Ellore in order to be able to cross the Kistna before the Swelling of that River, was so strongly pointed out to you in our last, and further enforced by a letter addressed to you on the same Subject by the Chief of Masulipatam that we cannot doubt but you have taken the necessary Steps to insure the Completion of an object of so much Consequence, and as the Season when the Rains begin to fall is so near at hand, we hope soon to hear of your being on this Side the River, where you will be joined by two Circar Battalions complete, under the Command of Captain Arthur Lysaght, who has been directed to put himself under your Orders

We have added Considerably to the Strength of the Garrison at Nellore, and now send a further Reinforcement of Troops, Guns, Powder and other Stores; we have directed the Commanding officer there to correspond with you, and to send you a Return of his Garrison, as likewise to obey all Orders you may deem

Necessary

1301 Fort St. George May 21st 1781

24th Necessary to send to him - we have written to the Commanding officer at Ongole to the same Effect - We are,

Fort St. George
21st May 1781.

Sir
Your Most Obedient Servants
Charles Smith
Lt. Lieut Comm.

To Captain Alexander Patterson,
Commanding at Nellore.

Sir, Since our letter to you of the 21st Instant we are come to the Resolution of sending the whole of the Reinforcement originally intended for Nellore, and it now proceeds on the Vessels mentioned in our last address - It is upwards of 3 Weeks since we have received any Information whatever from the Northward, and being ignorant of the Force the Enemy may have in your Neighbourhood to obstruct the Landing of the Detachment, or its March to Nellore afterwards, we must leave the Matter entirely to your Discretion, and should you be of opinion that the Enemy is in too great Force to attempt the Disembarkation of our Troops, Stores, &c. at Kistnapatam you are in that case to

To Capt. Patterson
Reinforcement
sent to Nellore.

order

1302 Fort St George — May 1781

We, order the two Vessels on to Masulipatam, you will however detain them as long as the Provisions can in for the Troops will admit, in the Hope that a Change of Circumstances may favor their Landing, and joining you without loss of Time —

We have thought proper to appoint Mr Joseph Pugh, Volunteer of Artillery, a Conductor of Stores, and he proceeds with the Detachment in that Capacity, —

In a former Letter we directed you to correspond with Colonel Pearse, and to send him a Return of your Garrison on the Arrival of the present Reinforcement and we are further to desire that you obey all such orders as you may receive from him. —

We desire you will avail yourself of the first favourable opportunity you may have to forward any Packets of Letters that may arrive at Pulicat for the Presidency either by Boat or otherwise. —

Fort St George
24th May 1781.

We are,
Sir,
Your Most Obd. Servants
Charles Smith &c Councl.

P.S. Herewith we transmit you a Return of the Troops now embarked for Nellore. —

1303 Fort St George 24th May 1781

To Mr William Turing

Sir

To Wm William Turing, appointed Paymaster & Storekr at Nellore.

The Honble President and Select Committee having been pleased to appoint you Paymaster and Storekeeper to the Garrison of Nellore, you are desired to proceed thither with all convenient Expedition - On your Arrival there you are to take Charge of the Stores and see that Bullocks and artificers are provided, and kept always in readiness for the battering Cannon - you will likewise receive Charge from His Highness the Nabob's Manager, of all the Draft and Carriage Bullocks, Sheep, Rice, &c.a which may have been collected for the Use of the Bengal Detachment, and to advise the Honble President and Select Committee of the exact Number and Quantity of each Article which may have been so prepared.

It having been judged expedient to order two Battalions under the Command of Captain Arthur Lysaght to join the Bengal Detachment, you will have the Payment of these Battalions as well as the Garrison of Nellore, on their Arrival there. Orders have been sent to the Nabob's Manager to advance you a sufficient Sum to pay the Company's Troops

130 Fort St George ~ May 1781

25th Troops, but in Case they are not complied with, you are to apply to the Chief and Council of Masulipatam, who will furnish you with the Necessary Supplies of Cash. ~

I am, Sir,
Your Most obedient Servant
T. Oakes
Secry

Fort St George,
24th May 1781.

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

Gentlemen,

To Masulipatam informing of Detachment sent to Vellore.

It is now upwards of three Week since we have received any Intelligence whatever from the Northward, and consequently are ignorant of the progress of the Bengal Detachment, since the last advices which were dated at Vizianagram the 19th April - We are in hopes however that it will by this time have crossed the Kistna, & we are to desire you will order Captain Lysaght with the two Battalions that are Stationed on the Banks of that River, to join the Detachment and put himself under the Orders of Colonel Pearse.

Our View in the appointment of Captain

Lysaght

Fort St. George — May 1781

2d. Lysaght to the Command of the two Battalions is under the Idea, that his Knowledge of the Country will be very useful to Colonel Pearse, who must necessarily be unacquainted with those Parts — but we do not mean thereby to deprive him of his Command in the Masulipatam District, on the contrary he will be permitted to return thither on his arrival at Nellore, should it be found that his Services can be conveniently dispensed with, — we have appointed Lieutenant Richardson to act as his Brigade Major —

unacq
ainted

On the True Briton and Speedwell we have Sent a further Reinforcement for the Garrison of Nellore, with 500. Barrels of Powder, 4 twenty Pounder Guns, Stores, &c., but as it is possible the Enemy may be in such Force as to make it imprudent to attempt the Disembarkation at Kistnapatam, we have given discretionary Orders to the Captains of the above Vessels to proceed on to Masulipatam, should it be recommended either by Captain Patterson, or the Officer Commanding the Detachment, in which Case it is to join Colonel Pearse. —

We

130 Fort St George — May 1781

24th We have appointed Mr Tolliman Turing Paymaster and Storekeeper at Nellore, as likewise Paymaster to the Troops under Captain Lysaght: this Highness the Nabob has sent Orders to his Manager at Nellore to advance to Mr Turing a Sufficient Sum for the Payment of the Company's Troops at that place, but in case of Failure therein, (of which you will be advised by Mr Turing,) we rely on your taking speedy and effectual Measures for furnishing that Garrison with Money, as no Supplies can be sent from hence. —

We are

Gentlemen,

Your Most Obedient Servants

Charles Smith &c &c

Fort St George,
24th May 1781.

26th Received the following Letter

To The Honble Charles Smith Esqr

President and Governor &c Select Committee

at Fort St George

Gentlemen

We advised you in Cypher —
under the 30th Ultimo of the Probability of a
Rupture

From Bombay with Dutch Resp. the Dutch

130 Fort St George May 8 1781

26th Rupture with Holland, tho' the Paragraph does not appear on the official Duplicate now sent of that Letter, and the following is an exact Extract from Sir Robert Ainslies Letter on the Subject, dated the 25th of January last

"I have just received certain Intelligence that Sir Joseph Yorke his Majesty's Ambassador at the Hague had quitted that Residence without taking Leave — This sudden Departure is the unavoidable Consequence of the unjustifiable and intolerable Conduct of the States General of the united Provinces, who influenced by a Faction devoted to the Enemies of Great Britain, have contrary to their most solemn Engagements and the true Interest of the Republic, committed repeated and unprecedented Acts of Enmity to his Majesty's Crown, which cannot fail to operate an immediate Rupture"

We have received the Dispatches from the Honble Company the Select Committee dated the 2d of October Castby the Lively, which We doubt not have also reached you in Safety

the

1308 Fort St George 4 May 1781

26th the Resident at Anjingo having acquainted us he had taken Duplicates by your Permission we have furnished the Admiral with Copies who in case of Accident to your Despatches can provide you with other Copies.

We are,

Gentlemen,

Your Most obedient Humble Servants

Bombay Castle,
26th April, 1781

Wm Hornby

Sir and Gentlemen

From Sir Edward Hughes informing of Tellichery being garrisoned from Bombay, brings round Major Colgraves Detachment

I having been determined by the Presidency of Bombay since my last Letter to you dated the 1st April, to maintain the Settlement of Tellichery I have to acquaint you that I left Bombay on the 28th of last Month with His Majesty's Ships as p Margin, under my Command, having under my Orders the Company's Ships Revenge and Royal Admiral and in Company the York, Fox, Mason, Yarmouth and Berenstorff, the four first carrying a Detachment of 100 Europeans and 1,300 Seapoys including officers for the relief of the Detachment

of

1309 Fort St. George — May 1781.

26th. of Madras Troops, serving under Major — Cotgrave at Tellicherry, as well as Provisions and Military Stores of all kinds for the Garrison, at which place I arrived on the 7th. of this Month, and was the same day favored with your — Letter of the 23d. of February last fr. the — Portland.

At the time I left Bombay, I — found the situation of the Army under Brigadier General Goddard did not admit of the — Detachment of Madras Troops under Colonel Brown being withdrawn from it, which has — been repeated to me since in a Letter from — Governor Hornby, dated the 2d. of this Month, received by the Royal Charlotte at Tellicherry, at which place she joined me the 10th. of this Month, with a farther reinforcement of 500 Men of the Bombay Troops, and in part Ladening — with Provisions and Military Stores for that Garrison, at which place the Men and Boats of the Squadron were constantly employed from the Day of our Arrival there, until the

1310 Fort St George - May 1781

26th the 14th in unlading and landing the Provisions and Military Stores, not without much inconvenience and delay from the very heavy surfon the Shore at that late Season of the Year -

On the 15th of this Month Major Colgraves Detachment consisting of 31 European Artillery, 40 European Infantry and 1120 Black Troops was embarked on the Company's Ships Royal Charlotte and Royal Admiral, and the York, Free Mason, and Triumph Country Ships and we sailed from Tellicherry early on the 16th On the 22d His Majesty's Sloop the Nymph joined me off Foyar's Hood, and brought me your Letter of the 6th of last Month, -

I expect to fall in with Negapatam sometime to morrow, at which place I shall send an officer on shore for Intelligence, and if I find our Army under Sir Eyre Coote is at Cuddalore, or at any other place near the Sea Coast to Windward, I shall anchor there with the Squadron and Convoy, for the purpose of disembarking the Troops of Sir Eyre Coote -

disem

1311 Fort St George — May 1781.

26th desires it but of otherwise I shall proceed on to Madrass Road. I am with great Regard,

Sir & Gentlemen

Your Most Obedient,
Humble Servant
Edw. Hughes

Superb at Sea,
the 24th May 1781.

Charles Smith Esqr President & Governor and Select Committee of Fort St George

27th Received the following Letter

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

Gentlemen

From Sir Eyre Coote, recommd. Mr Mitchell to the Comr., inclos'd Letter from Messrs Davidson & Scott Brothers and Capt. Clarke.

I had the Honor to you write you under date the 19th in Reply to the Dispatches I had the pleasure of receiving from you by the Lively Brig, which bore date the 13th and as those brought me no certain Accounts of the Bengal Army whereof it being of the last consequence

9

Fort St George — May 8th 81

27th I should receive constant Information I cannot be otherwise than extremely uneasy at the very long interval in my Intelligence — I am persuaded that if you have yourselves received any advices concerning it since your Letter by the Lively Brig that you have used your best Endeavors to convey them to me, but unfortunately none have reached me, As the safe arrival of such advices is of the utmost Importance to me, and may be of the greatest moment to the general Welfare of our Interest, I would recommend that some Boats or Catamarans fitted for Expedition should be prepared and established as Packet carriers betwixt the Presidency and the Army, on each of which should be placed two Hircarahs, who might occasionally go on Shore where they saw no risk of Danger, and make enquiries after the Army, to which Post it might have moved — they might proceed with their dispatches by what they might thereby find to be the nearest road to it —

I had very reason to have hoped to have had it in my Power ere now to have —

Congratulated

1313 Fort St George — May 1781.

27.th congratulated you on the safe arrival of Sr Edward Hughes with the Squadron on this Coast, an Event which I have long and impatiently wished for, not only for the real assistance the Army might derive from it, but because of the certain good Effects which its appearance alone would have in countenancing and giving Spirit to the operations thereof, I confess I begin to be extremely anxious about the Delay in his arrival, and cannot help entertaining fears of it's being occasioned by some Accident, as I am convinced that sensible as he must be of the importance of his early coming on the Coast as to the Publick Interests, nothing else could have detained him —

I have received advices from Mr. William Michell at Negapatam, dated the 21.st instant, but in which there is no Mention of the Fleet — He has given me the following Intelligence —

That on the 17.th Inst. Can Chesungun had given permission to several Black Merchants under passes for Pulicate or Sadrass to send Grain to Cuddalore, but

That

1314 Fort St George May 1781

27th That on the 19th in consequence of a Letter received from One of their Ambassadors with Hyder, and which had been laid before the Council, an Order was issued to prohibit the Exportation of grain, and every other sort of Provisions, and Guards established on the River Side to search all Persons going off, and that Hyder's Gumeldars had begun to Stop all Provisions from going into Negapatam, and which is Supposed to be done in consequence of the Dutch persisting in their refusal to comply with his demands, which are still very exorbitant,

Mr Michell also writes that the Dutch have a considerable Body of Europeans at Mannar, ready to come to Negapatam on the Governors requisition, altho' it is certain that the King of Candy and they are at Variance at Ceylon, and it is thought will come to an open rupture.

As Mr Mc Intosh from not having been able either to land at Tranquebar or Nagapatam, has returned, and as Mr Michell has by his acquaintance in the Letter

1315 Fort St. George — May 8th 1781

27th Settlement bun able to reside there privately
and bun most indefatigable in his Endeavors
to assist us with Provisions, and punctuality
in sending me Intelligence, I have to recommend
his having your Permission to continue there
as long as may be in his power, and to have
such an Allowance granted him as will —
enable him to defray the Expences he incurs,
and which I understand are heavy. — He —
finds means to convey Letters both to Tanjore
and Trichinopoly. — These conveniences when
added to the Importance it is of to us at this
juncture to have good Information of the —
Transactions of the Dutch, I am persuaded —
will induce you to comply with the above —
recommendation. —

I inclose a Letter to your Commissa
from Messrs. Davidson and Gourdan just received
from Tanjore, likewise copies of one from them
and one from Colo. Brathwaite to me, you will
observe by them that Hyder has recrossed
the Colleroon, which I think may render

us

13th Fort St George 1 May 1781

27th Its perfectly easy as to the safety of the Garrisons of Tanjore and Trichinopoly, The two great objects of our concern - This wont I am well satisfied has been produced by my keeping my present position - Notwithstanding the Report which Col. Brathwaite in his Letter mentions to prevail in Hyder's Camp of his intending to quit this Country, I have no Idea that under his present Circumstances he entertains any such thoughts - On the contrary I have this Morning received a piece of Intelligence from Meer Saibs Camp, which I am more inclined to give credit to, as being on every account the most probable plan for him to pursue — That Hyder has sent a Letter to Meer Saib, acquainting him that he was coming to Trivanatore by the way of Tiagar - If he should take up that Station, my Anxiety for the safety of Tiagar which is already closely pressed, will be greatly encreased - for he will then with his main Army occupy a Strong Situation, about half a day

1317 Fort St. George — May 15th 1781.

27th way on the high road betwixt this place and Tiagar — I have had it in contemplation for some time past, to try whether a movement to Trivedy about 15 Miles west from hence might not draw off the Enemy from the Seige of Tiagar, I have never been sanguine in my opinion, whilst I could go no further than Trivedy, by the Necessity I am under of keeping near the Sea for Supplies, that it would produce such an effect. How much less then can I expect it, if Hyder sets himself down at Trivanalore. I now feel in a most sensible manner the want of Carriage for Provisions, as the Enemy evidently from that cause, are making great progress towards An Advantage which it will hurt me much should the Enemy get possession of and which I am confident had I means of marching the Army they never could obtain — I must however at all Risks make a Movement to some quarter or another if it were to do no more than to endeavor to get some Cattle for the Subsistence of the Europeans, but which way to go to find them I really know not, for as far as

the

1318 Fort St George - May 5th 81

27th the Distance I can march the Army the Enemy have completely cleared the Country of every thing - The hope of being more successful in beating up Mcr Dail's Camp than I was last time, and the further consideration of its being an advance in the face of the Enemy, may perhaps induce me to prefer a movement to Trivedy - which way my resolves may ultimately carry me, You may rest assured that in all cases I shall be guided by a Strict Attention to what in a military light is most consistant with a proper regard to the Honour and Credit of our Arms, and may afford a prospect of being finally productive of good to our Affairs. -

I am sorry to acquaint you that General Munro's Health of late has been very indifferent, and continues in so weake a State, that he will not be able to accompany the Army when it Marches. -

Sickness has much diminished the Effective Number of our officers of late -

Randa

1319 Fort St George May 27th 1781.

27th Ranks in the Army, particularly that of
Field officers. There is not now, nor has not
been for some time past a Single Field officer
with the Troops belonging to the Madras
Establishment, and at this present time there
are only two field officers, Lieut Colonel Owen
and Major Brereton doing duety as field
officers of the day, which falls very heavy upon
them, the more particularly, as neither of them
have enjoyed good Health of late - I hope there-
fore you may have it in your power to apply
a Remedy to this want -

I have the pleasure to acquaint
you that the Ship Prosperpny commanded by
Captain Clark, after a very tedious passage
from Bengal, arrived yesterday with 19000
Bags of Rice and other Articles of Provisions
consigned to Fort St George on freight on the
Company's Account - We shall endeavour to land
her cargo as soon as possible altho we are greatly
distressed for Boats. This Supply makes my
Situation as to rice so easy, that I shall not

Require

Fort St George ~ May 1781

27th require any more assistance from Bradras for some time to come — Gram is now the article we are most in want of, any supply you may therefore send in that way will prove very Acceptable —

I have received Letters from Caringoly informing me that the Renter had paid into the Commanding officer of the Garrison, the Sum of 2500 Pagodas, agreable to my orders as I informed you in my letter of the 9th Instant — The quantity of grain now in Store at Caringoly is about 24000 Collums of Paddy, and about 5000 Collums of Rice — These furnish us with incontestable proofs of the Services which Thelombre Pillah has rendered the Publick — Besides the merit he has acquired in other other respects by his Active Exertions against parties of the Enemy, who were in possession of the Country at different places — very soon after he was first put in charge he dispersed a Strong Party of the Enemy at Outramalore, when Lieu with his Detachment went to the Northward

Lie

1321 Fort St George — May 1781

27th he attacked and retook the Place, but after a strong resistance of many hours the Renter's principal Agent with 13. or 14 of his dependent officers were taken prisoners, and had their heads cut off. Many more of the party were also taken prisoners, and Numbers of them had their noses and Ears cut off, and were dismissed. The Renter in his last Letter informs me that he has again attacked and drove the Enemy from Outramaroor, taken two of their Horses, some of their Arms, and killed and wounded about twenty of them, that he has also drove the Enemy from a small Talook dependant on Conjeveram, and is now in possession of it — Exclusive of these exertions for which he certainly deserves very encouragement, he has got together Twenty Horses, which he has mounted and will employ them in carrying on the business of the Collections, in which they will be very useful — He has made an application to me for some Muskets, and Ammunition for the Sebundees he has raised,

I

1322 Fort St George 1st May 1731

27th I therefore intended my self the pleasure of applying to your President to afford him some assistance in that way.

I inclose you Copy of a Letter which has been written to me by Capt. Clark of the Crispigny, with my Answer - which I doe perswaded will meet with your approbation, especially when I inform you that he further gave me to understand if the Conditions he had propos'd were not accepted to, he would be under the Necessity of prosecuting his Voyage agreeable to his original destination -

Captain Clark informs me that he has opened two or three Casks of the Beef and Pork he has on board from Bengal, that the latter is pretty good but the former so very bad, as hardly to be fit for any use whatsoever

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

Camp New Town
25th May 1731.

P.S.

1323 Fort St George — May 1781

27th P.M. Since writing the above Intelligence has
been brought to Me of the Fleet being
in Sight —

To His Excellency Lieut. Gener. Sir Eyre Coote K.B.
&c &c &c

Honoble Sir,

The Crespigny's Cargo being consigned
to the Governor and Council at Fort St George, the
Conditions on which I agree to comply with —
your Requisition of delivering it here are the
following, which I hope you will not think —
Unreasonable — I must be fully indemnified
from any Claim or demand of the Gentlemen
to whom I am consigned, or by whom I am
freighted — I must be indemnified from any
Loss on my Insurance on the Crespigny made
at Calcutta, for Sa Rs. 45000 it being done
from Calcutta to madras only without Permission
to touch any where else, except in Cases of the most
urgent Necessity, wherein the Safety or Preservation
of the Ship is concerned, in all Contingencies

wherein

Fort St. George ~ May 1781

27th wherein the Insured may be affected, such as Capture by the Enemy, Fire, standing &c. &c.

Ten Days shall be allowed as — Customary for taking out the Cargo and discharging the Ship, the date of the unlading to commence this 25th of May, and for every day exceeding the above Ten Days, I must receive for Demurrage after the Rate of 300 Rupees p Day, 'till the said unlading be compleated. —

I am, Honble Sirs,
Your Most Obedient,
Humble Servant,
/Signed/ Samuel Clark

Cuddalore,
25th May, 1781.

To Capt. S. Clark Commanding the Ship —
Cresfigny

Sir

I have received your Letter of the 25th Instant, acquainting me of the Cargo laden on Board your Vessell being consigned to the Governor and Council of Fort St. George, and which you can only agree to my Requisition of delivering here, on Certain Conditions as —

Herein

1325 Fort St George May 6th 1781.

27, Therein Stated. —

With Respect to the first of indemnifying you from any Claim or Demand of the Gentlemen to whom you have been consigned, and by whom you have been freighted, I find no difficulty in Acceeding to. —

As to the Second condition, concerning Insurance &c, I conceive the Terms therein Stipulated as Matter of Course, and therefore readily Acquise in Indemnifying you as far as the Custom of Merchants May authorize under Circumstances similar to those in which you stand, by Landing your Cargo at this Port instead of Fort St George, to which Place you was consigned. —

The third and last Condition is the only one which embarrasses me, first because I am almost certain from the want of a Sufficient Number of Boats, that it will be impossible to unload your Cargo within the time you have mentioned of Ten Days, and next because I think the Terms of Demurrage are

Fort St George 24 May 1781.

27th are very High. - But as the Exigencies of the Publick Service indispensably Require that your Cargoe should be landed here for the use of the Army, I must even give my Assent to this last Condition, in the belief that you have by the Articles of Marchants in such Cases an indisputable Right to claim it.

I have only further to add, that I shall give the Necessary Instructions to the proper persons to unload your Cargoe with all possible Expedition.

I am Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant

Camp Newtown,
25th May 1781

/Signed/ Eyre Coote,

A true Copy
Sgd. Sykes.

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

Sir

I have the Honor to inform you that Hyder repassed the Coleroon this Morning at four o'Clock with his Army Cavy. 2,000 Horse and as many Foot in this Country; by my

information

Fort St George 19th May 1781.

27th information his March is directed to Lollgoody, it is said he has sent part of his heavy Guns and baggage to the Adoor Pass and Part to Suroor, that he means to quit the Country when he has plundered as much as he can South, this is the report of his own Camp.. though some say that he has still an Aim at Trichinopoly;

I have the Honor to be with the Greatest Respect

Sir

Your Very Obedt

Humble Servt

Tanjore,
19th May 1781.

[Signed] Brathwaite

To Lieut General Sir Eyre Coote K.B;
&c &c &c

Sir,

We have been honored with your Letter of the 9th

We came to this place unprepossessed, our enquiries were directed respecting the Revenue, its application, and the causes of the deficiencies, and from many concurrent Circumstances were clearly of opinion, that the most likely mode to remove the Difficulties

We

1328 Fort St. George — May 8th

27th we now labour under was to displace —
Butchanah from the management; we have
entered into the particulars in our Letter to the
Select Committee, and we flatter ourselves that
when you shall have read the Reasons —
therein urged, they will appear to you well —
founded, we have the pleasure to inform you —
that Hyder has crossed the Coleroon by the Fords
of Lalgoody, having at Combeconum it is said
2,000 Horse and 2. or 3. Thousand foot.

We have the Honor to be Respectfully

Tanjore.
9th May 1781.

Your &c. &c.
/Signd/ Alexr Davidson
Francis Jourdan

28th Received the following Letter

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

Fort St. George

Gentlemen

I herewith inclose you a Letter —
addressed

From Sir Eyre
Coote inclosing
Letter from the

1329 Fort St George May 25th 1781

Army Grain Keeper. 20th addressed to me by the Army Grain Keeper, as it contains circumstances which you may find worthy of your consideration in Settling the Demurrage with the Captain of the — Alfred — I have the Honor to be —

Gentlemen

Your Most Obedient,
Humble Servant
Eyre Coote

Camp Newtown
25th May 1781

To His Excell.y Lieu.t Gen.l Sir Eyre Coote K.B.

Sir

Having been officially made acquainted that the Ship Alfred after having been at this port — ten days for the purpose of discharging her Cargo — was on the expiration of that term to lay at the — Demurrage of forty Pagodas per Diem for as many days as she might remain uncleared, I. in consequence of this Intimation adopted — every mode of expedition in hastening the —

Delivery

1330. Fort St George 4 May 1781.

28th Delivery of this Vessells Cargo, such as supplying her with swin and eight Boats a day - at a time when there were only seventeen belonging to the Fort - sending on board Lascars and landing the Rice on the points of the River -

Notwithstanding these endeavors, I am concerned to observe they were not in any degree seconded by the officer on board the Alfred, Instead of delivering the property of the Honble Company private trade of a Mr. Kelly, and commadities of other persons were landed - In the Space of one day seven boats - which I dispatched - with Ballast were all returned from the Ship empty - On the 22d in the Evening when there remained about 200 bags Rice on board - three large Chilingahs came on shore - to my utmost Surprize without one Grain of Rice, - I hope the above Statement of the cavells which have retarded the Discharging the Alfreds Cargoe - will carry with it Sufficient argument to - entirely release the Honble Board from -

Their

1331 Fort St. George — May 5th 1781.

28th their ingagement of demurage with Owners of
Owners of this Vessell, as likewise to exculpate
my conduct in the execution of the orders —
Received from your Excellency: —

In justice to Capt. Primrose the —
Master of the Alfred, who has been always on
shore, I beg leave to observe that he has —
exerted himself with much Activity in —
contributing his endeavors to accomplish the
unloading his Vessell within the period —
specified — I beg permission to inform your
Excellency that as his Majesty's Squadron are
daily expected in the Roads, and may eventually
remain some time — Boats will be greatly —
wanted, I therefore with all Deference request
that you will be pleased to procure a further
Supply of ten boats from the Presidency — as
without them it will be almost impossible to
accommodate the Fleet and at the same time
land our Grain, —

I remain

1332 Fort St George 28th May 1781

Cuddalore
25 May 1781

I remain with the greatest
Respect and obedience
Your Excellency's Most
obliged Servant
George Forster
Brigade Major
to the Army

29th Wrote the following Letter
To Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote K.B.
Commander in Chief of the
Forces.

Sir,

To Sir Eyre Coote
Approving of Mr
Michell's Conduct
Lament his want of
Bullocks, requesting
a Pilot Sloop to be
sent to protect the
Trade off Pulicat
The Nabob wishes to
know the Sum
Colley returned to
him

We have been favoured with your
Letters of the 22d and 25th Instant. —

We are fully sensible of the —
Importance it may be of to our affairs that —
you should be regularly informed of the Motions
of the Bengal Detachment, and have therefore
never omitted sending you every material —
Intelligence which has come to our Knowledge.
— It is upwards of a Month since the Communication
to the Northward has been intirely Cut off which

with

1333 Fort St. George — May 5th 781

29th will account for our Silence on the Subject of Colonel Pearse — the last Accounts we had from him were dated the 19th March at Vizeanagrum as mentioned to you in our Letter by the Lively — We have written to Nellore where we imagine the Letters for the Presidency are detained, to desire that they may be forwarded by a Boat or Catamaran — We have already on several Occasions fallen on the Method you now suggest us of sending Dispatches by Catamarans with Hircars on board, and we shall continue to do so when no better Conveyance may offer. —

In regard to Money we are sorry to inform you that although the Governor General and Council have given us leave to draw on their Treasury, still that it has not afforded us the means of raising any considerable Sum in ready Money — The Bills we have drawn have been chiefly for the Account of Cargoes imported here, for Freight for Vessels sent to Cuddalore, and for part Payment of heavy Balances due to the several public Employs in the Settlement.

And

1334 Fort St. George — May 8th 81.

29th and we are at this Moment without a Prospect of raising any Money for our present Expences, or for the Support of the Army. unless we adopt the ruinous alternative of Drawing on England at a very advanced Rate of Exchange, and even with this Temptation to Individuals, in furnishing them with an opportunity of making an advantagious Remittance, we despair of Raising a Sum more than adequate to our Expences for one Month. —

We congratulate you on the Arrival of Sir Edward Hughes's Squadron at Cuddalore, and sincerely hope you may experience the beneficial Effects you have so long looked forward to from that Event, in the Real Assistance you conceive it will afford the Army, and the Spirit and Energy it will give to it's Operations. —

We are pleased to find that Mr. Michell has rendered himself useful, and given you Satisfaction by his Diligence and Address in forwarding your Dispatches, and sending you Intelligence, on which Account we readily comply with your Recommendation, and give him our

Permission

Fort St. George ~ May 1781

29th Permission to remain at Negapatam as long as may be in his Power ~ the Conditions on which he is allowed to reside there at all are such as entitle him to our Favor, and we are therefore disposed to make him a suitable allowance for his Expences, for which ~ Purpose we shall order our Secretary to write to him for an Account of his Monthly Charges, from which we shall be able to determine on the allowance it ~ may be proper to make to him. ~

There is so little Permanency in the ~ System of Indian Politics, that it is scarcely ~ possible to adduce with Certainty any Conclusion however naturally arising from the apparent ~ Connexion of Circumstances, and yet we can give no Credit to the Report Mentioned by Colonel Braithwaite, that Hyder is about to leave the ~ Carnatic, but agree entirely with you, that in his present Situation he can have no such Intentions, for whilst the Mysore Country is in Peace, and his Government perfectly undisturbed, it is highly unreasonable to suppose he will relinquish the Conquests he has made, or give us any Respite from

1336 Fort St George — May 8th 1781

29th from the Calamities he has brought upon us
without Danger or Difficulty to himself and —
as far as respects the laying waste the Country
without receiving any Check to stop him in his
Career — nor is he ignorant of his ability to —
maintain these advantages until we have a
Body of Cavalry to oppose him —

Your Letter of the 14th Ultimo —
which informed us of the Resolution you had
come to of making a Movement towards the
Riley of Tanjore, in case it should be hard pressed
by the Enemy, relieved us from very apprehension
for its' safety, and we can only lament that
any change of Circumstances should have taken
place to prevent your fulfilling that Intention
which your last Letter gives us but too much
reason to fear will be the Case, particularly
should Hyder take up his Ground at Trivanalore
— we reflect with infinite Concern on the —
Disadvantages you labor under for want of
Bullocks to carry Provisions — in a Letter
from

1337 Fort St. George — May 8th 1781.

29th from our President dated 27th March you was informed of our having collected nearly 700 Bullocks, and that we thought they might be sent on from hence to Chinglepet or even to Carangoly — Since that time we have increased the Number to 1150 Bullocks, which even now we will attempt to escort as far as Carangoly, and you must be well convinced that it is the utmost we can possibly accomplish, more especially since our Garrison has been so much reduced by the Reinforcements we have lately sent to Nellore —

We are much concerned to hear of the Indisposition of Sir Hector Munro, whereby you will at least for the present be deprived of his Services — in regard to the Deficiency in the proper Complement of Field officers with the Army, it is a Circumstance much to be regretted, but we have no Remedy within our ability in this particular, which is not equally in your own since full powers have been delegated to you to issue any orders to the Different Garrisons you may think proper — Major Hopkins

to

1338 Fort St George ~ May 1782

29th to the only Field officer in Fort St George fit for Duty, he commands the European Regiment but if you wish he should join you, orders shall be immediately sent to him for that purpose — The Right Honble Colonel Lord Macleod Colonel James, and Majors Elphenston, Cosby, and Kelly are at present owing to their ill State of Health, totally incapable of joining the Army —

We observe what you say in regard to the Condetions you have intered into with Captain Clark of the Ship Cruspigny, and are sorry to perceive he has taken advantage of the Necesity he supposed you to be under of detaining his Vessell at all Events — The terms are indeed very exorbitant, — It was a gross Imposition in him to represent it as Customary for Demurrage to commence after ten Days — more especially for a Ship carrying so large a Quantity as 10,000 Bags — the distress you are in for Boats will we fear Make the Char of Demurrage very heavy to the Company —

Send

Fort St George ~ May 1781

29th had he brought his Vessel here, he would not have been unloaded in less than three weeks, nor would any Demurrage whatever have been allowed, and at this season of the year it cannot possibly be of the least consequence whether he sails again for Bengal now or a Month hence, notwithstanding the articles of his agreement inculcate so different an Idea - but what more than all concerns us is, that it should have been necessary to detain her at Cuddalore, our own Necessities force us to this observation, and they are become the more alarming owing to the little prospect there is of our obtaining any considerable Supplies before the Month of September - our present Stock of Grain is very insufficient to last to that time, and to add to our Misfortunes, the Ship Shaw Allum with ten thousand Bags of Rice on board for this Place, was lost in coming down the river - As you represent that Grain is now the article you are most in want of, we shall endeavor to send you a Quantity if possible in a few days by a Vessel belonging to Mr. Mackintosh

13 Ad

Fort St George 16 May 1781

29th Machintark; A Number of armed Boats belonging to the Enemy have for some time past been stationed off Pulicat; about a fortnight since they boarded and took Possession of two Vessels loaded with Grain for this place; on receiving this Intelligence we dispatched the Hibernia, which retook the Vessels, but part of the Cargoes had been previously landed — this Day our Hircars brought News of five other Vessels being taken by these armed Boats, and we shall lose no time in sending proper assistance to rescue them from the Enemy — these Instances are sufficient to prove the advantage that would result from having armed Vessels stationed off Pulicat to protect any Craft that may accidentally fall in there, and we are therefore to request you will dispatch to us the two Pilot Sloops now under your orders for that purpose, if you have no other Service more urgent than that we have set forth, to employ them on,

Herewith we transmit to you a Letter from his Highness the Nabob to our Presidency

Thos

1341 Fort St George — May 1781

29th His Highness the Nabob having represented his distress for Grain and other Necessaries for the use of his Family, and requested that the Sloop Galley might be returned to him for the purpose of furnishing himself with these Articles, we could wish to comply with his Desire, and therefore submit to you if the Services of that Vessel can be dispensed with now that the Squadron is — arrived. —

We are, Sir,

Your Most obedient

humble Servants

Charles Smith

&c. &c. Select Committee

Fort St George
29th May 1781

30. Received the following Letter

Charles Smith Esqr President and Governor and Select Committee of Fort St George.

Sir and Gentlemen,

From Sir Edward Hughes arrival at Madras —

I had the pleasure to address you by Letter of the 24th of this Month on His Majesty's Sloop Chaser, advising you of my Proceeding with His Majesty's Squadron — and the Company's Ships under my Command

From

1342 Fort St. George — May 1781

30th from my departure from Bombay to that time. —

On the 25th I anchored with the Squadron and Convoy in this Road, and the same day at the desire of Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote began to disembark the Detachment of your Troops brought from Tellichery, and the whole are now — Landed. —

Having no farther Service for the Company's Ship Royal Charlotte, I have — ordered her Commander to proceed with her to Madras Road, and follow your Orders for his further proceedings, but there being a large quantity of Batavia Arrack purchased for the Service of the Squadron, / of which it is now in want, and without any other means of a timely Supply, / lodged at Nagapatam, which place is at this time threatned with a Seige by Hyder Ally, I have ordered Capt. Huddart of the Company's Ship Royal — Admiral with a proper Person from the

Squadron,

1343 Fort St George — May 8th 81

30th Squadron, to receive and lade the Arrack, to
procud to Negapatam and receive the whole
or as much as his Ship can carry, and —
immediately to procud so soon as the Arrack
is on board to Madras Road, which Service
will cause no inconvenience to his Voyage,
as it may be performed with ease in seven or
eight days, and he has only a small quantity
of wheat on board for your Presidency —

Sir Eyre Coote having at a meeting
I had with him on shore on the 26th mentioned
His intention to march with the Army —
that Night, and desired I would remain with
the Squadron in this Road for a day or two
until His return to this place, I agreed to
do so, but I must soon procud to your Road
in order to compliat the water and provisions
of the Squadron, of the first of which we are
very short, many Articles of Provisions were
not to be procured at Bombay, and great
part of our Salt Meat supplyed for the

Service

1344 Fort St George — May 1781

30 Ditto Service of the Garrison of Tellicherry.

The Provisions and water of the Squadron Compleated, I shall immediately proceed with it to Windward off Negapatnam, and use my best endeavors to intercept the French Squadron, should it attempt to come on the Coast. I am with great Regard, —

Sir and Gentlemen,

Your Most Obedient

Humble Servant

Edw. Hughes.

Superb in Cuddalore Road
the 28th May 1781

P. S

The Admiral requests the Governor to forward the accompanying Letter for the Governor General and Council of Bengal by the earliest opportunity. —

To the Honble Charles Smith Esqr

Governor & President &c Select Committee

Fort St George.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I have the Honor to acknowledge the

From Capt. Edmonstone Rec.

1345 Fort St. George ~ May 5th 81

Rejoices to March

30th the receipt of the Duplicate of your Letter of the 23d and to inform you, that I have for some days had every thing in readiness to perform my march to Nellore ~ I am just informed by pretty good accounts that the party of Hyder's here are gone toward Vanhetagary, and that a treaty is in fact between that Rajah and them, however I hope the latter part not true ~ I am with ~

Much Respect ~

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Your Most Obedt

Humble Servant,

Edw.d Edmonds
Comd.

Angola,
1st May, 1781

Wrote the following Letter

To Sir Edward Hughes K. B.

Rear Admiral of the Red, and Commander
in Chief of His Majesty's Ships in
India.

Sir,

We have the Honor to acknowledge

To Sir Edward Hughes, acknowledging his Letter

the

1346 Fort St. George — May 1781

30th the receipt of your Letter by His Majestys Sloop Chaser, dated at Sea the 24th Instant — and the Next day we had the Pleasure to hear of your safe Arrival with the Squadron at Cuddalore, on which we beg leave to offer you our Congratulations. —

We are happy in acknowledging the Services we have derived from your ready Assistance in conveying the Relief for the Garrison of — Tellicherry, as well as in landing those Troops and embarking the Detachment under Major Cotgrave for this Coast, which will prove a — very seasonable Reinforcement to our Army, More particularly as the Situation of Affairs on the Malabar Coast did not allow of Colonel Brown's Detachment being sent round to us as was at first intended. —

Your Favor of the 28th Instant has by the Royal Charlotte likewise been received by which we find it is your Intention to proceed — shortly to this place in order to complete the — Squadron with water and Provisions, and afterwards to take a Windward Station for the purpose of

intercepting

Fort St George 30th May 1781.

30th intercepting the French Fleet if possible should it appear on the Coast — We feel great Satisfaction in finding you have so entirely answered to the Hopes we had formed by adopting that Plan — which certainly affords the greatest Prospect of advancing our General Interest — —

We have the Honor to be,

Sir

Your Most obedt

Humble Servants

Charles Smith

&c. Select Committee

Fort St George,
30th May, 1781.

Thursday,
31 May
1781 —

At a Select Committee Present

The Honble Charles Smith Esq Pres.t

" Samuel Johnson Esq.r

Lieut.t General Sir Eyre Coote and

Major General Sir Hector Munro absent on Service

Alexander Davidson Esq.r absent

on a Deputation to Tanjore — —

Minutes

1348 Fort St. George 31st May 1781

Minutes of last Committee read —

and approved. —

Read Letter from Sir Eyre Coote

dated 17th May concerning Mr Anthony Simons

From Sir E. Coote.

Surgeon's Assistant at Cuddalore, as entered in

No. B. N 105 —

To lie on the table.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Agreed that a Sett of Bills on

Bills on Bengal granted to Messrs Pelling and De Frees.

Bengal for three thousand Seven hundred £3700/

Arupees be made out in favor of Messrs Pelling

and De Frees, for freight from this to Cuddalore

of the Ship Essex. —

1349 Fort St. George May 31: 1791

37 Dispatch'd the following Letter

To John Holland Esqr

Resident at the Court of His Highness

The Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn

Sir

Your Letter of the 14th Augt
enclosing one addressed to You by the Governor
General & Council reached us the 5th Instant &
We experience a sensible
satisfaction in the assurances you have received
from the Supreme Council of the sense they
entertain of the services you have performed during
your Residence at the Court of the Nizam, as well
as of your abilities Zeal & fidelity in promoting the In-
terests of the Company it affords us pleasure
to express our hearty concurrence in these Sen-
timents and to congratulate You on the Honble
Testimony of Approbation they have been further
pleased to confer on You.

Mr Holland enclosing the Govrs form a letter to the Supreme Council dated 13 May.

Our last Letter to you was dated
the 17th April & now write you in Duplicate
We therein informed You how much it behoves you
with that view should remain for some time
longer at the Nizam's Court as to facilitate Some-
thing of your affairs. We are pleased to hear your
health is so far reestablish'd as to permit it, more
particularly as we have lately address'd the
Supreme Council on the subject of our Situation
on this Coast representing in strong Terms the
Necessity of making Peace with Tippoo, at least of the
Powers united against us, and concluding

1350 Fort St George May 31st 1781

a Treaty Offensive and defensive alliance with the Nizam, in the event whereof a Treaty being set on foot We cannot but be anxious that You should continue at Hyderabad because any Instructions the Governor Genl and Council may in consequence find it expedient to furnish You with.

For your more particular Information we transmit You an Extract from our Letter to the Supreme Council dated the 13th Inst.

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient

Humble Servants

Chas Smith

Jeln Monckton

Jno Carnac

To Coln Tho Dan Pearse

Commanding the Bengal

Detachment

Sir

Our last Address to You was dated the 24th Inst Copy of which you will receive herewith. We have not to this time been able to obtain any Intelligence of your movements. For fear it may be long before the Communication be opened to the Northward by Land, however We have sent orders to have the Dispatches for the Presidency conveyed to us by Boats or Catamarans.

The Honble President & Select Committee at Bombay having come to the Resolution of maintaining the Settlement of Tellicherry, a complete relief for that Garrison

Coln Pearse transmitting Gen. Stuart's Letter in which he is to Cooperate with H.M. Land & Sea Forces. & the President &c.

4

Fo
Sg
31

d

 Fort St George May 25th 1783.

Garrison was conveyed thither by His Majestys Squadron, in consequence of which the Detachment under Major Colgrave withdrawn from thence and conveyed to Cuddalore where Sir Edwd Hughes arrived with the Fleet under his Command on the 25th Instant. This Reinforcement to this Army becomes the more acceptable as the negotiation of affairs on the Malabar Coast did not permit Colonel Boones Detachment being sent round to us as originally intended.

On the 26th Instant our Army marched from Cuddalore towards Trivedy as well with a View of beating up Meer Saibs Camp as in the Hope thereby a Movement might draw off the Enemy from the Seige of Tangar, the General however seem very doubtful of the latter have that Effect, as Hyder with the main strength of his Army has crossed the Coleroon, and is Reported to mean to take up his Ground between our Army and Tangar, the want of Bullocks to carry Provision has been a constant check to our Military Operations Hyder seems well aware of it, he knows how impossible it is for us to bring him to an Action against his Consent, with every Advantage he proposes of distressing us ravaging the Country destroying the Grain &c. &c. &c. without hazarding the Issue of a Battle.

A letter we have received Yesterday from Sir Edwd Hughes mentions that Sir Eyre Coote was Expected to return in two or three days to Cuddalore that he should with

1352 Fort St George June 1781

wait that Event & then proceed with the Fleet to the Place for the purpose of completing it with Provisions after which he intended to sail & take a Windward Station in order if possible to intercept the Toreen Squadron should it appear on the Coast.

Herewith We transmit You a Copy of a Letter in which You will be pleased to correspond with Sir Eyre Coote & with Us when you have any Matter of a secret Nature to communicate.

Fort St George
31st May 1781.

We are
Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
Chas Smith
Select Committee

2 Received the following Letter

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr
The Honble Members of the Select Committee
Honble Sir & Sirs
Fort St George

From Mrs Douglas requesting the money due from the Money her Husband was buried in Repairs at Chungleput

Reluctantly I address you on the Occasion when I am sensible you must be engaged with affairs of the greatest Importance; but such is the situation of mine that I am necessitated to request you will give Orders that I may be repaid the Money my late Husband Capt. Douglas disbursed in Repairs at Chungleput

In 1779 he was appointed to the Command of that Garrison, on his arrival there he found the Commandants Quarters in a ruinous Condition, which he represented to the Honble Board

a cypher

at a.

Fort St George June 1781

Board who ordered Mr Ghent an Engineer, to inspect the Premises, who on Examination estimated the Expence at 700 Pagodas. Capt Douglas repaired the whole & that without reaping the least benefit from it, as he died a few days after the Workmen were discharged.

I presume to flatter myself that You will not censure my present Request as unreasonable and should you desire any further information, the Mr Ghent is present, Major Maule I believe can inform you of every particular.

I have the Honor to be with the

Madras 2 June 1781.

Respect

Your most Obedient Humble Servant
Mans: Douglas

The President this day delivered in the following Minute.

There being an absolute necessity for sending several Military Stores & a supply of Horse Gram, for the use of the Army at Cuddalore The President informs the Board that, on enquiry, he finds the Ship Good Intent lately arrived from Bengal is a Vessel proper for their Service & will load the whole of what is wanted. Capt Wilkinson her Commander offers her at 3500 Rs for the Trip to be paid by Bills on the Governor General & Council at Calcutta, which the President deems reasonable & is of Opinion the proposal should be accepted

J.J.

President's Minute recommending the Ship Good Intent be taken up for carrying Stores & Grain to the Army at Cuddalore

June 2nd 1781.

Fort St George June 1781

Wrote the following Letter to

Sir Eyre Coote

To Lt Gen.l Sir Eyre Coote K.B
Commander in Chief of all the Forces
Sir

We avail ourselves of the Opportunity by which presents itself by His Majesty's Ship Chaser to transmit to you Duplicate of our Letter of the 29th May.

We have the pleasure to inform You that the Squadron under Sir Edw.d Hughes anchored in the Road this afternoon

We are &c.

Fort St George
2nd June 1781.

Your most Obed.t
Humble Servant
Chas Smith

To Lt Gen.l Coote transmitting Duplicate of a Letter dated 29th May & advising of the Fleet's Arrival.

3

The President has communicated the following Minute

The Enemy having taken several small Vessels, laden with Grain & other Provisions for this Port by armed Boats stationed them into the River of Pulicat, the President has thought it incumbent to find a proper Vessel to protect from the Northward & informs the Committee that he has been offered a Vessel to recruize off Pulicat as long as may be deemed necessary, called the Carolina Matilda mounting 12 Guns & properly equipped on the same terms as the Amazon was lately freighted. he is of Opinion that this Proposal should be accepted of as the dearth in Grain

Minute of the President recommending, Carolina Matilda to be taken up & ordered to Pulicat for the Protection of the Coast to the Northward

thought the trade

1355 Fort St George June 1781

Grain to the Northward, are now deterd from Exportation by apprehensions for the safety of their Property, in shaping by Pulicat.

June 3rd

The above Minute having been read & fully considered, & the Committee agreeing in the Sentiments therein expressed by the President the following Letter was ordered to be written to Capt Dawes — Commanding the Snow Carolina Matilda.

The Committee concurred in opinion with the Presidt

To Capt Dawes

of the Snow Carolina Matilda

Sir

The Honble President & Select Committee having entered into an Agreement with You for the use of the Snow Carolina Matilda, you are hereby required to proceed on board without Loss of time & make the best of your way towards Pulicat keeping a Station to the Windward of that Port until further Orders for the Protection of Trade against the Enemy Armed Boats which infest that part of the Coast the greatest vigilance & Activity is recommended to you as the number of the Enemys Boats is not ascertain'd though it is well known that some of them are strongly Armed

Capt Dawes directing him to proceed on board his Vessel & make the best of his way to Pulicat keeping a Station to the Windward of that Port & wait further orders

Fort St George
3rd June 1781

By Order of the President &
Select Committee
Tho Bates Jr

6 Received the following Letter from Lt. Edwd Hughes

1356 Fort St George June 1781

Chas. Smith Esqr
President & Governor & Council of
Fort St George.

Sir & Gentlemen

The Chief & Factors at Tellicherry having applied to me when last at that Port requesting I would supply the Garrison with three hundred Barrels of Gun Powder, I ordered sixty Barrels to be supplied to them from each Ship of the Line of Battle in the Squadron.

From Sir Ed Hughes requesting to be supplied with an equal Quantity of Gunpowder as the Garrison of Tellicherry

As it is necessary at this time to complete the Ammunition of the several Ships I beg you will please to order an equal Quantity to be now supplied, from the Company's Magazines in lieu of that furnished to the Garrison of Tellicherry

I am
Sir & Gentlemen
Your most Obedt
Humble Servant
Edwd Hughes

Suspended in Madras Road
6th June 1781.

In consequence of the foregoing the following Letters are written

To Sir Edwd Hughes Kt.B
Rear Admiral of the Red & Commander
in Chief of His Majesty's Ships in
India

Sir

We have been favored with your Letter of this date informing us of your having at the request of the Chief & Factors at Tellicherry furnished

To Sir Edward Hughes — requesting to know that the Tellicherry Storekeeper has Orders to deliver 300 Barrs of Gunpowder

1934 Fort St George June 1781

Furnish'd that Garrison with 300 Three hundred Barrels of Gun Powder & desiring that an equal Quantity may soon be returned to you.

Our Military Storekeeper has accordingly been directed to deliver the above Quantity of 300 Three hundred Barrels to your Order & We have only to return You our Thanks for affording such seasonable Assistance to the Garrison of Pittsburg

We have the Honor to be

Sir

Your most Obed Humble Servant

Chas Smith

Fort St George
6 June 1781

Mr Bryant Scattergood

Select Committee

Military Storekeeper

&c

to Mr Scattergood desiring him to deliver to the Dep Ord 300 Brls of Gun Powder.

I am directed by the Honble Presid. & Select Committee to desire you will deliver three hundred Barrels 300 of Gun Powder to the order of Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hughes.

I am

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

Tho. Baker Jun.

Fort St George
6 June 1781

Received the following Letter

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr

President & Governor &

Fort St George.

from Major Manle advising of the Distance of Hyder on May 26th & Head of Cheroan

Honble Sir

Since the last Report I had the Honor to make You, I am to acquaint You that the Posts on Hyder Aly have been decreasing daily, having removed

1358 Fort St George June 1791

removed all the Earth that is to be carried away by Barkets There are now only employ'd about two hundred, with between 200 & 300 Cattle.

The Sea Gate Tenaillon is going on but slowly owing to the want of Chunam which we have received in small Quantities for some time past.

The Contractor for Repairs is employ'd laying down the new Bridge & throwing the former Gates of the St George & the Bastion Gateways, Palisadoes & Gates of the Sea Line

I have the Honor to be
Honble Sir
Governor Hudleston
Your very humble Servant
Edw Maule Civil Engineer

Fort St George
June 1791.

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr
President & Governor &c
Fort St George

Honble Sir.

From Capt. Harding enclosing a Return of this Garrison

I have the Honor to transmit You the Monthly Returns of this Garrison for the Month of May I have this day remaining in Store 600 Measures of Rice which will serve my People two Months, I have not the least hopes but of supply from the Nabobs Manager there are 2 Companies of Nabobs Sepoys with two Brahmins about this Country who intended the poor Inhabitants of what little Rice they purchase at the Enemys Villages, at the risque of their lives as well

I h
Bra

1359 Fort St. George June 1781

well as all the most evil Int. Dare I warrant the
necessity of Lodging the 2 Brahmins in my house last
night or disturbing the People of the Village.
I have the Honor to be with the
Most profound Respect.
Honble Sir
Your Most Humble
Obey Obed.t Servant
H. D. Harding
Hope Pardon for detaining

Bridmadee
2nd June 1781

you

Addition to my Letter I to acquaint You that I
have taken a Mahratta Woman & Boy & Girl
of my Sepoys who were with Col.o Baillie between Tan-
To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr
President Governor & Select Committee
Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

In consequence of the bad state of
Health which Enr Hickings has labour'd under for
some time past, & the Opinion of Mr Bell his
Surgeon, that the Sea air was necessary for his Recovery
it being probable he would get worse rather than
better here, I have been obliged to permit him to
proceed to Madras which I flatter myself you will
with Your approbation

From Lt Anderson acquainting of Mr Hickens Recovery requesting Leave to go to Madras for the Recovery of his Health

Yesterday a Party of about 400 of
the Enemys Horse made a forced march and got
possession of a large Herd of Cattle, which had gone
further out than usual to have by done, But by

1760 Fort St George 9th June 1760

Fortunate enough to recover nearly the whole of them, Even in hopes the Wind would moderate last Night as to be able to give them an Addl Cut they went off to at least 10 Miles which is much further than Dond think of venturing out a Party. I am informed they have gone to Trivatore

I am with the greatest Respect
Hon.ble Sirs
Your Most Obd.t
Most Humble Servant
Wm Anderson

Carangooly
24 May 1760.

At a Select Committee Present
The Hon.ble Chas Smith Esqr President &c
" Samuel Johnson
" Lieut Gen.l Sir Eyre Coote K.t
Major Gen.l Sir Hector Munro absent on service
Mr Davidson absent on a Deputation to Tanjore

Tuesday 7th June

Minutes of last Committee read & Approved.

Read the following Letter from Brigadier Gen.l Goddard

To the Hon.ble Chas Smith Esqr
President & Governor &c Select Committee
Fort St George

From Cuttack and concerning a Letter from Colonel Mackay now residing with the Raja

Hon.ble Sirs

I have the Honor to submit to your Consideration the inclosed address from Captain Mackay to your Committee which he has solicited me to lay before You. I beg to express

1361 Fort St. George June 7th 1781

express at the same time my Happiness at the Opportunity it gives me of declaring my entire approbation of her Conduct & Services & Merits as an Officer on the various occasions on which he has been employed, since he joined the Army under my Command

I also take the Liberty of informing You that the circumstance & the promotion that has taken place in Bengal and of the consequent Supercession it will occasion to Captain Mackay, whenever the further advices of it which are expected every day shall arrive, and as this circumstance must be a sensible Mortification to him I hope you will deem it a sufficient Inducement to recall whenever it is in your power the further consideration of his long & Meritorious Services upon Establishment of Artillery & his having commanded a separate Detachment of it, so long in actual service to comply with his Request, & give him the Rank of Major from the date of his appointment should it be necessary for the good of the service to give him a Majority at the Siege of Batticaloa in November last

Head Quarters
Chingleput March 27
1781

I have the honor with the greatest Respect
Honble Sir &c &c
Your Most Obedient & Most
Humble Servant
Thos Stuart

Grantes.

Resolved that Capt Donald Mackay be appointed a Major by Brevet during the Continuance of the War in which he is at present employed & that his Commission be dated from the Day of the Month on which the Intelligence of the Reduction

1362 Fort St. George June 7th 1781

The appointment from Lieut Macleod dated

Read the following Letter from Lieut

Macleod

To Charles Smith Esqr

President & Select Committee

Fort St George

Gentlemen,

Mr Benjamin Torin my late

Secretary having resigned, I have to acquaint You that

Lieut Colo Mackenzie of the Bengal Establishment

is appointed to that Station

I have the Honor to be

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient Humble Servt

Macleod.

Fort St George

9th May 1781.

Lieutenant Colo Mackenzie

is accordingly appointed Secretary to Lt Macleod

in the room of Mr Torin

Read the following Letter from

Mr John Huddleston late President at Nagore.

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr

President & Governor &c Members of the Select Committee

Honble Sirs &c

Fort St George

You have been informed by a

Letter from the Commander in Chief which I had

the honor to bring with me from Cuddalore, of my

having evacuated the Redoubt at Nagore, embarked

in the Snow Nonsuch with the Company's Troops

for Cuddalore. I shall now do myself the honor to

inform You of the Grounds on which in concert

with the Commanding Officer I judged it proper and

From Mr Huddleston advising of his having evacuated Nagore, and enclosing a return of Stores - and copy of a letter of Intelligence

Fort St. George June 7th 1781

and necessary to take that Step & Flatter myself
your Honor & will be satisfied that it was the on-
ly one by which the Company's Troops, Cash, the Most
valuable part of their Stores could be saved from falling
into the Enemy's Hands

During the last Month of
my Stay at Nagore I was utterly out of my Po-
wer to write to your Honor & with that punctuality
which I had always before observed. The Generals ver-
pressing orders preserving Provisions beyond Calcu-
lation the Army engaged my whole time & attenti-
on I had procured a considerable Supply by the
Snow Hastings and some small Vessels and there e-
pected to Cuddalore with a large & Provision, at
time when the French Fleet were in Pondi-
cherry road and the Commodore Troyes at Tran-
quebar on account of the extraordinary rise in Grain
mentioned I promised he should be allowed Rice
of 2000 Rupees, he afterwards returned to Nagore in
his Vessel and proceeded to Cuddalore with the Sick
Detachment with some more Provision for that pur-
pose the former he had made a Sale of 4000 Rupees
which I have countersigned given them hopes also
that your Honor & would allow them the Amount of
an Anchor lost in executing these Services. The
Hastings had no sooner sailed than the Enemy's
Fleet consisting of 20 & 3000 Horse & Foot made their ap-
pearance and blockaded the Town of Cuddalore Nag-

Fort St George June 7th 1781

Negore & Tranquebar with many of our Villages and those of the Dutch indiscriminately, known also as much as the haste they were in would permit of this first Invasion of the Enemy. Upon which we were informed by the Commander in Chief who was pleased to transmit to Us Copies of some Letters to him on the subject. I conclude the General must take above as well Your Honor & his having ordered Captn Lamotte to march with the Tanjore Detachment to Negore to be embarked there for Cuddalore; and of the desertion which took place after their Arrival, to the number of near 200 Sepoys, in consequence of a report being spread among them that our real Intention was to send them to Java. This happened on the Morning of the 6th with the approbation of Mr Davidson Member who were then at Negore Which Council on this occasion Desired Captain Lamotte to march the remainder of the Detachment immediately to the Bar which was accordingly done the whole embarkation completed by the next Morning unfortunately the Ships Princess Ashley, Hastings & Nassau Galliot which last Ship engaged Mr Antonio De Souza, were detained in the Road 6 days after by a foul Wind & it was with extreme difficulty we could supply them with Water the Sepoys with Curry Stuff &c. For which purpose we were reduced to the Necessity of starving with nearly the whole Stock laid in for our own Garrison. The Town of Negore being entirely deserted the Dutch not allowing even Provisions which had been purchased to be sent out of Negapatan

OO

Fort St George June 7th 1791

At length however there was a favorable change of Wind and the Vessels sailed with the Troops as much two in each as the same would admit of sending on board, and 7000 Negapatam Pagodas being part of the Sum which I had received into the Company's Cash & Given Bills for on your Honor in favor of Mr John Medows

I shall now relate to You the circumstances which attended our leaving Nagore in doing which it is incumbent on me to be very particular, that your Honor & may be convinced that no exertion has been wanting to save the Company's Effects, and that it was not in my Power to have the Loss of those which were left on the Beach a Day or two before the Vessels sailed from Nagore with the Troops, I received a confidential Letter from a Danish Gentlemen who was just returned from the Enemy's Camp desiring me to be many Guard, as Hyder would shortly move with his little Army to the Southward. In my Answer Requested any further Intelligence he could give me, he wrote me in consequence that none but the Rebel Hyder himself knew his Designs, that some thought he was moving Southward to attack Tanjore or Trichinopoly others that it was only to feint to draw out Sir Eyre Coote from Cuddalore, that in the Camp there was no talking of Nagore but that he just by Chillumbrum on his return he heard it reported that 3 or 4000 Troops were ready to proceed to that Place He added that all the Gentlemen (French) in Hyders Camp were much discontented. Having received this Letter and about the same time other Reports

reports agreeing with it. I dispatched a very good Horseman and another under him, to a place near Sheally with orders to send me daily Intelligence and particularly to advise me the moment he should discover that the Enemy had brought their Guns across the Coleroon, in sending as soon as I should receive such advice to beg in to embark the Company's Stores which I intended not we should easily effect before the Enemy could bring their Cannon from the Coleroon over distruch, The distance being supposed 30 Miles Journey computed to the main Fortune of any Horse was being taken by the Enemy, That the notes which in the enclosed Paper Nº1 gave me the first information of their approach, and it was an additional misfortune, that all the Three Notes were written Despatched to Nagore the 15th 10th at about 6 Oclock in the Evening they did not reach my hands until half the next Morning so that the Enemy with the Artillery conducted by French Officers were passing through the Tranquebar Bounds, this Country 15 Miles from Nagore / full 15 hours before I knew of their having crossed the Coleroon, I submit therefore to your Honor that what Distance I could suppose the Enemy to be when I received the Information I shall proceed to state what we Could do and the Means we proposed to effect it but first I must observe with respect to the measure itself of evacuating the Redoubt That no one who has seen it ever entertained an Idea of its being tenable against Artillery or regarded it in any other light than as a security against a surprize from the Enemy's Cavalry

For

Fort St George June 7. 1780

for which purpose it had answered very effectually a few days before when they made their first Incursion. As it was however the province of the Commanding Officer to determine on evacuating or defending the Redoubt I submitted to him the Information I had received the very suddenly of Spanish Vessels that were coming in, after which we had not a moment to lose. The Force then to be embarked were as follows. Two Companies 12 Pounders with their Carriages & nearly 300 Men belonging to them 4 Brass Six pounder field Pieces one 4½ 2 Pounder about 50 Barrels of fixed Ammunition 85 or 90 half Barrels of Powder about 200 Spare Arms 3 Companies of Sepoys with their Tents 3 Companies Black Artillery Men Officers Servants and Baggage. As to the means of effecting the embarkation we are only 12 Lascars and not one Body the Town at present observed being entirely guarded the Boatmen also of whom we might before we had 40 brought from Pegu at 4 by the inducement of Double the usual Pay / were all absent with great difficulty 20 of them were collected in the space of two hours, Such was our situation and I submit to your Honor & whether it was not such as must preclude the most distant hope of saving all or any considerable part of our Stores For had I been persuaded that if the Weather had not been extremely moderate, or if Mr Scott had continued his Marches to Pagoe without halting at Carcall we should not have had time even to embark the Troops.

From what is stated above your Honor & will perceive that we could have

have removed nothing without making the Sepoys work at Cooles, and having only 3 Boats manned it was absolutely necessary to secure the embarkation of as many of them as possible before the Evening when it might be attended with a great deal of confusion and Danger, or perhaps rendered impracticable by the arrival of the Enemy of whom we were momentary expectation. We therefore determined first to embark the Sepoys except 50 to defend a part of the Town in which we considered the Bags Field Pieces & fixed Ammunition. In the execution of this plan I am sure not a single moment was lost. The 50 Sepoys being upwards of 20 were sent off in the first Boat & the two remaining Boats with the Sepoys their Baggage & Tents at the same time the Pilots Battalion Sepoys & four Lascars were employed in dragging the 5 field Pieces from the redoubt to the Boats near the Bar a distance of full 3/4 of a Mile over heavy Sand We had just embarked the 5 field Pieces & the Sepoys excepting 50 in Boats when past 2 O'Clock when the enemy's advanced Guard consisting of about 1000 horse made its appearance, and not long after a Country Boat Dar whom we had sent out in the Morning returned & informed us that he had left Monr. Lally and other French Officers at Dinner at Carical from that time all our people were employed in carrying the Barrels of fixed Ammunition from the Magazines to the Boats. I could not even borrow hands to save a few Bags of Provisions which I wished to send on board for the use of the Sepoys

apprehension

1369 Fort St. George June 7th 1779

apprehensive that a change of Wind might detain them in the Roads as had happened to the Languedoc detachment I was perfectly aware it would be expected we should either save the Powder or render it useless to the Enemy, but if my Life had depended upon it I should not have effected either I have saved the fixed Ammunition besides I mean unless we had determined to Destroy the whole ship in the Redoubt, for we had not even our option to embark when we first heard even suppose ing the Enemy to have left us unmolested. The Surf also not being sufficiently deep for Discharges to Sea, of which the Boat Service during the Groundswell than ever we when we did embark afforded a disagreeable proof The fixed Ammunition being all embarked & the remainder of the Ships Stores & Cannon many of the Native Artillery marched from the Redoubt to the Bar, we employed the last half hour in firing at the Enemy as many as we could of the 12pr Shot & then spiked up the Guns quitted the Redoubt leaving with us the Colours. I have the honor to inclose Copies No 2 & 3 returns shewing the Stores left in the Redoubt & those we carried off & beg leave to refer your Honor & on a review of the difficulties we had to struggle with will be convinced that the loss of the former had not arisen from any want of Exertion on my part, or that of the Gentlemen who were with me at Sugore, but merely to the accident of my not only to the accident of my receiving so very late Intelligence of the Enemy's Approach. Some

1370 Fort St George June 7th 1783

some paddy lodged in the Godowns belonging to my house and about ten leagers of Arrack purchased to be sent to Tanjour would not at all events have been remained

In addition to the 7000 Negapatam Pagodas before sent to the Army I delivered to the Paymaster on my arrival at Cuddalore 3000 Negapatam Pagodas and 1300 Porto Novo pagodas. The small balance remaining I believe will hardly be sufficient to discharge several sums due to Merchants at Negapatam for Provision Arrack and Rice & for Rice belonging to them for protection to the inhabitants of it delivered out to the Troops. These accounts I shall adjust on my return to the Southward In the meantime shall prepare a Bond in behalf of Your Honor & my unhappy Friend & the end of February.

I cannot conclude this Address without expressing my sincere regret that the Nagore district should have fallen into the Enemys hands just as your Honor & had adopted the Measure of all others best calculated to secure and improve the Revenue & other Resources of the Inhabitants & the Company Government nor is it an inconsiderable addition to my concern and the Public misfortune that I am deprived of an opportunity of rendering essential service by employing both Moors & the Army with such a Quantity of Grain & other Provision as would effectually have removed all apprehension of scarcity. In Michele one of my Assistants is gone

B

1371 Fort St. George June 7th 1781

gone to Negapatam to try if any thing of the kind can be done but I fear while the Enemy continue in, or near the Tanjore Country his utmost endeavors will be in vain, as the Duke themselves must be much distressed

Permit me on this occasion to submit it to Your Honor & as my opinion that the Fort & Town of Nagore will never again become considerable unless a Fort be built or at least a Wall round the Town for the security of the Inhabitants and their Property, The protection they now enjoy at Negapatam will induce them to retire there that return to an open Town. Expose themselves to a repitition of the dangers and misfortunes they have lately experienced. With regard to the Expence of Building a Fortification at Nagore, tho there were no other advantage it would perceive bear no proportion to the single one of securing the possession of a Port so favorably situated for facilitating the means of communication with the Southern Garrisons, and the Transporting of Troops, Stores, & Provisions to & from the Presidency

I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect

Honble Sir & Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
J Hudleston

Madras
15 April 1781.

1372 Fort St George June 7th 1791

Sir,

Unless you Hasten your own
defence yourself against 6000 Regular Troops
with artillery, 500 of whom Foreign the whole
commanded by Monsieur Lally, it is recom-
mended to You to secure yourself without loss
of a Moments time: as the Troops are now hasting
the Boundaries of this Place: two Foreign Officers
are now with the Governor to obtain leave to Pass
and for Guides. They entered this Place with
two Red Flags and are going again at Noon
this they observed to the Governor Present

John Hudleston Esqr
Sir
Major.

The above is from
Mr Maddelbury whom I ordered to go on board
his immediately. Therefore he can't obtain leave
of writing to You. I sent immediate hearing Mr Pye
Intosh is gone on board a Vessell to see what
can, and will be done by Hyder, his two Prench
Guides are held directly as for the English
Subjects in this Place. Commandant Braely
when I can be favourable to You and your Nation.

I am with Regard
Sir
Your obedient Servant
Hugh Pet Bellgee

Tanjanore
15 March 1791

1373 Fort St George 22nd June 1793

Return of Stores brought from Nagore.

Brass Guns	6 Pdrs	4
D. D.	3 D.	1
Carriages	6 D.	2
Limber Boxes		4
Round shot fixed to Cartridges about		280
Grape D.		20
Fire locks sent on board Ships with the 9th Bn		700
Battalions about		
Hand Spikes Sponge staffs &c belonging to the 6 Pdrs		

Fort St George
8th October 1793

EE
Signed Wm Gram
Store Keeper at Nagore

Return of Stores left at Nagore

Iron Guns	12 Pdrs Spiked	2
Carriages	D.	2
Limbers	D.	2
Carriages	6 Pdrs	2
D.	3 Pdrs	1
Hand Spikes Sponge staffs &c for the 12 Pdrs		
Round shot	12 Pdrs	380
Grape D.	D.	40
Barrels of Powder		92
Fire locks		212

Fort St George
5th October 1793

EE Wm Gram
Storekeeper at Nagore

which

N.B. among many other things unfortunately lost the Daily account of Stores is impossible to ascertain the exact Quantity brought away and remaining

Wm Gram

The Commandant having taken the foregoing Letter from Mr Henderson.

137½ Fort St. George June 7th 1781

Mr Huddleston, together with that form the Commandant in Chief alluded to in the former part of it, at the same time that they regret the loss which the Company & the Public must sustain by the Enemy's taking Possession of Nagore & its Districts & the distress which the Settlement must shortly experience from the failure of the Receipts of Grain & Provision which would otherwise have been received from those districts, entirely approve of Mr Huddleston's having evacuated the Redoubt and are perfectly satisfied that he has used every Exertion to save the Company's Effects considering the late advices he received of the Enemy's approach, & the difficulties which attended his situation, they think it a justice due to him to declare that his having entrusted the whole of the Troops with the Field Pieces, & fixed Ammunition was more than could have been expected. The Committee have also pleasure in observing that Mr Huddleston's Exertions at Nagore, have been acceptable to the Commander in Chief and they take this Opportunity to give their Testimony to the Zeal & Ability which Mr Huddleston has on all occasions manifested in the discharge of his Duty at Nagore which they hope they will recommend him to the future favor of the Company.

Mr Huddleston

Read the following Letters

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr
President & Governor & Select Committee
Fort St George.

1375 Fort St George June 7th 1781

From Mr Sulivan's difference of Opinion between him & Capt Eddington

I had the honor to address your on the 15th on the affairs of this Country which I beg leave to refer you to.

Considering the very important objects which must at this Crisis necessarily demand the time and attention of the Honble Board. I am unwilling to trouble Your Honor with the difference of opinion which have arisen between Capt Eddington & myself on the subject of the affairs of this Country, but Capt Eddington having in his late correspondence with me, laid much stress on the support I have given the Renter I seems to insinuate, that upon the presumption of this he has gone greater lengths than he would otherwise have done, I find myself called upon in the station I hold as a Company's Servant to justify myself against such an illiberal Insinuation and am therefore to crave your Indulgence, in laying before Your Honor such parts of my Conduct as have had any material relation either with Capt Eddington or the Renter since the Receipt of the orders of His Highness and of your Honble Board of the 29th of Augt last, regarding the Management of this Country

Your Honor & will please to observe that I could only give my opinion when called upon, while Capt Eddington was doing the Military Command & of course the Power in this Island was left at liberty to execute his own Ideas without control, the distance between this & the Presidency & the uncertainty of the conveyance of letters at this Time, rendered Redress from any Representation

1376 Fort St George June 7th 1781

Representation on my part, on a business which required almost immediate Execution, of no sort of avail. I thought I had done my Duty in obeying your Commands by giving You the best account of the state of this Country together with such Opinion as I was able to form of the means necessary to settle it & to secure the Revenues, it will be a satisfaction to me to hear that my endeavours have met with your Approbation

Having observed many last letters the least inclination to think well of Captain Reading town, I resolved to act with temper & patience by which if I could not detect, I hoped at least to be able to soften the effects even of those measures of which I could not approve. If I failed I trust I shall make it appear to your Honor & that it is not owing to any Defect on my part

The future of the Revenues and the disappointment which the Company are likely to sustain from the inability of the Circars to comply with their Claims, the disturbances which have attended thro out the Districts the hostilities which have been between the Company's Troops & the Polygars are subjects of a serious Nature, and without doubt, at a proper time, employ your Honors particular Consideration I did not judge it necessary to trouble you upon a subject of this importance, it will be sufficient on my situation to be able to point out to him the particular line of my own Conduct

Before I proceed in may not be improper to mention, that when I arrived from Madras

1777 Fort St George June 7th 1777

from Madras in Oct last I was surprized to find
a dispute prevailed between Capn Liddington
& the Renter which I warned by all means in
my power to heal & buryed with Capn Liddington
the necessity of moderation my personal service
in the utmost extent to forward the publick business
with the Gentoos but at this time & from what I drew
from many subsequent Conversation on the
subject Capn Liddington mind was formed
that he suspected Mr Hunter from the time he
met the Polygar & this was disposed that when
I demanded the Proofs his reasoning was warped
with personal invective those charges which I could
never prevail on him to bring forward. The principle
Objection which I have heard Capn Liddington made
against the Renter being unfit for the Manage-
ment of the Country was his connection with
the Late Rajah under whom his Family had
formerly held the Rentership of that Country
his intensive Family Connection & hereditary influence
over the Polygars. Capn Liddington considers
as dangerous, and disqualifying circumstances
all these fair Reasoning they appeared to me in
a very contrary light if it is considered that their
Many private fortunes are involved in the fate
of that Country that the male part are actually in
the possession of Capn Liddington that he
has offered to remove the rent into the Fort of
Pulicat or Ostan, these objections may perhaps
appear to your Honor & yet they have already
done harm & to be rather fair pleaded with out your
Patron

1378 Fort St George June 7th 1781

Foundation, I do not wish to hazard a Conjecture but still it seems Strange that Captn Eddington should have Form'd such unfavorable presages against the Renter future Management, knowing as he might have done that he had given full satisfaction in that Capacity hitherto. 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 Peaceable and before he came into this Nation had attained a very respectable Character as an industrious Merchant in the Honey Adventuring Country of Bannaul & our Agents here already informed that the present Phouzdar was not intended for that Station but was only named in the meantime to hold it, tile the Peishcush could be shared from Arcot. his want of the necessary Qualities for that Station has deprived the Renter of that Influence which they ought to maintain with one of a contrary description or of the character of the Man who was intended for that Station Things in all probability would not have gone the Length they have. Had placed great Dependance in the Renters influence in settling with the Polygars in which I thought it would be our Interest to support and make use of him on all occasions but I was surprized to find Capt Eddington after recommending him to Government with them for some time had threatened with Banishment if he was found corresponding with the Polygars in any way whatever he can

to

1379 Fort St George June 7th 1779

dare do receive their Packets

But do proceed to relate more particularly to myself I shall mention to the best of my Recollection the different Occasion in which it happened that I had any opportunity to give my Opinion at all

The First Time I was applied to was concerning the Demand for delivering over the Malabar Troops to Capt.n Eidingtown when I wish'd to enforce by my ready concurrence Capt.n Eidingtown having no direct Order from the Nabob to the proper Officer, who had received no Orders to that effect they, as was to be expected in their Station, stated Objections, at which Capt.n Eidingtown was much irritated & having sent for the Renter & Dubash to the Fort where he ordered them to be confined till the Troops demanded, were given up which were soon after done

Capt.n Eidingtown charged the Renter with being in Alliance with the Enemy & the Circar, in permitting the Circar Polygar to build a mud Fort within 20 Miles of Palamcottah, the Renter declared he wrote the information to Capt.n Eidingtown that he would have prevented it himself but from the want of Force to do it. As Capt.n Eidingtown from his Intelligence must have known of this from the beginning and likewise knew that the Renter had not Power to stop it I do acknowledge the accusation of Treachery on

1380 Fort St. George 17th June 1761

on this Account seemed to me proper.

Another charge of disaffection
to Some Caffres Lieing Down and Treason
was on account of the Inhabitants quitting their
Villages and not sufficiently escorting Convoys
through the Country with Provision. The Renter alleged
in his defence the impossibility of his restraining the
People, his inability to enforce his orders in that state
of oppression & Restraint, to which he was subjected
as well by having given positive orders to the Ma
nagers to remain in their Villages and to supply
the Company's Troops with corn as they wanted
that he had even proposed one of his own Family
should accompany each Detachment to see that
those 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 this
oftentimes were not communicated in effect by any Specific
Each. Likewise thought that this charge was ill founded

One chief complaint against
me as I understand is my incredulity in not believ
ing the Renter to be a Knave for upon a delay of certain
Supplies which were demanded for the Fort a
mounting to a large sum for Coolies for the repairs of
the Works. The Renter immediately issued an Order
for the Managers of the districts for these supplies
and gave orders for impressing Coolies where ever
delays in both which the Renter pointed out
would happen from the season of the Year and
from the circumstances of the Country. In regard
to the Coolies which he could not procure by Impress

&c

1381 Fort St George June 7th 1781

myself in particular did point out that sundan
difficulties had occurred when the troops were on
their March to Make 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 Lidingston having convened the Officers
of the Garrison with whom I was also summoned
to hear the Complaints declared in their presence
his resolution of confining the Renter to full
amount of which with my reasons of objection as
already mentioned in my last Letter I took the
liberty of laying before Your Honble Board is
evident to one at this time after every enquiry &
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 20
days. I was apprehensive of much inconvenience
ensuing the length to send his dispatches to
me, to prepare as I understand it that he, Mr Dote
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 pursue the feasible
course as the best means of obtaining justice
and redress for his present sufferings. I assumed

→ because the renter under his distress was
determined

1382 Fort St George June 1787

recommended to him in the strongest terms accomplishance with Capt. Eiding Towns demands and that he should do whatever Capt. Eiding Town required of him because Capt. Eiding Town would be held Responsable and I recommended that he should give up a part of his Family / his only two Nephews Donilas pledges of his Fidelity and accordingly he agreed to every Request which Captain Eiding Town made and his Son Nephews were put into the Fort.

I There were several other matters of less Note which Capt. Eiding Town occasionally mentioned to me I did think some of them had unmeaning appearance at first / after the appearance of Folly and misinformation, particularly in regard to a Relation of the Renter who Captain Eidington said was sent by him to the Cobb Rajah, upon further inquiry into this Matter. I found this Man had been made a Manager by the Renter, but being of an Capacity and unfit for Business I was thought necessary to place a person with him to assist him upon the Death of whom wanting to become his own Master and conceiving it Indecent to be a similar footing with the Renter I thought it also necessary, he went off in his pique and I believe it will be generally admitted that this Man whatever his Intentions were was totally incapable of doing any sort of Business, tendering the Renter knowing of a Packet of Letters being with the late Dutch Vakeel his own Vakeel was likewise there. The matter upon enquiry turned out thus, Captain who had formerly been in the Service of Cobb Cawn

1383 Fort St George June 7th 1781

Esqrs Council and was sent by them during his
rebellion to entertain some of Hyders disbanded
Horse near Dindegul since when he has been
in the services of the Rajah of Tanjore & the
Rajah of Tanjore until during of a twenty days
he had again come into this Country had been on
great distress when Cata Pa Naigue took him for
kind of charity as their people assert. Nothing
has since happened to justify any suspicions of
his Mans having any Connection with Hyder

I were endless to enumerate
the various causes of suspicions which Capt.n E
dingtown has at different times brought against
the Renter, all of them in my opinion founded
upon frivolous slender grounds none of them even
admitting of any sort of Proof

It is neither my wish or intention
to enter upon a justification of the Renters conduct.
He will be judged by it must stand or fall by his
own actions what I have said is forced from me
as necessary Information to your Hon.r &.c
regarding the part I have taken in supporting
as Captain Eddingtown calls him Man, and I believe
I have stated to your Hon.r every thing of any sort
of Consequence that has passed in which I have had
occasion to speak of at all, What influence I 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 effects of Huma
nity and pitying his distresses. Notwithstanding
of holding out Protection from Capt.n Eddingtown

 Fort St Louis June 4th 1781

Capt. Eidingstown's Power which I never disputed and which is well known to the Renter Surrender opposed.

Soon after Le Roume's return from his second expedition into the Country, Capt. Eidingstown received advices of treating with Cuta by the Bandalum Country Polygars and offered certain terms which the Renter then desired to offer in his Name, Gave agreed that if the terms were accepted I should go with the Renter Capt. Eidingstown Declared he was a loss what to think and deemed an explanation the circumstance Mentioned Capt. Eidingstown myself who said that his Dispatches Letter was a Private one and that this Shuffling about the Polygars was of Consideration and the motives were disapproved

The Renter and his Servant afterwards went upon Service with Lt. Lume under the Orders of Capt. Eidingstown Commissaries District where it seems his Conduct had not answered the Expectations of that Officer Lt. Capt. Eidingstown Commencement in Complaints on this head, The Renter says he was close guarded at the time and had not in his Power to write upon a Private Note on his Family Affairs without undergoing the inspection of the Chief Officer put over him, On this situation he was to treat with the Polygars, The Moon very shrewdly observes that the suspicious policy appeared to him very extraordinary because if he was to effect the purpose, he must be trusted Confided in, but was then possibly suspected of not appointed is well known that he used every means to bring

to

1385 Fort St George June 7th 1779

in the Vakeels and that several did actually come in as soon as they left the Place, The Officer under whose command he returned Indeed every Officer who was there, to whom I have spoken on the Subject declare their approbation of his Care & Attention in providing them with what was wanting

since his return I have reason from his Conversation with me to believe that we may be fortunately encouraged in our Intention for the promotion of the trade are good particularly from his propositions touching the Assistance he is ready to give in settling the Confusion of the Country things have come in due order, the Keys of the Fortress which the Polygar had seized are delivered up to him. He is dividing the Country and settling the Gadjans on the Inhabitants & sending in Paddy and Money, The marriage of the Polygar and his Brother has prevented their coming in but I foresee that to secure this man effectually in our Interest, and the matter wch I have upon the delivery of the Father must first be agreed on I am most earnestly to request of you that You will take this under your most serious Consideration & determine upon it without delay. The Chief Officer of the Circars together with His Highness's Agent & Military Officer here, are all clearly of Opinion that it is a point essentially necessary and whatever good may be derived from it thereon no end depends the others without venturing to pronounce upon the causes which may have produced the disagreeable altercations that have taken place

2.

1386 Fort St George June 7th 1781.

Justice for a series of Months between the Chief Officers of the Coast & your Commanding Officer here, I have no hesitation in saying there has nothing in the Conduct of these People appeared to me of a dangerous Nature or any thing like disaffection on the Contrary it is my Opinion that were a proper Plan established among ourselves and a regular mode laid down of doing Business with them without degrading their Consequence, they would readily give their assistance as well as assistance to carry into execution every necessary public Service that the emergency of the time may require

Tho' free to declare to your Honor & that throughout the whole of this Business here I have been actuated by a sense of my Duty alone, & independant of every prejudice or private View whatever, If any wish to deal with openness and my sentiments are well known to each Presiding Power, but I confess after long Experience and some recent Instances I despair the possibility of ever being able to act together with that Vigour which the important concerns demand Under the Purview of this Opinion which is too well founded, I am at duty I owe to myself & my Honble Employers I must entreat if the Powers you have been pleased to delegate to me cannot be forced by your Authority that I may be relieved from the painful anxiety which I feel in being thus situated

I am with due Respect
Honble Sir &c &c
Your very Obed Humble Servant
William Light

William Corlath
20 April 1781

1387 Fort St George June 7th 1781

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr
President & Governor & select Committee
Fort St George

Honble Sir &c &c &c

From Capt. Edwards on
expedition to Timmerly
Country

I have just received a letter from
the Chiefs of Tettacorin acquainting that Hyder
& the Nabob's Service with the greatest part of the
Garrison at Coimbetore on the Malabar country had
arrived at the Dutch settlement of Pallicatt on that
Coast where he had been permitted to march agree-
ably to the terms on which he delivered up the Fort &
which he was obliged to do for want of Provisions

I have likewise to inform them that
the Polygar Catapa Naigue of that Country had come
of his Men at the Blockade of the above Fort & has
wrote a congratulatory letter on the occasion to the
Mahratta Chief promising them further assistance
and to assist in the Reduction of Coiladypatty
notwithstanding the negociation going on between
him and our Renter & which I conformed upon Hyder
in a letter of the 8th Instant and which I am now ap-
prehensive will end in the selling of this Country provided I
do not interfere in which Case tho a Great animosi-
ty thrown out against me, I am resolved to comply
with as far as possible having already made all
the interested people my Enemies 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 represen-
ted tho at the same time I have that Dependance

1388 Fort St Louis June 7th 1791

Dependance on your Honors candour in a Juncture I shall not be condemned unheard. My only View have been to secure the Revenue from Embezzlement, to have a good Stock of Paddy & other Stores secured in the Fort and Money in the Cash Chest sufficient to carry any Order I might receive into Execution & 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 where I must observe the Renter wrote me to delay this for some days which I did not think Prudent & the Officer Commanding on that Party informed me it was carrying off by the Polygars as fast as possible I recommended upwards of two Months ago the settling of the Godowy, as the Quickest payment for our immediate wants and which would have brought in between Thirty & Forty Thousand Star Pagodas this is not yet settled tho I have had assurances that it was, I would be glad an Order is sent to the Sale of the Company's Paddy at the Place where the Renter at present is where I find he has appointed for Jaffedars a Man recommended by Catapa-Naigue who has given him a private Bond for a considerable Sum. The Country about naturally should send down every three days from four to five hundred Chuckrums at present not above one quarter of that Sum is brought in. In conformity to your Orders, I think it my Duty to give You the above Information concerning the Revenue become the more necessary as in Bills short of the Payments due I have within these four Months advanced near seven

1389 Fort St. George June 7th 1781

ten Thousand Pagodas to make good

Should it be, enclose You a Para
graph of a letter just received from the President of
Anjango which I have taken an Oppertunity
to have the Honor to
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your Respectful and Obt Humble Servant
James Edingtown

Pallamcottah
April 24th 1781

By an former letter I wrote You that there was a
general combination amongst the Polygars
one of which there has been Divisions amongst them
which if properly managed might be the means of
bringing the whole back to their Duty

Ordered that Copies of the above
Letter together with Copies of two Letters from the Rajah
of Tanjore be entered in the Miscellany Book &c and &c
complaining of Captain Edingtown's Conduct be
transmitted to Lt Genl Sir Eyre Coote who the Committee
desire will take the necessity of removing Captn Eding-
town from his Command as his immediate Re
moval in the present situation of Affairs, might
be productive of consequences, of which they are not
aware, The Committee leave it entirely to Sir Eyre Coote
to adopt such Measures as he may think most Advis-
able.

Copies of the above letter with two from the Rajah to be sent to Sir Eyre Coote

Read the following Letter from Mr Lt
Duncan Munro.

To the Honble Chas Smith
President & Governor & Select Committee of
Fort St George.

1390 Fort St George June 7th 1781

Honble Sir & Sir,

I have had the honr to receive a Letter Brought you Secretary dated the 23d Ulto from me desiring me to refund a balance said to be due by me to the Company. Sir with regret I neglected for a Moment to execute any Command I receive from your Honor & but I doubt not when you have examined the arguments I can urge in my own defence, that rather than incur upon a compliance with your present order, you will be inclined to do me an act of Justice by directing that the sum I have already paid shall be returned

Letter on the subject of the money he was ordered to refund.

I sailed as Pay Master at Chingleput immediately after my restoration to the Service the year 1778 I constantly charged for the Bullocks there according to the Book of Regulations as I had done before my Superiors followed my example after my departure, and no remark was made on my Accounts, nor was there any Charge quoted in opposition to the authority under which I acted

From being Pay Master at Chingleput I was removed to the same Office in Pondicherry. I found there a number of Bullocks employed in the Public Service, I charged for them as I had done at Chingleput a few Months before in strictly complied with the Book of Regulations which was given me for my Guide. There was no charge which superseded that authority, I received no Accounts, but the Commanded them from Mr Baker the Pay Master to the Army or Mr Grey the Agent and Consequently by his direct Example to Regulate my Conduct

I

1391. Fort St. George June 4th 1781

I demanded my Accounts regularly of the Presidency, no hint was given to me either publickly or privately that I made an improper charge or that a new Usage superseded the book of Regulations and tho' it is a standing order that all Accounts be examined quarterly, my Accounts were allowed to run on for the space of eight Months and no remark was made on them.

After I had continued to charge according to the Book of Regulations from the Month of Nov.r 79 to the Month of July 79 the Auditor instead of adhering to the standing Order above Quoted entered into a retrospect of my Accounts for eight Months and made a Report to the Select Committee upon which the Committee were pleased to Draw the following Order

"The Paymaster to explain the Charges
"in this Para.: all Bullocks to be immediately discharged
"and none employed in future, but when particular
"Service for them occurs, & then the Charges for the same
"& all charges for them must regularly accompany
"the Invoices."

I will no doubt strike upon Honor It is remarkable that though the Select Committee desired me to explain the Charge, they did not allow me to expend any Money, from which it must naturally be inferred that they thought Mr Porters Sentence too severe.

I immediately complied with the Orders of the Committee, and all expences consequently ceased I wrote to the Committee &

and Had very Reason to think they were satisfied with my Letter for I received no answer, nor did any Order Arrive from that time 'till the month of Dec.r 1779.

To shew my ready obedience to any Order or Usage of the Service soon as it became known to me which was in July, I charged in the following month according to the Usage quoted by the Auditor

The Auditor seeing the Committee were satisfied with my answer to their Letter in July renewed his Remarks in the month of November, and sent to the Board an Account Current stating the difference between the Charge would be according to Usage, and what I made it according to the Regulations it was not sufficient for him to deviate from a standing order he must even remind the Commander of what he wished them to consider and as it was so trifling an one as to require my complaining with the new Usage in the Month of August as a proof that I was acquainted with it before the Month of July.

In consequence of Mr Morrison's second remark the Committee passed a second order altering their former opinion, by which I was cleared in the latter end of December about six Months after the Charge had ceased to exist the heavy sum of Rags 5000 Those I shall be excused upon this occasion for remarking that though the Board have been often known to date the Order they have never been seen to remark the severity of their Sentence excepting on this one instance by which I am so deeply affected.

1393 Fort St. George. June 7th 1791

I repeat, & beg the Committee will give credit to my Assertion when I declare that I knew nothing of the Usage upon which Mr Proctor founds his remarks, and Quite as little was not given out in any Manner that I could be acquainted with it. The Book of Regulations is always given to Pay-Masters for their Guidance, had I in any instance deviated from it, it would have been held up in Judgement against me I surely cannot therefore be made to suffer for complying with it

I presume that in having transmitted my Accounts regularly, they should have been regularly examined, and that I cannot answerable for any omission in those entrusted with the Examination of Accounts.

I presume likewise that it is the Duty of the Military Secretary to deliver the Book of Regulations to the different Pay-masters with all the Alterations which the Presidency & Select Committee are pleased to make in it & if the Secretary omits to furnish your Pay-masters, I appeal to your Honor & whether he is not answerable for the consequent Omissions or mistakes which may ensue.

I do not presume to found a Claim to indulgence upon the just exceptions you have made in favor of others but your Honor & have upon very important Occasions decided against Mr Proctor's Report, when he judged that Items should be suspended, I hope you will therefore with the more exactness examine into the

1394 Fort St George June 7th 1791

The opinions of Persons whose representations have been found erroneous Scan give you no assurance that Mr Porter is not exalted even in matter of calculation for the sum he has fixed for me however is considerably more than it ought to be according to the Usage quoted by himself.

Your Honor & with I trust be convinced from what I have already urged that the Usage in Question bears with regard to me, as if it had never existed the omission of not observing Orders without ones will not, those therefore who have charged according to the Regulations from time immemorial may as well be ordered to refund as Scan — suppposing it possible that our Honble Masters had established some Regulations which have since been omitted sending to You. What in consequence of that Order you were directed to refund the whole or part of your Emoluments would You not think Re injunction cruel & severe? Such is my case.

I beg therefore that You will take it into your Consideration & afford me that Relief which I expect from your Justice.

I remain with the Greatest Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient

humble Servant

B. Gr. Munro.

Ordered to Lay on the Table.

Read the following Letter from Mr Peters

Fort St George
June 7th 1791

To

1395 Fort St George 8th May 1781

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr
President & Governor & Select Committee
Fort St George

Honble Sirs

From Mr Peterson
enclosed Abstract

By advice of the Surgeon General
I beg leave enclosed abstract of my Expences at
Tellicherry before Con, there being no Paid
Treasury Notes Issued for several Months had at
that Presidency, Mr Bayley having perused the same
and approved thereof. I have only to request such
a mode of Payment may be adopted as will enable
me to supply my Family with Stores and
necessary Comforts, until the Honble President
and Select Committee shall be pleased to appoint
to some Hospital or Brigade agreeable to my
standing in the Service and with the Approba-
tion of His Excellency Lieut Genl Sir Eyre Coote
& the Surgeon General.

I am with Deference & Respect
Honble Sirs
Your humble & Obed Servt
Jas Peters Actg Surgeon Majr
Malé Tellicherry &

Fort St George
10th May 1781

To Wm Hamilton Esq
Wm Turing Esqr
Military Paymasters &c

An Abstract of Account Current with the
Honble Company at Tellicherry Dr
Dr To my Subsistence at 2/. 6 P Month for
Decr Jany Febry March & April last & May 6 Months 127
To Batta at 48 Rup P Month on average for
the above Months 5 Months 240

1396 Fort St George June 7th 1781

To Hospital Charges as p Bills 760.14.16

Total Star Pagoda 2416.18.00

E E Wm Baines Peter
Acting Surgeon Major Mysore &c.

Fort St George
1st May 1781.

To Wm Turing Esqr
Dy Mtr Paymaster
Fort St George

Sir,

I have the Honor to enclose you my account Current with the Honble Company, my Disbursements for the Field Hospital at Tellicherry are countersigned by the Surgeon General & Accountary that Mr Jackson Auditor of Accounts on the Coromandel Coast may be a Line directed to my Bearer in Burton near Anderson Street Black Town

I am
Sir
Your Humble Obt Servant
Jas Peter
Surgeon

Fort St George
1st May 1781

The Honble Company Dr
To my Pay for the Months of Novr Decmbr
1780 & Jan.y Feby March & April 1781 at 8 p
pr Month being 6 Months 127 —

Jas Peter Surgeon

To Wm Hamilton Esqr
Mtr Pay Masters Genl
Fort St George

Fort St George
May 1st 1781

The Honble Company Dr
To my Field Batta for Novr Decr 1780 Jan.y Feby March
April 1781 being 6 Months at 40 p 240

EE Jas Peter Surgeon

1397 Fort St. George June 1778

The Honorable Company Dr

781. To my Horse Rent for my family from Sept. 1780

1st May. during my absence on the Malabar Coast 1620

at 16 Pags. / E.E.

Jas Peters Surgeon

To Wm. Hamilton Esqr

Paymaster

To James Peters Esqr Fort St. George.

Sir

Your accounts exceeds three Months, they must be laid before the President & Select Committee, & from them an order for Payment

I am

Sir

Your Obd. Servant

Jas Peters

Ordered that the above Bills be referred to the Auditor of Accounts to whom they be directed to make their Report on the same.

Referred to the Auditor of Accounts

Read Petition from Comalo Rangiah Company's Interpreter at Cuddalore as entered in the Miscellany Book.

Petition from the Company's Interpreter at Cuddalore.

Resolved that as it appears by the long service of Venkata Rangiah Dubash

His Request complied with.

Further that the Request contained in the above Petition be complied with.

Read Letter from Mr Douglas as entered in the Diary of this Committee 4th Inst.

Letter from Mr Douglas

Agreed that Mr Douglas be

Fort St George June 5th 1781

be reimbursed. the Sums expended by her Husband in Repairs at Changlepet but as the low state of the Treasury will not admit of it at present, Ordered that Mrs Douglas be granted a Company's Bond for the Amount.

Letter from Ens. Mullenbury

Read Letter from Ensign Mullenbury as entered in the Miscellany Book.

Permitted to proceed to the Cape

Agreed that Ensign Mullenbury be permitted to proceed to the Cape of Good Hope for the Recovery of his Health should it be necessary.

The President laid before the Committee the following Memorandum delivered to him by the Chief Engineer

Memorandum from the Chief Engineer respecting Grain to be given to the Inhabitants of Hog Hill.

Memorandum

The Chief Engineer takes Leave to represent to the Honble the Governor the extreme necessity there is for Government to fulfil the Promises made to those Inhabitants removed from Hog Hill. Allowers of the Company have not as yet received more Grain, with that purchased by Order of the Select Committee has some time since been portioned out, there are yet many Claimants to Satisfy who, from their Readiness Acquiescence in the Resolutions of the Board respecting Hog Hill, & of which the Chief Engineer has been a particular Witness, merit Attention. The Chief Engineer desires to present to the Governor a Representation made to him by the Body of those People. The Circumstances therein set forth, he takes Leave to say are fully known to the Governor for such due Weight as by active in forwarding the Inhabitants Interest

1399 Fort St George June 7th 1781

The Board's Intention by a speedy removal & did at the same time frequently acquire them of their good Offices with the Nabob the President & Select Committee in Return he begs he may be allowd on their Behalf to tender their Thanks for them.

The Chief Engineer says before the Governor a Statement of such Ground as can be procured either by Purchase or by removal of the Paraiars from the Spot of Company's Ground they now inhabit & requests to be honored with the Governor directions as soon as he shall have come to any Resolution thereon.

Geo Maule
Chief Engr

To Major Maule.

The humble Representation of the Inhabitants whose Houses were demolished & the Grounds on which were not allotted to them

As you were so good as to promise those who were under the Necessity of pulling down their Houses & for the Removal of Hog Hill, that You would in case of their Ready concurrence in a measure so essential to the General Good do all in your Power to see the engagements made to us fulfilled, We took the Liberty, with all submission, of Representing to You our distressful situation from a Pursuance of every part of those Engagements, Ever since we have begun to remove our Houses & under the Appearances of a Portion of Ground equal to what We possess on Hog Hill with 40 Per Cent on the Value of our Houses

1400 Fort St George June 4th 1791.

Honors will Meet thereof to be immediately paid
How far this has in any manner been done to
within your own knowledge, As we have been concern
ed of the scarcity of Money we have on no occasion
at any time urged the fulfilling this latter part
of the Agreement, our present Request however
Honor in consequence of your kind promise
of support is, that you will be pleased to Represent
to the Honble Governor & their Committee the
real Distresses and inconveniencies we labour
under from the want of Ground to build on; You
are perfectly well acquainted with Our situation
and we trust your goodness will induce You to
point out and Recommend to the Honble & their
Committee some speedy mode of relieving us
from our present and Embarassments so
materially affecting Ourselves & Families

Abraham
Germain

Statement of Grounds belonging to the Company
& such as are to be purchased.

Company's Ground.

Great Pateboy contains about Lots 400
Allowing for an Extensive Area
round the Portuguese Church.
NB. This Quantity is reckon sufficient & satisfy
all the Claimants for Ground near the Sea Ran Sea 90
This will require Filling in near 3 feet high
which is proposed shall be done by excavating
apart of the Debts of the Black Town below near
the Sea Ran Gate contiguous to this Spot.

Carried over 430

1401 Fort St George June 7th 1731

Brot over Lots ___ 530

Grounds for Purchase
Two Gardens belonging to

	Warran Pilly about Lots	150
One Do	Lootramony Chitty	60
One Do	Permaud Pagoda	160
One Do	Dowalgu	37
One Do	Channa Tandy Mood[r]	40
One Do	Padre Fabricius	30
	Pete Chitty	40
	Mapetta Ramapah Chitty	40
	Chimpenmael Chitty	40
	Lots	1027

The two peices of Ground, some time since offered for sale to the Company by Kistnama Chitty are not included in the above, as in prospect of the Removal of the Parian is determined upon, that there shall be given to the Parian and made the Property of that Cast.

Mr Delarche, the late Mr Drake's Executor having claim for Ground, it is submitted as they will be forfeited among the European Inhabitants, how far it may be equitable to punish the Quantity of their demand from Mr Boscawens & deduct the amount from the Balance owe by him to the Company

Fort St George
16 May 1731

Geo[e] Maule Chief Engineer

Ordered to lay on the Table.

Read the following Letter from Capt[n] Bate.

To

1402 Fort St. George June 7th 1781

To Thos. Oakes Esqr.

Military Secretary.

Sir

Accompanying this I send You a set of Bills for my Pay &c from May 1780. The Money excepting a Balance of about 10 Pagodas has been received, your Signet by order of the Governor is all that is wanting to authorize Mr Hamilton to settle the accounts. Should it be necessary for you, lay the Bills before the Honble the Governor or Govern Hornedd & hope you will do it.

I am Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

R. S. Bate.

Fort St George
May 4th 1781

Ordered that Capt. Bates Bills be referred to the auditor of accounts & that he be directed to report on the same.

Referred to the auditor

It having been represented to the Committee, that Capt. Daniell Burr commanding the Corps of Sebundies in the Honble Company's service has not been permitted to draw the same allowances as are annexed to that command at every Place where Sebundies are established, and as in other like Offices acting in similar Situations, be put on the same footing according to their respective Rank, it is Agreed that a letter be written to the Governor at Ganjam, directing that the usual Allowances be made to Captain Burr commanding the Sebundy Corps and that whatever arrears may be due to him on that Acct. be forthwith Discharged

Capt. Burr to receive the usual allowances as Commander of the Sebundies

1403 Fort St George June 7th 1781

The Committee in consequence of Sir Eyre Coote's Recommendation contained in his Letter dated 31st March in favor of Capt.n Clifton having referred to the List of the Army, find that were he appointed a Major, to rank from the time recommended by General Coote he would supercede Majors Cosby & Kelly who have been full Majors some time to which Circumstance, the Committee conceive the General did not advert, Agreed, therefore to defer coming to any Resolution on the subject 'till the Committee receive the further Sentiments of Sir Eyre Coote thereon, to whom they recommend that Capt.n Clifton's Commission as Major be dated the Day after that of Majr Kelly.

On the subject of Capt.n Clifton being appd a Majr.

Mr Thos Kingscote is now appointed Deputy Mil.y Secretary, in the room of Mr Craig who has resigned

Mr Kingscote appd Dep.y Mil.y Secretary.

Mr Robert Malcolm is now appointed Spanish & Portuguese Translator in the room of Mr Craig resigned.

Mr Malcolm appd Portuguese & Spanish Translator.

1804 Fort St George June 8th 1781.

I Received the following Letter

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr
President & Governor & Select Committee of
Fort St George.

Honble Sirs

Expecting the Fleet from Bombay
and foreseeing that I myself may be wanted on their
arrival to assist in conveying the Stores, Camp
followers &c to the Coast, I have engaged the Fort
St George Galley, the only Vessel to be
procured, for 5000 Rupees to undertake their Stores
and wait here until the Fleet arrives, this sum
therefore being proportioned to the chance of Capt.n
Finlays being detained here a considerable
time & prevented from pursuing his Voyage
elsewhere, I trust your Honor & Council will not
unreasonable, particularly as the Expence of
victualling the Camp followers with Rice on
Board will be included.

From Mr. Colgrave by
agreed with Capt. Stevens for
the Stores for the Troops
from Tellicherry

Tellicherry
12 March 1781

I am with Great Respect
Honble Sirs
Your most Obed.t Servt
Jno Colgrave.

I Received the following Letter from Sir Eyre Coote

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr
President & Governor &c Select Committee
Fort St George

From Sir Eyre Coote
with an account of
his march to Trivady
enclosing an
intercepted

Gentlemen,

1780.

I have received your Letter of the 19
In the Letter which I had the

1405 Fort St George June 1781.

intercepted Letter from Hyder — one from Col: Wilson — one from the Raja of Tanjore — one from Col. Braithwaite — one from the Admiral, with his Answer — giving his opinion on the capitulation of Arcot.

I had the Honor of addressing you under date the 25th Ult. I informed you of my Intentions of moving the Army, of the motives which moved me to it and that Trivady was the place which it was proper we should march towards. In order to facilitate our Movements & promote the Expedition which the urgency of the Object of beating up Meer Saibs Camp chiefly dictated, as they are extremely vigilant I formed the Army in two Divisions, the first which was to be commanded myself the second which followed with the Baggage was commanded by General Stuart.

Having made this disposition of the Troops, the first Division was ordered to commence its march on the 27th at 8 O'clock at Night, but During the insufficiency of the Draught Bullocks with the Artillery and the Carriage for our Ammunition, the first division did not get clear of the Entrenchment until between 10 & 11 O'clock, when we advanced as far as 6 Miles on our March, on which we continued to experience impediments from the afore said causes, a little before day we surprized a small Picquet of the Enemy at which a party of Sepoys of our Advanced guard fired & killed one, Horse and Foot, from the noise which was made by the Horse men going off we have reason to believe some of them were wounded, much about the same time a Body belonging to the Enemy came in upon the Head of our Line which it would appear he supposed to be part of his own Troops & was taken a Prisoner. We pursued our March from the Enemys Camp having from the time the day broke in the

Morning

Fort St George June 1781

Morning large bodies of Horse on our Front Hovering a-head between us and the Encampment Constantly throwing Rockets but luckily without doing any Execution having been able by means of our Flanking Parties to keep them at a respectable distance A deserter of one of those Parties told me the Enemies Horse and took the Furniture thereof the Rider was covered by a party of their own Horse. About eight in the Morning of the 28th I had arrived within three Miles of the Enemys Camp & which I was still advancing when I received a Message from General Stuart informing me that a great part of our Provisions, Stores, Hospital Camp Equipage was owing to the extreme weakness of the Carriage Cattle either lost or left behind many of them having fallen down and died under their Load, some of them even before they left the Ground on which they were Loaded On receipt of this Information, I immediately halted and took Post, and wrote to General Stuart, if he could not advance to take Post, and that if attacked I would fall back in the Evening and join him, I received for Answer that he halted to refresh the People who from the length of time they had been on the March and the intense heat of the Weather were fatigued beyond conception but that he would proceed and join me in the Evening which he did about five O'clock Brigadier General Stuart's reports of the loss which we had sustained during this March in our Camp Equipage Stores and Provisions the great difficulties they were struck with at had come up with him had been known, and without any harassment from even during an

Enemy

Ebenezer St George June 1778

Enemy are circumstances soothing & proof and confirmation of what I have repeatedly given Your army Opinion that it is absolutely impossible to march this army in its present unprovided state in both draft and carriage Bullocks. This recent and to me most distressing instance of my Inability to leave my present Station even a days March unless at a very Eminent Risque, shews that no important service either reasonably ought or even justice can be expected from this Army until these wants shall have been remedied & supplied

The above circumstances having totally defeated every chance of effecting any thing against the Enemy who had now time sufficient to preclude all those Advantages which might have been gained by a surprize, I ordered the Encampment upon the same Ground I had halted and in the Evening went out with a considerable Body of Cavalry to Reconnoitre in front in which Line the Enemys Encampment was. Soon this Occasion considerable Bodys of Horse advanced, but were distant & moving backwards and forwards, but none ventured near enough to offer an Injury On the 29th I received some Cloaths & Shoes sufficient for two days for the Followers of the Army Having also received further Information of Evacuation being in Progress & Monmouth & the other Neighbouring Villages on the 30th I ordered a Cavalry consisting of a few Cavalry & Infantry which on entering the Village of Monmouth came unexpectedly on a considerable Party of the Enemys Rear

ting
lage

Horse and Foot one of them, they very fortunately
fell in with some Cattle which were brought into
Camp and which being greatly wanted proved a very
seasonable supply as if we had not got them. For
the Sick and wounded Europeans of the Army must now
have been without a morsel of fresh Provision
A small Vessel was found in a Burthen having
some Letters from Hyder Ally to Meer Said the
other Commanders of his Troops, Send one upon the
Ground late of the most material one by which Our
wise Government may have very good Intelligence
is, but the Expedition with which it is conveyed Even
The Party on their Return took Possession of the Fort
of Trividy & left in it two Companies of Sepoys in order
to keep open the Communication between that
Place and Camp and secure our Carriage Bullocks
&c. to which may at present be Conveyed in Security
That we had been positively told was concealed
under the Earth in a Mangoe Tope at no great
distance from Trividy upon Digging there we found
several Cart loads of Paddy were found and which
were served out to the Followers and for feeding the
Cavalry & Draught Bullocks. On the 31st having
seen able from a small Rise a Body saying about half
a Mile advanced on the left Wing of our Encampt.
ment to reconnoitre properly & carefully the situation
of the Enemy's Camp, and which observing to be
composed of Foot Cavalry and Elephants
protected by a few Artillery Horse, Determined
to examine it more closely & for that purpose
for their future Conduct. Accordingly on the 3rd
in the Afternoon we set out marching with the

me the Body Guard and all the Cavalry off Duty
I reached it some time before Sunset found it
very extensive, One half of it being situated on the
South, and the other on the North side of the River
Penaur, I sent a Party across and set fire to that
on the North side of the River whilst the People
along with myself burnd what lay on the South
Side, some few Horse shewed themselves upon the
Opposite side of the River but retired immediately
on our Party's Advancing, Meer Saib was said to be
at this time about Three or four Miles to the
Westward on the South Bank of the River with a
very large Body of Horse, but we only saw a few
hundred in that direction who did not attempt to
do us any mischief, on the contrary upon advancing
a few Shot from the Company of Pioneers
they retired, On this excursion we took two Sepoys
belonging to the Enemy Prisoners and whom we
supposed to be Spies, In the Bed of the River and
on the Banks we saw a great Number of Carcases
of both Horses and Bullocks, we arrived again
in Camp a little after Sunset

During the whole of these four
days I had not been able to get Intelligence of any
kind about Tyagoor, and as we now and then heard
the firing of heavy Cannon in that Quarter
I was satisfied that the Effect which Sprung by
my movement of making Tyagoor desert cause
the Seige, had not been produced, neither had I seen
or a single Man belonging to the Nawaby every
Rajah who is employed with Tyagoor sent in the
Seige, as he had been given to believe by his Vakeel

1410 Fort St. George June ... 1781

Packet that he would join me by my moving towards him, I was probable that if I could hopefully have made another days March the siege would have been raised or even that if I could have kept my Post at Tirroody I might have effected it by a feint, but the wretched condition of my carriage Cattle and the want of Sick rendered it absolutely impossible for me to remain beyond the first Inst. in the Evening. On each of those days I have since learnt since my return that Tippoo had raised the siege and came to Tirumalore, but when from the Firing that has been heard this Morning in that Quarter I am afraid has been renewed, a circumstance which it is evident would never have happened could I have even maintained the Army at Tirroody In the march back to this Place the Division under Brigadier Gen.l Stuart preceded with the Baggage of the Army about 5 O'Clock & followed with the Rear Division at Dusk having previously made a Feint with a Detachment about two Miles to the Westward in order to drive the Enemy further back as with a View to receive them with resolution to our Rear. Had the Desired effect having not only obliged them to retire but kept them at a Distance from any Molestation during the whole march, for it seems they were not certain we had moved off until two hours at least after we had left the Ground, On the Morning of the first Journey the Enemy Horse made an Attack on the Rear but were soon drove off with the Loss of one Horse whose we took.

That You may have a more perfect Idea of the Loss we have sustained in the Movement of the Army I enclose you a particular

Fort St George June 1781

Particular Return of the Casualties as delivered home by the Adjutant General which at the same time they exhibited to you Therein to the Public Proofs of our Conviction as to the means of marching with some Convenience over that Vast Army can never leave the Sea Coast, nor even move along it either North or South without the Co-operation of Shipping, for the purpose of carrying Stores & Provisions, on this we were Encouraged myself with the pleasing Hope of deriving great support & assistance from the Squadron when it should arrive on the Coast. But in this also, unseen Events have combined to disappoint me.

On the 26th I had an Interview with the Admiral Sir Edward Hughes, in which I fully communicated the present Condition of the Army the Views I had in the Movement I was then about to make, and informed him of a further Plan I had long had in contemplation and which I was purposely delayed the Execution of until his arrival, as well because I not only saw the necessity for such a co-operation as he had it in his Power to afford me from his Squadron, but a degree of security which I could by no other means devise to the Army in case of any untoward accident happening to defeat the Object in View. The taking Cuddalore I had taken from what had passed between the Admiral and myself upon this occasion to shew myself that I should have the opportunity of again conferring with him on the subject upon my return from the Expedition. I was just going to set out on

out on, and which could not be equipped for a longer time, I do myself the Pleasure to enclose for your Information, Copy of this Letter I had the honor to write the Admiral on the Day of my Departure and Duplicate of his Answer the original of which I received when in Camp near Trivedy. The Coventry Frigate is gone to Wood and Water at Tranquebar and it seems Sir Edward Hughes found it expedient to carry with him to Fort St George the Nymph Sloop as she stood in need of some Repairs, so at the present time of my writing a French Fleet may arrive without either the Admiral or myself having the least previous Intimation of their approach I will not dwell upon the fatal consequence Whatsoever such an Event might occasion to our Affairs in general but am content myself with the mention of one certain misfortune which it would bring on this Army by the capture of the Vessels now in the Roads on which there are part of the Rice belonging to the Army in a Hoard. A considerable part of which I should even before the Arrival of the Squadron take from the Freight Vessels and deposited in the Succes Valley, and the Boats and Intelligence Schooners in order to proceed with the Army when it should move along the Coast to Chellumbrum. I am persuaded that the Admiral on the Reduction he took of proceeding to Fort St George, would immediately therefore send a very critical Period his mind fixed in his own mind that he will find no difficulty in proceeding in good time such a station as will ena

enable him to give that Protection by Sea to the
Company's Interests on this Coast which they
may sooner than expected stand in need of. Should
he think proper on his Return to Rendezvous
at or near to this Place, his own Apprehension precludes
every Idea of a Doubt but that I shall derive from
the Cooperation of the Fleet the most ample Assis-
tance in their Power to afford me the Success too-
which I know he is certain of returning with all possi-
ble Expedition to the Windward of the French Settle
ment of Pondicherry gives me reason to hope for
his early Arrival, but still as I conceive the pre
sent Period, as well from the Situation of the Enemys
main Army as from other Circumstances, favora-
ble to an Attempt on Chillumbrum Whatever
the gaining of a single Day may be of the utmost
Consequence to our Success, I hope I shall not
be deemed too importunate in soliciting the
Intercession of your Committee with the Admiral
to permit one or two of his Ships of heavy Metal
to proceed thither as soon as possible because
should it be found necessary to open Trenches
against the Place, our Field Artillery not being
calculated for Breaching, four or six Guns landed
from them would prove of the utmost Utility
to that end They could also expeditiously armed Boats
to take or destroy those belonging to the Enemy
at Pettanaw Lading the Coast which it is absolute
ly necessary should be done at the Commence
ment of the Expedition to render secure the
landing our Provisions from the Ships. Circ-
umstances may in appearance become

Fort St George June 1791

so favorable as to induce me to take the Expedition without waiting the arrival of the above Ltr, but I must in Justice to the Opinion I entertain of the essential Service a co-operation would be of that has the Ships now at Command and allowing appearances were so much encouraged the Attempt by the Army alone I would not decline their Assistance

I enclose for your Information Translate of a Letter which lately received from the Rajah of Tanjore. His Sentiments as to the effects produced by our Contest with the Mahrattas as well as those which would ensue from an Union of Interests with the Poonah State seem to be very just. Having it not been in my Power to authorize him to enter upon any express Negotiations, I could only assure him in my Reply that it had long been and still was the earnest wish of our Government to make terms of Peace with the Poona State as would be for the Honor and Advantage of both and referred him for the Professions of Rajah Modajee Bonsla, (which Family he is informed is French) for whom we hitherto had and still were entering on our Negociations, and concluded with telling him that as Friend to both Parties, if he proved instrumental in accomplishing so desirable an Object and thereby would be productive of such Important good as he himself points out, it would immortalize his Name among all the Eastern Powers and give to our Government an undeniable Testimony of his Attachment and regard to the Company's Interests

You will receive Inclosed a Letter from Sr Eyre Coote addressed to your Committee

1415 Fort St George June 1781

Committee, likewise transmit for your Information Copy of the Latest Letter which I have received from Coll. Braithwaite. Upon the Receipt of the Intelligence that Hyder with the Main Army had passed the Coleroon and had he had Off a Detachment at Combaconum, I lost no time in writing to Colonel Braithwaite & Coll. Nixon to concert Measures so as to embrace the earliest Opportunity after the passing of the Coleroon which would effectually prevent any Support being given from the Main Army, to accomplish the destruction of that Detachment. For these three or four days past Reports have reached me from several Quarters all agreeing as to the total Defeat of the Enemy at Combaconum, by a Detachment formed from the Garrison of Tanjore, that they had killed many of them and had taken a number of Horses, likewise, that they had Relieved the Garrison of Shaweottah, in which two or three of Hyders Principal Agents in charge of the Revenues of the Country were made prisoners, the consequence it is said has been that the Enemy have abandoned Nagore and Carical, that the Tanjore Country is now totally free and that their Rajah is begun to treat with his Agents. As the Coleroon has for these ten Days been impassable except by Boat, I think there is every Reason to believe that the above News is not without foundation I wait impatiently to have it authenticated from Tanjore, whenever advice shall arrive I shall embrace the first Opportunity of forwarding it to You.

1416 Fort St George June 1781.

Having been informed by the Admiral when here that he on board some Money belonging to some Natives delivered by Captain Reddam, and which I am to be the same that I intended should have been paid into the Treasury at Bombay for the use of Gen Goddard Army in lieu of the Sum that was paid me out of the Remittance made from Bengal for that purpose I have by this Opportunity instructed Mr Petrie & Doctor Hoops to pay that Amount or the exact Proceed thereof into your hands, and which I beg leave as it cannot now be sent round to Bombay and Gen Goddard will not now be so much in want of it to recommend it being paid into the same Channel as the Remittance hitherto made from Bengal and sent down by the first safe conveyance to this Place for the use of the Army

I am happy to find that You coincide in Opinion with me as to the Conduct which ought at present to be observed towards the Rajah of Tanjore and his Prime Minister Baloba Nah.

However much I approve of every Step which can with safety be taken for promoting for the security and settling on a Permanent State of Defence the now Important Post of Vellore, nevertheless as the Strength of the European Corps of this Army by the Number of sick already sent to Madras and those in the Hospital there has been greatly weakened of late, I must request that all the Recovered Men be sent further to join their Corps. The arduous Conflict which this Army

1417 Fort St George 2 June 1781

Army is to sustain must destroy for the present all thoughts of lessening by Detachments its Europeam strength, I am extremely uneasy at not receiving any Intelligence of Col. Baillies Detachment

I have attentively perused the Copy you sent me of the Capitulation of Arnbow the Translate of the Papers which Capn Sealey had been obliged to sign at first, I conclude that the Capitulation must have been signed also by Tippoo Saib although his Name does not appear to the Copy you sent me. From the Terms of the Capitulation I think are in my Opinion very favorable the Officers & Garrison certainly are at liberty to serve, and may do it with Honor to themselves. The hopes of Reinforcements expected I do not think can in any Shape keep them at Bay, I doubt not were any of them during the present War to be so unfortunate as to fall into Hyders hands he would subject them to all the hardships incurred by a failure, in same manner as if what been a part of the Capitulation originally taken.

The Chaser arrived here on the 5th Instant & brought me your Letter of the 2nd with the Duplicate of that of 29th Ulto. whereof the original Letter has not yet reached me & sailed to the Southward a few hours afterwards.

I am most heartily concerned for the difficulties you experience in obtaining Money the more so as I see the fatal Consequences which must ensue should we fail in paying our Troops they already begin to murmur. Seeing that it is of the last importance to our Interest in India

1418 Port St George June 11th 1771

India that they should, whilst engaged in actual service, be kept Quiet and faithful, every means ought rather to be adopted than their Discontents should be allowed to rise to a height which would endanger the state and we might find it difficult, perhaps impossible to suppress

The sending of the 150 Bullocks which you have collected, to Cawnpoor only would be of service to me in case before in a condition & had determined to move to the Northward, as I neither can spare a sufficient Detachment to bring them from thence, nor indeed should hold myself blameless in making an Attempt of the kind at the present very critical conjuncture which renders it necessary that our Force should be kept as collected as possible Therefore method whereby they could be rendered immediately useful to me, would be in requesting of the Admiral to bring down as many of them as he might find it convenient to take on board the Fleet when he returns, should he be so obliging as to comply with your request I must beg he will that none be sent but such as shall be found upon the strictest Examination, strong & fit for service as if they should not be better than those you have were before sent to me, they would only prove a — But when to me instead of a convenience would an Encrease of Expence to the Company. The Captain of the Repel reported to me that when they were first embarked they were in so weak a state and in such bad condition that several died the day after they were put on board.

I am sorry for the

1419 Fort St George June. 1781

The molestation which You inform me Vessels
met with from the Armed Boats of Pulicat and
should be happy it were in my Power to comply
with Your Request of sending one or both the Bengal
Schooners for their Protection, you will observe from
the foregoing part of this Letter how necessarily they
are employed in the service of the Army, besides I
have always been obliged to keep one stationed off Pulo
Pore, in order to protect the Vessels coming from the
Southward against the Enemys Armed Boats at that
Place. This Circumstance ought have been made
acquainted with in former Letters.

With respect to the Princes Galley
you will observe from the preceding part of this
Letter that she also is employed in the same useful
Manner for the service of the Army, as the Bengal
Schooners are, whenever I can dispense with her
assistance, I shall dispatch her to You as well to
enable You to fulfill the desire You have from
complying with her Highnesses Request as upon the
Principle of relieving the Company from the
heavy Expence they now incur by having her
in the Service.

I now dispatch to You the Governor
should do any justice to Captn Coxon did not take
this Occasion to signify my entire approbation
of his Conduct which has been that of Zeal & attention
to the service on which he has been employed. This
acknowledgement & the unavoidable Injury which
his private affairs must have suffered from not
being permitted to proceed to Bengal agreeable

to

1420 Fort St George June 7th 1781

to his Original Destination, I must wish Recommend him to the favo & Indulgence of the Worlds Company

Some time since Capt Mansergh was written to, to get in readiness four Peices of Battering Cannon, who which I doubt he is glad to embrace by the first Opportunity together with Ammunition &c Stores proportionable to the Detachment which goes by this Conveyance.

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

Camp at New Town
7 June 1781.

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr
President & Governor & Select Committee
Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs

I did myself the honor to write You in Cypher on the 27th of April and sent a Duplicate of the same the day following. I also wrote on the 8 Inst. and acquainted You what we had done regarding the Terrible Rajah, a large Body of the Enemys Horse appeared near this Place the 17 Inst. & encamped at Samiavenam on the Northside of the Cotteroon where they remained for three days burning & plundering all round them but durst not enter the Island of Seringham where we keep a strong Post, they since moved off towards Caroor, whilst they remained here several Deserters came over to us and some few plunderers were taken those we have hanged upon the spot, and keep to hard Labour together

with

1421 Fort St George June. 1781

with all Hyders Spies who have pattenants to our hands, this mode of treating I thought more proper to acquaint you of their Noise and Lies, The Enemy appeared this day in great force from the Eastward and encamped at Tallgoody about Nine Miles distant it looks as if they meant to try their Force, we shall know in a few days, Hyders approach so near the Confines of the Barriers of Seringham who openly assaulted some of the Nairs People and declared Hyder to be their Protector induced me to withdraw the Guns from that Post another Reason against having People to Maintain with that and Worse near the Fort we still keep some. From the Rajah of Ramnad who has great prospects of a welcome Reception in his own Country marked this very Day, I have been necessitated to spare him 2 Guns & 2 Companies which at such a time is scarcely to be ventured, but as we may draw supplies of both Men & Money from that Country I am the Rajahs hope soon to hear of their safe arrival & to inform you of the good effects of this Diversion.

May 22nd 1781

I shall delay two days to forward You this Letter in hopes of having able to give some satisfactory account of the Enemy who are encamped on the Northside of the River extending from Tallgoody towards Samuveram where they remain quiet & without any apparent design against this Fort. We hear for certain that Hyder is now at Amboor halfway between Tallgoody and Tirmalwady deterred by the hopes of bringing over a Commandant Jemboor Naigue from Hyder

1422 Fort St George June 1791

Hyder, a poor Man was sent with a Letter to him to the Ferriore Country whom he betray'd and sent him to Hyder who cut the Mans Ears Nose off & sent him back home. The Ferriore Country is given for a Relation of the Reddys & Hyder Finds he makes no resistance Belaventerow took the Pagoda of Swaposam makes by Coot and afterwards delivered it up to be plundered no Faith or reliance can be put on their Oaths

I am with Respect
Fondle Sir Sir
Your faithful Hble Servt
Cortes Wilson

Sorchanopoly
24 May 1791

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

Sir

Hyder Ali Cawn's main Army
marched within three miles of Trinkeerdy & there
about he has detached to Tamkeetam from whence
Detachment has gone and burned and destroyed at
Trichenopoly, he has done the same in the Reddy &
Ferriores Country, and I am sorry to inform You that
Yesterday Morning at three o'Clock he crossed a con-
siderable Detachment with Six Guns at Number
of Pioneers and Tank Diggers and is making things
the East Bank of the Amaracottah by which means
he will effectually ruin this Country. His Rapacity
and Tyranny now disquiets all sorts of People, He
gives Cowl for a certain Sum and then Plunders
afterwards in short he seems now to have nothing
in view but devastation and destruction his own
people are as dissatisfied with him as others and

want

1423 Fort St George June 1781

want nothing but encouragement to leave him
in Multitude, I have told Offers Gunny. A
Subadar brought off a Company of 50 Yesterday to me I
did not think proper to entertain them but gave them
two Pagodas for their Come. Horsemen are also come
over, from both these I understand that if I will give
three Pagodas each for Horses and 100 for each horse
ready Money they would come in very fast, but I have
no means the Rajah fell short 3000 Pagodas last Month
Exclusive I fear paid altogether, I have not heard any
thing of Madajeeroe Mr Davidson wrote Mr Davidson
the 26th Ulto from Tanjore Capt. Brooke
wrote to me the 10th Inst. and I am anxious about
a certain Man I had the honor to send to You and
to whom I have given great Encouragement
but keep this Secret

I have the Honor to be with

The Greatest Respect

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

Signed Tod Inverarity

A true Copy

Geo. Taylor

Tanjore
27th May 1781

Translate of a Mahratta Letter from the
Rajah of Tanjore to Lieut Tod Copy Cote
Dated the 26th Jemmaee ul Awal & Received
the 29th of May 1781 at Camp near Trichy

After the usual Compliments

We now near five years since the commencement
of the War between the English Company & the
Poonah State. Lately also I sent to Treat of
Peace being negotiated between them. On that

1424 Fort St George June 6th 1781

that account Warr prevails in every Quarter and Mankind suffers great Distresses to which there is no end. By what means the Company alone are free from being at ease, I am the Vassal & Friend to the Company & their Interest, live under their Protection, & consider their good or bad Fortune as my own, it is therefore incumbent upon me to wish them success and to communicate to them every thing I know tending thereto. At this present time unless you make Peace with the Mahrattahs no Individual thing will go well, for that Reason no Measure ought to be neglected to effect a Peace. The consequence of which would be a Period to the present complicated War and the Restoration of Tranquility to Mankind in General, and the Company would also reap advantages of Tranquility longing for, & Brotherly Friendship has long subsisted between me and the Poonah Administration as well as mutual Interests in all matters whatever. It is my Duty to point out to them in positive Terms that Peace is necessary I am persuaded they will submit to my Dictates. On this ready Council, & only by the Governor General & Council of the Presidency of the Coast in which matters may be settled and I be myself write Letters, send a Person discreet & well attached to Poonah and endeavor by every Argument and persuasion to bring the Principles [illegible] to a proper way of thinking and by every Effort Art to induce them to an Adjustment & Accommodation. This is what my Mind at present suggests. Make Peace

1425 Fort St George June 1781.

Peace and Friendship with the Mahrattahs unite their Forces with your own Company's and direct your Operations against Seringapatam. Hyder will soon leave them and go to his own Country. by this means the Company's Forces here with also be enabled to proceed up the Ghauts advance to the Capture of Seringapatam and by this Means Conquer the Enemy. I do recommend your taking this Business into your most serious Consideration and send me a Letter communicative of your desires & I will do my best Endeavours to them. Look upon me as your Friend: Where Friendship is mutual long Writings are unnecessary

A true Translate

Wm Fortham

Persian Interpreter

Translate of Mahrattah Letter under the Seal of Hyder Ally Cawn addressed to Meer Ally Reza Cawn his Brother in Law. dated the 9th of Jemaude ul Awul of the Hejera 1195 corresponding to the 2nd May 1781

I commenced at Bombay and since then is in these Days very Stormy Weather at Sea, insomuch as several thought to be Ships to remain on the Coast, for that Reason to the number of about 20 Ships Large Small Grabs and other about a Thousand Seapoys at Bombay Chauny sailed came to Tellicherry disembarked the Seapoys received on board also the Stock and Cattle all that Place and having met with no bad Weather of Consideration are come round to this side. This Intelligence was

1426 Copy St George June 1781

was written home by London from whence the same has also been written to me from Bombay the Englishmen order to enhance their own Consequentiate the Report of their being Ships arrived from England I write these particulars for your Information, that you may not be alarmed and be upon your Guard

Your Friend & Hble Servt
Com.r Evans

From the same to Sir Edward Vernon dated as above

The Contents of the Letter upon which I have now been made known to me, the Intelligence brought from Madrass Barnard & Vernon by your Countrymen of Fifteen Ships Chasing & passed that Place and gone on to Cuddalore upon hearing of me there Ships are and Foreces and being by the stormy Weather at Sea on the Bombay Side the Ships could remain no longer there, they therefore remained on Shore the Sick People and sent them to this Coast. Be there Ships there is no considerable Force. The Commodore Tells, circulate false Reports and for that Reason I have written to You. By means of your Patrole obtain Intelligence and send upon your Guard and send me onthand Information

Your Friend & Hble Servt
Peter Evans

From Mr Evans to Mr Bussy dated as above

I have just Received Intelligence that Salabut Cawn is in a bad state of health. Therefore were you will dispatch him to the presence, after his recovery he shall be returned to You. Until then

1427 Fort St George June 1795

When his Brother married the Duke
of Sussex Frederick Wm Grafton
Herman Jones

To Admiral Sir Edwd Hughes KB
&c &c

Dear Sir

My late day in the Gulf Yesterday
so deranged the necessary preparations for moving
that I found it impossible to manage as I intended
last Night and therefore remained on my old Ground
however I shall certainly proceed to Night and should
any thing of Importance happen worthy of com-
municating I shall do myself the pleasure of
sending you the earliest Information.

I have great expectation the
Countenance and co-operation of the Fleet upon hand
the honor to command as well as giving spirit to an
enterprising Success to such Operations as I can derive
benefit from their assistance in Water Provisions
I am satisfied are two very essential considerations and
cannot be neglected whatever aid can be afforded I shall
be entitled with infinite satisfaction, As I must own
I am not a little uneasy at the Idea of the Fleet mov-
ing to Madras if there is the smallest possibility of
avoiding it

When I return from the Expedition
I am now going upon I shall flatter myself with
the pleasure of again conversing with You on
Public on the above Subject

I have the Honor to

1628 Port St George June 1781

To be with much Esteem & Regard
Dear Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Signed Eyre Coote.
A true Copy Geo: Tyler.

Camp Near Tanjore
27th May 1781.

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

Dear Sir,

I received yesterday your favor of the 21st
& perc: Does the cause of Inventing your March at the
time you intended.

Under the present situation of our
affairs on this Coast, with the prospect of what further may
happen, I think it proper to state to You the present situ-
-ation of His Majesty's Squadron under my Command
& the Plan of Operation I purpose to follow with it.

At Bombay I was unable to procure
Provisions for a longer time than to the 20th of June next
many Articles, & Bread in particular, not being to be had
there in any Quantity and of that proportion & Condition
I want, Salt Meat was procured for the Garrison of
Tellicherry at the request of the Chief of that Place and as well
as 300 Barrels of Gunpowder and as at Tellicherry Water
could not be given to the Squadron, the Transports were
necessarily supplied with both Casks & Water from
that article is now very short in all the Ships, & any
Water that could be procured at this Place would
from its bad Quality add to the Number of Sick now on

1429 Fort St George 1799

on board which is more than 400 Men, & how are now on shore at our Hospital 1600 Men, besides the Ships being 332 short of their Compliment.

For this situation of the Squadron I think it absolutely necessary to proceed with it immediately to Madras Roads leaving the Coventry & Raymsfort to cruize between this Road & Negapatam to look out & give me the earliest intelligence of any material occurrence.

As Madras our Sick & Wo are now a great incumbrance & Nuisance to the Ships can be landed, Your Provisions now lying ready & Water compleated in a few days which done I shall proceed to a Windward Station where it is most proper to make their Appearance, Before they can effect any thing to the prejudice of our Affairs, use my best endeavours to defeat them.

I have pointed out to You the Necessity of one part of this Plan, I believe You will see the Propriety of the other, every thing that can be done expeditiously with the Squadron for the Assistance of the Army under my own Command, shall be done with Readiness and Alacrity and I trust it is absolutely necessary for the Safety of the Company's Interest, the Public Good & my own Honor, that the Squadron under my Command be properly provided and fitted to receive the Enemy immediately on their Arrival on this Coast, if these Squadrons should come on as we justly Expected by most People & as my

1430 Fort St George June 1781

Opinion very probable.

When at Bombay I received by the Lively Packet several Dispatches from Lord Hillsborough and among others a letter from His Majesty to His Highness the Nabob of the Carnatic with directions to me to deliver it to His Highness also to use without other more urgent Reasons might induce me to proceed to Madras but to endeavour that Objection timely to comply with the Kings Commands. I shall ever most sincerely wish success, I am with great Esteem & Regard

Dear Sir

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

Edd Hughes.

Suspected in Cuddalore Road 29th May 1781

Minute thereon

The Committee are sincerely concerned the difficulties that the General experiences from the Inactivity of the Army & Carriage Bullocks. They are such however as must naturally have been expected for remaining any length of time on the same spot after the Villages and Country around had been so effectually destroyed every day the General may think it necessary to continue at Cuddalore will be perceived but as this distress has in reality almost long since have been so apparent that he can only consider the consequences that have ensued as an evil unavoidable The General is desired to be taught with fewer ill Effects than were likely to ensue by pursuing a different Plan of Operations.

With recommendation of Gene Stuart, the Committee resolved to send about 100 Europeans

1431 Fort St George June 1781

Europeans in part of a Reinforcement to Pellore but
receiving Intelligence a few days afterwards that
there was no Boats on the Malabar Coast had met with
and that Colonel Brown's Detachment would be arrived
there it was resolved not to send the Europeans and
the Committee submitted to the General whether
it would not be more advisable to order all the
Troops from the Garrison to join the Army and thereby
make good the Defiencies occasioned by Sickness. The
General was informed at the same time that the
Vessels should be on the Embarkation of the rest of the Troops
as well as the Stores originally intended to be sent to
Pellore but before the Detachment had been engaged for that
purpose could be got ready, the General letting
the 1st Brig was received expressing his entire
concurrence in the former Instructions Regarding un-
favourable to the strength of this Garrison from
whence you conclude it was with that the whole
Detachment originally intended should be sent to
Pellore and in that Idea resolved to add that Reinforcement
These circumstances are stated to shew that the reasons
which determined the Committee not to send the
Europeans further but for those Circumstances were to have
been the alternately Resolution corresponding entirely
entirely with the sentiments expressed in the Letter now
under Consideration. It is proper to send to the Army all
the Men who may be discharged from the Hospitals
and reported fit for Duty agreeable to the General
desire.

In your Letter

1432 Fort St George June 1781

letter of the 25th May represented him being in great want of Field Officers, and expressed his Hopes that all might be able to remedy that Inconvenience the Court of Directors against making Field Officers are so extremely positive that they scarcely leave us any latitude and it would be with the greatest reluctance we were to deviate from them more especially as the Disinterestedness arises from ill Health and not from Parsimony, the Establishment being actually complete but as the General gives us Hopes that the Enemy has evacuated the Tanjore Country in which case the Tanjore and Trichinopoly Garrisons will no longer be attacked for some time, we shall defer to recommend to his Consideration whether the Field Officers commanding those Garrisons might not be withdrawn from them and their services be more usefully employed with the Army.

The Letter which the General has received from the Rajah of Tanjore affords us satisfactory Mark of his Attachment to the Company which the General's Answer is well calculated to strengthen and encrease. The Committee has long and invariably entertained the same Opinion with the Rajah as to the Policy of coming to an Accommodation with the Mahrattas and have enforced that Opinion on the strongest Grounds the Supreme Council agreed to adopt for the present commencement to the Agreement entered into by Mr Sullivan on concerning the Affairs of Tanjore

The Committee entertain the most anxious Hopes of shortly receiving a favourable Account of the Steps that have reached the ears of the General of the Detail

Fort St George June 1781

of the Enemy at Combaconum. That no time may be lost in awaiting ourselves of that Event should it prove true it is Agreed that Mr Huddleston be directed to proceed on board of the Ships of the Squadron for Negapatam and proceed on his proceeding to that Station at Tanjore to re establish the Company's Authority at Nagore and Carical should the Enemy have evacuated those places, and use his utmost endeavours to obtain and forward to the Presidency supplies of Grain and other Provisions. Agreed that the General be desired to order from Tanjore such as Bullocks as they may judge sufficient to enable Mr Huddleston to effect those purposes and to maintain Garrisons at Nagore where the Redoubts can be repaired or a better built established whether it be now or when it may safely be attacked from Tanjore to such assistance at Nagore it will be proper to leave entirely to the General and only recommend the Subject to his attention as we are on a very good footing with the Dutch and should they refuse to allow supplies of Provisions to be sent to Negapatam from the Port of Nagore will be necessary to the Southward from whence we can hope to derive any Relief to the Garrisons Distress wherein for much Reason we fear this Letter will find it Agreed that Mr Edward Hughes be requested to grant a Passage for Mr Huddleston to Negapatam on one of the Ships of the Squadron

The measures taken by Colonel Kyan as related in his Letter of the 24th ult. also appears to the Committee to have been very proper and they hope

hope the Assistance he had given the Rajah of Ramnad person to enable him to return to his Country will engage his Gratitude and be productive of suitable good Effects.

With respect to what the Captain of the Hoy has represented to the General concerning the Condition of the Bullocks sent on that Vessel to the Army he is not prepared for the Committee to give any Answer to the Accounts that may happen and shipping Bullocks and it is reasonable to suppose that as long Passage may render them for a time if not altogether unfit for Service and the President must observe that he received the most solemn assurances that the report of Captain Pearce is entirely without foundation and that the Bullocks sent on the Hoy were in proper condition when received by the Buyer, the orders on this subject were express and positive and the General might have been assured that when we informed them on hearing 1150 Bullocks ready to send as soon as Conveyance were made we depended of their being in good order and fit for Service.

The Committee in considering that part of the General's Letter of the 31st May wherein he recommends the appointing Captain Lieutenant Colonel Major to take Rank from the 16th December 1778 superior to the List of the Army and found that if that Rank were given him he would thereby supersede Majors Carey & Kelly who have been made Majors for some time the Committee conclude that the General did not advert to this Circumstance

if

1435 Fort St. George Sunday 10th June 1781.

we

Agreed to defer entering into any Resolution until we receive the Generals further sentiments on the Subject and in the mean time to propose to the Genl that Captain Williams Commissary as Major be dated the day after that of Major Kelly. Agreed to inform the Genl at the same time of our having at the Recommendation of General Goddard granted a Majors Brevet to Captain Donald Mackay conferring on him the same rank in the Malabar Coast and Capt. Kennedy in Guzerat to Capt. Mackay and is also particularly situated with Respect to Major Clephan Baillie and Sir Eyre Coote to consider whether the same Indulgence may not be granted to him. Agreed that Mess. Kelly and De Fries do immediately apply to for Money due to them on the General Order in Captain Woodhams who brought back the Treasure shipped on his account at Calcutta.

Agreed also to enform the General of the Letter we have received from Captain Edmonds advising us that the Bengal Detachment was at Sea the 23d May and of the Pilots Information that they expected the Krishna, that it is therefore probable that the Detachment is by this time at Bengore and that he hopes to be soon favored with his Sentiments as to the Mode he would propose for its joining the Army

Sunday 10th June 1781

At a Select Committee present
The Honble Chas Smith Esqr President
Samuel Johnson
& General Sir Eyre Coote

1436 Fort St George 9th June 1781

Cole and Major General Sir Hector Munro arrived
on service.

Mr Davidson on a deputation to Tanjore
Received the following Letter from Mssrs Davidson
and Sourdan dated 10 May

To the Honble Chas. Smith Esqr
President Governor & Members of the Select Committee
Fort St George

Honble Sirs & Sirs,

From Mssrs Davidson and Sourdan given an Account of their Transactions at Tanjore and Surrounding the Country of Batticaloa

We have been honored with your Letter of 28th Ulto. We have often endeavored to transmit to You a Recital of our Proceedings but the Communications have been so much impeded that our attempts have failed We therefore by the Rajahs Coss'd Write to You on the 28th setting forth that without the removal of Batticaloa no Resources can be expected from this Country every day confirms us in that Opinion and that a change cannot be attended with advantage to the Public in consequence of the President's desire to send from Tuticorin Paddy for the Relief of Madura We wrote to Him Sir to exert every endeavor in his Power and dismiss Colonel Braithwaite & recommend to Capt. Lidington such Measures as might lead toward that Service if Hyder's Resources thus Country, from this and the Southern Districts may expect some relief. Hyder has Reinforced and sent part of his heavy Guns into the Interior Country Should he with not remain on this side, as it is supposed by the middle of June, but in that case We thought he with leave a Body of Troops to collect the Revenues

1437 Copy St. George 10th May 1781

Revenues if he should leave a part, & may be assured that the Polygars of this Country will have Reason to complain against the Company for it & damage Us not entirely to defeat at least to oblige the Mysore Party to return from the Carnatic Country but to encourage them to stay. Your Honour knows them all the Plunder of the Country which must become a Prize & perhaps bring over the Southern Polygars. The Nawaub Bazalet is preparing to go to that Country, his Contribution if effected will tend to the Settlement of the Southern Country. From every Information we have been able to obtain it appears, to be that there are no effectual means to accommodate with the Polygars provided your Honour be aware to become the umpires between the Nabob and them. We therefore think it incumbent on us to represent this to You.

We are Dear Respected Sir
Your most Obt. Humble Servants
Alexr. Davidson
Thomas Sandilands

Signed

St. Georges
10 May 1781.

1438 Fort St. George 10th June 1781

The Committee observe with concern from the foregoing Letter that there is little probability of obtaining any effectual Assistance from Tanjore at present. The Rajahs conduct sufficiently convinces the necessity of proceeding in the most decisive measures to oblige him to yield that Assistance which he ought immediately to have afforded the Company at this Crisis and the Disappointment of Bussahna may be the first step towards it, but as the Rajah is known to be obstinately attached to him it would be imprudent to remove him by force while they do remain in the Neighbourhood of Tanjore. It is therefore resolved to embarrass both the Rajah for the present and endeavour by gentle means to bring him to a sense of his Duty. The Committee at their Meeting the 16th shall judge it proper to recall Mr Davidson and leave Mr Sheldon at Tanjore to conclude whatever business they might have begun to negociate with the Rajah, but as it appears by their Letter that there is very little hope at present of their effecting the Object of their Mission and as the Honble Court of Directors have been pleased to order a Residency at Tanjore it becomes necessary to retain Mr Davidson there any longer. Resolved therefore that he be recalled, at the same time informing him that he have the same sense of his Diligence and Zeal for the Interest of the Company on this Occasion as they had been attended with the usual success. Two Months have nearly elapsed since Mr Hudson was advised by the Secretary of his being appointed

Manuel Thurston

1439 Fort St. George June 10th 1771

Appointed Resident at Tanjore by the Company and as yet no Answer has been received owing to Interruption in the Communication with Calcutta by Land during the Rains the President agreeable the Committee Read to them part of a private Letter from Mr Stephen Sulivan dated Ten arrived at Bengal on which Lieutenant Wedderburn having appointed private Secretary to the Governor and Judge Advocate General and declared his Determination to remain at Bengal and not proceed to this Coast. Was desired to let him know the Employ of Civil Secretary to the President Mr Sulivan and the Committee Had before given entirely to Mr Benjamin the Secretary on this Establishment the President is therefore of Opinion that some other Person should be appointed to the Residency of Tanjore and the Committee concurring therein he proposes that Mr Hudleston who has Abilities to discharge every Respect well qualified for the Station be appointed Resident at Tanjore, under the Restriction hereafter mentioned that Employ in case Mr Stephen Sulivan should not think proper to accept of it being offered to Mr. Wedderburn is appointed accordingly and the Secretary is directed to acquaint him therewith and to desire he will prepare to embark for Negapatam in order that he may be in readiness to proceed from thence to Tanjore as soon as it can be done with safety. It is also ordered that Mr Hudleston be charged with the Company's Letter to the Rajah which is to be delivered with the

uld

The

1460 Fort St George 5th June 1781

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the usual Ceremonies.

Agreed to refer unto the next Meeting the further Consideration of the Affairs of Tanjore.

The President informs the Committee that he has at different times taken out of his private Cash Sent to Vellore the Sum of nine Thousand (9,000) Pagodas for the charges of that Garrison all of which the Pay Master there has acknowledged to have received — except two hundred (200) Pagodas Taken by the Enemy and the last Thousand Pagodas which were dispatched only a few days ago and cannot as yet be arrived.

The President's Cash paid 9000 Ps for the Garrison of Vellore

Ordered that the above Sum of nine Thousand (9000) Pagodas be paid to the President from the Company's Cash, and that the Superintendant of the Naboobs disbursements do pass his receipt to the Cash for the one half and the Military Pay Master for the other half carrying it on their Accounts to the Debit of the Pay Masters at Vellore.

Order that the above sum be paid

The President informs the Committee that Rear Admiral Sir Edward Hughes Knight of the Bath agreed with several Commanders of Country Vessels at Tellicherry for transporting the Detachment under Command of Major Gowdie to Cuddalore at 10 Pagodas per Man and the Bills have been given for Payment but the low state of the Treasury not admitting of their being discharged the President was prevailed on these Commanders to accept of Bills on the Governor General and Council at Bengal.

The President has agreed with the Commanders of the Vessels transported the Troops from Tellicherry to Cuddalore Bills on Bengal

1641 Fort St. George June 16th 1781

The President reports to the Committee that in March last a Bill of Exchange on the Governor General Hannier for Rupees 1500 was given to Captain Ferrament of the Hydra Brig for carrying Rice to Cuddalore.

1500 Rupees given to Capt.n Ferrament for carrying Rice to Cuddalore

Ordered that the Agent for victualling the Troops do give a Receipt to the Cash for the said Amount and carry it to the Head of 2nd War with Hyder Alley and that the Bengal Presidency be credited for the same.

The Agent to give a receipt for the same —

1442 Fort St George June 1788

11th Received the following Letter

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr
Governor & President & Select Committee
Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs,

In consequence of your direction dated the 23d of April & Duplicate of 12th I had the honr to receive, on or before the first of May to hold myself in readiness to proceed to Vellore, on receipt of your Commands for that Purpose every preparation has been made to move and with my Garrison am waiting with anxious expectation for our marching orders, heavy cond Sick, Baggage &c &c; and was yesterday informed of their wife Darnace at Vellore, however, the communication by land to be cut off and fearing the orders may have fallen into the Enemies hands, I judge it necessary to give you this Information, more especially, as several Boats along the Coast have landed Men for Sowcars within this day or two from Madras and no Duplicate has been received. The Enemy have formed a Chain of Posts inland from Baralapatam as far as Vankatagary the Rajah of which place has sent a few people to join them, I made Salla some compliments, I understand they do not intend to visit the Vellore Country, till the Bengal Detachment

Letter Capt. Edmonds complaining of the Plunder at Vellore — Capt. Bridges arrives with five Companies of Sepoys.

41

1443 Fort St George 2 June 1781

is about crossing the Kistna, could the mean
time be employed in placing Garrisons in the
Forts of Cuddapah & Kamptee with Provisions &c
it would add greatly to the safety of the Coun
and Cattle. They are situated at the two princi
pal Entrances into that Country from the
Southward. The Bengal Rajah also arrived
here some days ago informing he offered to
Garrison these places with his People, if the
Phouzdar would send Provisions, but he
absolutely refused being at any expence in
order to make them send the same, or any pro
visions them with the Provisions, that they
are forwarded with the Detachment about to
proceed with the Command of Pittoor. Shapeerah
will be sent the Phouzdar, such as to allow him
present Conduct, and to comply with what may
judge necessary for the safety of the Prince and Country
Captain Bridges is ordered here from
the banks of the Kistna, with five Companies of
Sepoys.

I have the honor to be, with much
Respect

Angole
1st May 1781.

Honble Sir &c &c
Your most Obedt & Humble Servant
Signed Edwd Gwinnett

Wrote the following Letters

To

Duplicate

Fort St George June 1781

To the Honble Warren Hastings Esqr
Governor General and Council at
Fort William

Honble Sir &c.s

To Bengal advising of the great want of Ballocks in Camp. Gl Pearse detachm sent arrived at Ellore the 22nd May, Boats sent to the Vernl'd are to air and the Troops collected to join Col Pearse to be accompanied with 2/3 Batt: Bullocks every Corps extremely the great distress for Many Provisions

We have the pleasure to inform you that the Squadron arrived at Cuddalore the 25th of last Month where it remained a few days, and the 1st at this Place in order to complete with Water and Provisions when this shall be effected Sr Edward Hughes intends taking a Windward Station off Negapatam with a View to intercept the French Squadron if possible should it appear on the Coast.

Under date the 22nd May we addressed a few Lines to you, inclosing Extracts of a Letter we had just received from Lt Col Wilkinson and promised to send you the first authentic Account We should receive on the subject alluded to, but we have as yet heard no further particulars except from private Letters, which confirm the most material Part of that Intelligence, but which amounts almost to a Proof of our having sustained a considerable Loss in that Corps. Browne's Detachment has not been sent towards Ellore as was at first intended, by a Letter received lately from the Select Committee at Bombay we were informed of their Intention to send a Complete Relief for the Garrison of Tellicherry, which was accordingly conveyed thither by the Squadron, and Major Lorgan's Detachment having embarked, it arrived at Cuddalore

to go

with the Fleet and joined the Army there.

The day before Yesterday We received a Letter from Sir Eyre Coote informing him having marched to Trivitty about 15 Miles from Cuddalore on the 21st and hope that in a few days the Siege of Tiagar will be raised & God was however that good Effect be represented to his diligence for draft and Carriage Bullocks he received to have rendered it impracticable to march the Army there every possible exertion on our part has been made to remove the difficulties. We have attempted to convey Bullocks by Sea, but are discouraged from any further Experiment of the kind hereafter as we can get Vessels provided with better Accommodation for Cattle, One half of them died on board, and the remainder were much distressed by a long Passage. We have represented to Sir Edward Hughes the benefit it would be of to our Affairs to furnish the Army with a number of draft Carriage Bullocks which have been attended with great Difficulty above mentioned and expressed our anxious desire that they might be dispatched on board the Squadron, but he has assured us that it is totally out of his Power to comply with our Request, at the same time informed Sir Eyre Coote advised that we had a number of Bullocks ready which we could escort as far as Carangoley. We repeated this Information in a letter, but as we fear that Circumstances do not permit of his availing himself of this offer of Assistance we shall be

Fort St George June. 1781

We have done all that could depend on us to remove a difficulty which has for several Months obstructed every Military Operation, and which by every argument of necessity be the case whilst the Army keeps its present station, leave us without a Prospect of experiencing any favorable Change, at the same time that it gives at least an evident a great share of confidence to the Enemy. In this situation of affairs it was necessary to be expected that the Bengal Detachment would have been detained in the Expectation of being joined by a Body of Cavalry, as appears highly probable to have been the case from its very slow progress. On receipt of Col. Pearse's Letter informing us that such were the orders he had received from You, we immediately wrote to him desiring he would on all events proceed to Ellore in order to secure the Passage over the Kistna before the Falling of the Rains and seeing of how much consequence it was that our Army should be the most speedily supplied with Bullocks that were to accompany the Detachments from the Northward, We again addressed Col. Pearse injoining him to march on to Ongole and Nellore where a large supplies of Provisions and Bullocks had been collected that on his arrival on the Banks of the Kistna he would be joined by two complete Battalions and might further reinforce his Detachment with five Companies of Sepoys and 150 Europeans from the Garrison of Nellore which we had ordered very

Fort St George 2 June 1783

very respectable for the security of the Stores and Provisions collected there the Communication to the Northward has been entirely cut off for upwards of Six Weeks, but by a single Letter received yesterday by an Hircarra from Cuttack, we can learn simply that the Detachment under Ellore the 22d [illegible] some Months since we informed you of our having written to the Northern Zemindars to raise a Body of Men to join Colonel Pearse in the Circars, but many difficulties occurred in prosecuting their Intention. We foresaw it would be attended with a very heavy Expence without knowing of any adequate Utility, and therefore countermanded the Orders we had before given and in consequence made new Arrangements suited to the then force Colo. Pearse with 2 Battns. Sepoys and Reserve which we doubted with the more real Reserve to him, that all the irregular Troops and Peons whatsoever had left us.

Inclosed we transmit to you Duplicate of our Letter of the 13th May with its enclosures together with a List of Stores and Provisions. From a Report made to us by a Committee of Civil Servants appointed to superintend and control the sale of Grain, we have the most satisfaction to learn, that our present Stock will be more than sufficient with the most regular Economy to last above two Months from that time. We have endeavoured

1418 Fort St. George June. 1761

a prospect before us, we cannot be too earnest
in soliciting every exertion in your power to
avert the dreadful Calamity with which
we are threatened. We entreat of You to be
assured We have not in the least exaggerated
the Picture of our distress, and that unless
our wants are supplied a very considerable
part of the Colony must perish by Famine

In regard to Money we must
observe that we have not received the least Assistance
from any Quarter since our Letter of the 13th May
excepting a small Sum destined for Bombay
which We were under the necessity of detaining
to carry on our difficult Siege daily encreased

The Troops in the Field as well
as this Garrison are two Months in Arrears
every Allowance to the Members of Government
has been stopped for the last ten Months
and the Civil Servants have neither received
Pay nor Allowance of any kind since the
Month of October last. The Bills we have
drawn on You have not been supplied us with
any ready Money, having been rather to pay
for Cargoes of Grain and Freights on Foreigners
sent to Cuddalore for the use of the Army, or
to discharge a part of the Balances due to the
Contractors for the Fortification and Repairs
Military Storekeeper and Agent for the Army
and for which purpose We have likewise at

different

different times a proportioned notes than 1200
Candys of Cotton, as without those advances
they could not possibly have carried on the
Business of their respective employs, a very
heavy debt still remains, and upon the most
moderate calculation will require Pags 500,000
to free us from our Incumbrances including
the Civil and Military Establishments to
the end of this Month. The arrival of the
Bengal Detachment will not only add to our
Distresses by the additional Expenditure of
Provisions, but also in the Article of Money as
we do not find that any Funds have been
provided to answer its Demands. In addition
to what we have already said it may not be
improper to transcribe for your Information
a Paragraph of the last Letter we received
from Sir Eyre Coote in these words "I am most
"heartily concerned for the Difficulties you
"experience in obtaining Money, the more so
"as I see the fatal consequences which must
"ensue should we fail in paying our Troops
"They already begin to murmur, seeing also
"of the last Importance to our Interests in
"India that they should whilst engaged on
"actual Service be kept quiet and faithful
"every means ought rather to be adopted than
"their Discontents should be allowed to rise
"to a height which would endanger the state

1450 Fort St George June 1781

State and we might find it difficult perhaps impossible to keep pace

Thus have we set before You the true State of our Finances, the want of Money in an Exigency like the present, is an Evil which if not corrected in time, aims a deadly Blow at the dearest Interest of the Company. To you we need not expatiate on this subject, nor can we doubt but you will afford the earliest relief to our necessities, without which the Army must be disbanded and our Ruin on this Coast be inevitable.

Agreeable to what wrote the 10th Feb.y We dispatched to Sir Edw.d Hughes for one of his Ships to proceed to Calcutta in order to bring us Money, to which he readily assented and His Majesty's Sloop Nymph now proceeds for that purpose.

It was our Intention to have dispatch'd to you the Lively Brig Capt.n Forrest, but have since, in conjunction with the Opinion of Sir Edward Hughes judged it most expedient to detain her here for some time, as her services may be particularly useful in conveying Intelligence between this Place and Cuddalore and the Fleet in the event of the arrival of the French Fleet on the Coast which may be now shortly expected. Should You however in answer to this Letter

express

1451 Fort St George June 1781

express your Wish to have her dispatch'd to
Calcutta she shall be ordered to proceed accordingly
by

Fort St George
11th June 1781.

Weare
Honble Sir &c &c
Your most Obedient
Humble Servants
Chas Smith &c &c &c

To Sir Edward Hughes Knight of the Bath
Rear Admiral of the Red and Commander
in Chief of His Majestys Ships in
India &c.

We received the day before
yesterday by the Majr Governor a letter from
Lt Genl Sir Eyre Coote informing us that the
present situation of the Enemies Main Army
added to other circumstances makes it a favorable
Juncture for carrying into Execution a design
he has long meditated of attacking Chillumbrum
but desires it may be the Arrival of your Squadron
on the Coast from a Conviction of the essential
advantages he could derive from your Co-operation
and the security it would ensure to the Army
in case of any untoward event happening his
Plan abortive Mean while he is anxious that
no time should be lost, since so favorable an
Opportunity for executing this service may
not return. We are happy therefore to find
that your Intention of proceeding immediately

To Sir Ed. Hughes requesting the assistance of the Squadron in in transporting Bullocks & battering Cannon to Cuddalore.

to

1452 Fort St George June 1781

to proceed to the Southward so perfectly coincides
with his wishes and are persuaded of your
hearty wishes to cooperate with him in any
Plan which can advance the Public Cause We
flatter ourselves among Other Advantage
to be derived from the Squadron that You will be
able if necessary to furnish armed Boats to take
or destroy Those belonging to the Enemy about
Porto Nove and thereby ensure a safe
Landing to the Provisions to be laden on Vessels which
must coast along to the Southward for the
maintenance of the Army, which for want of
Bullocks is unable to carry more Rice than is
sufficient for one days consumption. The scarcity
in carriage Bullocks we are to lament has the
cause of our having remained inactive at
Cuddalore upward of 4 Months. Sir Eyre
Coote in his last Letter has informed us of his
total Inability to leave the sea Coast though
but for a few days and stated his distress for
Bullocks. to be so great that although he was
persuaded the Siege of Tygar would have been
raised could he have remained a short time
at Porto Nove on his late movement to that Place
yet even with so desireable an event for his
Object he found it absolutely necessary to
return to Cuddalore for Provisions. The great
reliance we have on your Zeal for the Public
Service will not suffer us to doubt of your readiness

1453 Fort St George June 1758

Wednesday to do every thing in your Power to remove their grand Obstacle to our Success and their assurance and due Consideration of the Duty we owe our Country to leave no means untried towards the Enemies prompt and total Expulsion of your Squadron in preparing to Land as many draft and Carriage Bullocks as you can conveniently spare on board for the use of the Army and we are quite perswaded you would be pleased to assist us on this occasion by your 4 Pieces of Battering Cannon with their Complement of Ammunition & Gun Carriages

By the last Accounts received from the Southward we understand that the Enemy has entirely evacuated the Tanjore Country. Their there was a prospect of obtaining Supplies of Grain from thence for the support of the Army and their Garrison and recovering Possession of the Company's District of Nagore and Carical for which purpose we have directed our President Mr Pondicherry to proceed to the Southward. We request for him the favor of a Passage on board one of the Ships of your Squadron and that you will be pleased to assist him with your support in re-establishing the Company's Authority in those Settlements as well as in forwarding his endeavors to administer to the Relief of the Colony by sending what ever Supplies of Grain and Provisions it may be possible for him to procure either at our own Settlements or Negapatam

Fort St George June 1791

Negapatam and Tranquebar. We indulge the most sanguine Hopes that your Influence with the Dutch and Danish Governments will greatly contribute to accomplish this very important object

The Governor General and Council having informed us of their Intention to send us a supply of Cash provided We furnish them with a safe conveyance, suggesting at the same time the expediency of making application to you for that purpose. We are to request to know if you can so far favor us as to order one of your Frigates to proceed to Calcutta on this service in which case we beg she may be ordered to touch at our Northern settlements Ganjam Vizagapatam and Masulipatam on her way back in order to bring whatever Treasure can be spared and We shall give directions to our Chief and Council that it be kept in readiness to prevent any unnecessary Detention

As the Company's Ships will shortly proceed to China We think it our Duty to request you will perform us if it be in your Power to afford them any other protection from your Squadron

We have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servants
Chas Smith
Select Committee

Fort St George
June 11th 1791

1455 Fort St George June 12th 1781

At a select Committee Present
The Honble Char Smith Esq President
" Sam[l] Johnson
"
"
" Lt General Sir Eyre Coote
and Major General Sir Hector Munro absent on
service.

Tuesday 12th June 1781

Mr Davidson and Deputation to
Tanjore.

Minutes of last Committee read
and subscribed.

Read the following Letter from
Sir Edward Hughes

Char[s] Smith Esq[r] President & Governor
& Select Committee of
Fort St George.

Sir & Gentlemen

I have received the favor of your
Letter of yesterday and as it is my Intention to
proceed to Sea with his Majesty's Squadron under
my Command to Madras, in order to convoy a
windward Station; whereby I may be enabled to meet
the expected French Fleet on its first appearance on
this Coast and endeavor to defeat their designs, I shall
think it advisable on my way and give Sir Eyre Coote
every Assistance in my Power consistent with the
Chief Object of my present pursuit

The Military Stores intended for
the service of the Army shall be received on board
two of the Ships of the Squadron, and delivered
at Cuddalore with all Dispatch, but to carry Gallows

from Sir Edward Hughes agrees to receive on board the Gallivow Seaman but not the Bullocks. Will Undertake to engage a Passage on board the Burford for Pounds to be moved to Bengal

456 Fort St George June 12th 1781

Builders on board a Man of War, unless their Men and Stores were first taken out, is impossible, nor was such a thing ever heard of.

Mr Hudleston will be accommodated with a Passage to the southward on board His Majesty's Ship Bristol, and I will give him every possible assistance to re-establish your Settlements of Major and Carical consistent with the nature of any present plan of Operations, as well as use my best Influence with the Dutch & Danes in procuring & forwarding such supplies of Grain and other Provisions as can be had for the Relief of this Settlement.

I have in compliance with your request ordered Captain Stevens in His Majesty's Sloop Nymph to proceed immediately to Bengal for the purpose of bringing such supplies of Money as that Presidency may send you, and he has my directions to call at Gangam, Vizagapatam & Manulipatam in his return from Bengal for the same purpose

Under the present situation and the present State of the Squadron I cannot say what Convoy I may be able to afford the Ships bound to China but if a Reinforcement to the Squadron should arrive as I have reason to Expect, I will then give them what Protection may be in my Power

I am with Great Regard

Sir & Gentlemen

Your

1457 Fort St George June 12th 1781

I am most Obedient
Humble Servant
Edwd Hughes.

Sheperd in
Madras Roads 12 June 1781.

Copies of the above Letters
to be sent to Gen.l Cooke

Agreed that Copies of the above Letters be
sent to General Cooke.

1458 Fort St George June 13 1781

13 Received the following Letter.

Chas Smith Esqr President & Governor
and Select Committee of Fort St George

Sir & Gentlemen

I beg You will be pleased
to favor me with a Letter containing a General
Order from You to the Commanders of any of the
outward bound Ships I may meet at Sea or open Bristol
Packets from England and I shall be careful to
should open only of them because the Packets are
secured and sealed up with my Seal I am
Sir & Gentlemen
Your most Obedt
humble Servant
Edd Hughes.

From Sir Edd Hughes requesting an Order if he outward bound Indiamen hopen their Packquet

Madras Roads 13 June 1781.

Wrote the following to Sir Edward Hughes

To Sir Edwd Hughes Knight of the Bath
Rear Admiral of the Blue and Commander
in Chief of His Majesty's Ships in India.

Sir

We are just now favored with your
Letter of this date & have the pleasure to send you a
General order to the Captains of the outward bound
Indiamen conformably to your desire
We have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obed humble Servant
Chas Smith
Select Committee

To Sir Ed. Hughes with an order to the Captains of the outward bound Indiamen.

Fort St George
13 June 1781.

1459 Fort St. George June 1781

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

To Sir Edward Hughes with thanks for his exertion forwarding the Public Service.

We have been favored with your letter of Yesterdays date and return you our thanks for your attention to our Requests and the dispositions you have shewn to forward the Public service under your charge.

Our acknowledgements are particularly due to you for granting Mr Middleton a Passage to Negapatam on the Burford and for your obliging promise to assist us in re-establishing the Company's authority at Negore and Cuddalore in procuring Grain for Fort St George

Since writing the letter which we did ourselves the honor to address to you on the 10th Inst. We find that from the Intervention of the Bengal Dispatch and a variety of other public Business that has occurred it will not be possible to prepare before the time fixed for the departure of the Squadron the several Papers which Mr Middleton is to take with him, We are therefore under the necessity of detaining him for three or four days longer which he will take the Liberty with him to Negapatam where we hope the assistance of your influence with the Dutch Government will enable him to finish the important purposes of re-establishing the Company's Authority in the Southern districts and forwarding supplies of Grain and other Provisions to Fort St George

We

1460 Fort St. George 9 June 1781

We have the Honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedt
Humble Servants
Chas Smith Chairman
Wm Petrie
Wm Medows
Jno Call
Jno Hamilton
Jno Holland
Committee
Wrote the following Letter to Sir Eyre Coote

To Lieut.t Genl Sir Eyre Coote KB
and Commander in Chief of the Forces

Sir

We have received your Letter of the 7.th Inst. with the several Enclosures therein mentioned

We most sincerely do we lament the difficulty you experience from the Inefficiency of the Draft and Carriage Bullocks, of which you have established a very melancholy Proof in the second you gave of the loss of Stores and Provisions, which was occasioned on your late March to Trivedy, such however are the Consequences which must naturally have been expected from remaining for any length of time in the same spot when all the Neighbouring Villages and Country around them, had been so effectually destroyed every day convinces us more & more of the necessity there is of continuing at Cuddalore while there is the least hope of Relief for the Distresses. We indeed must long since have been sensible of the Hazard that we run only to consider the Consequences that have ensued, upon that Evil which you conceived to be avoided by it, will however the Effects that were likely to result from pursuing a different Plan of Operations

Our reference to your Letter

To General Coote respecting the want of Field Officers

Wm Medows to proceed to Vizagapatam to represent the Circumstances & Authority at Fort St George & convey Copies of Letters and Plans thereon

1461 Fort St George June 1781

Letter of the 19th May you will perceive that at the Recommendation of Brigadier Genl Stuart we resolved to send about 1100 European Infantry as part of a reinforcement for Bellore, but on receiving some Intelligence a few days afterwards of several of our Troops on the Malabar Coast & Shadowed with that Corps Detachments would be detained there that we determined not to send the Europeans and submitted it to you whether it would not be more advisable to order all who could be spared from this Garrison to join the Army, and thereby make good the deficiencies occasioned by sickness, We informed you at the same time that we should hasten the Embarkation of the Rest of the Troops as likewise the Stores originally intended to be sent to Bellore, but before the Vessels which had been engaged for those purposes could be got ready, We received your Letter of the 19th May expressing your entire concurrence in the Intention we had previously made you acquainted with & adding considerably to the strength of this Garrison, from whence we conclude that it would be your wish that the whole Detachment originally intended should be sent to Bellore and in that Idea resolved to adopt your Views We mention these Circumstances to shew that the Reasons which weighed in determining Us not to send the Europeans which but for the above Circumstances would have been our ultimate Resolutions correspond entirely with the sentiments now have expressed in the Letter now before

1462 Fort St George June 1784

4

You have expressed in the letter now before us. We shall not fail to send You all the Men who may be discharged from the Hospital and reported fit for Duty agreeable to your Desire.

In your letter of 25 May You represented your being in great want of Field Officers and expressed a hope that We might be able towards that Arrangement. The Orders of the Court of Directors against ordering Field Officers are so extremely positive that they scarcely leave Us any latitude and it would be with the greatest Reluctance were we to deviate from their Command to run on this Head more especially as the deficiency arises from ill Health and not from Vacancies. The Establishment being actually complete but as you give Us to reason to believe that the Enemy has evacuated the Tanjore Country, and Tranquebar Tanjore & Trichinopoly can be in no danger of being attacked for some time, We recommend to your Consideration whether the Field Officers Commanding those Garrisons might not be spared from them, and their services be more usefully employed with the Army.

The letter you have received from the Rajah of Tanjore affords Us satisfactory proofs of his Attachment to the Company which the answer you have returned is well calculated to strengthen and encrease. We have long and invariably entertained the same Opinion with the Rajah as to the Policy of coming to an Accommodation with the Morattoes, and have enforced that Opinion in the strongest Terms to the Supreme Council. We shall be more particular in

on the Affairs of the Tanjore Country in our next Letter
We entertain the most sanguine
Hopes of shortly receiving a confirmation of the Reports
that have reached Us of the defeat of the Enemy at
Combaconum. But as time may be lost in awaiting
ourselves of that Event should it prove true, We have
directed Mr Huddleston our Resident at Nagore to
proceed to Negapatam that he may be in readiness
there to re-establish the Company's Authority at Nagore
and Carical and as soon as it may be practicable to
with Him to order from Tanjore such a force as may
will be sufficient to enable him to effect that purpose
and to maintain themselves at Nagore until the
Redoubts can be repaired or a better Post established. Whether
it be now or when it may be safe to detach Troops
from Tanjore to make a distance at Nagore We leave
entirely to your Judgment Only recommending
the Subject to your Attention as we are in a very press-
-ing Want with the Dutch and should They not
furnish any Supplies of Provisions to be sent to us
from Negapatam, the Port of Nagore will be the only
one to the Southward from whence we can hope to derive
any Relief to the immediate Distress in which the
Colony the Year will in a short time be involved.

Mr Huddleston was to have proceeded on
one of the Ships of the Squadron, but finding it impossible
so soon to prepare the several Papers he is to take with
him, his departure is deferred for a few days when he
will embark on the Cuddalore Sloop

 Down St. George June 1781

your Orders.

The men are taken by Lieutenant Colonel Nixon as related in his Letter of the 24th Who appear to have been very proper and diligent the Assistance he has given the Rajah of Ramnadpuram to enable him to return to his Country will engage his Gratitude and be productive of suitable good Effects.

The enclosed Copy of a Letter from us to Sir Edward Hughes and of his Answer will serve as a reply to the other part of your Letters of the 7th and shew you to what Extent our Requests have been complied with upon desire Sir Edward should be so obliging as to receive Bullocks on board the Squadron for the use of the Army that such only may be sent as shall be first subject to the strictest examination to be sure and fit for Service and add that Captain Brimage of the Ostrich by whom we sent You a small Number some time since had reported to you that they were in so weak a condition when they were first embarked that several died the day after they were put on board.

It was not possible for us to provide against the Accidents which might happen in shipping of Bullocks and it is reasonable to suppose that a long Passage might render them for a time unfit for Service particularly where the Accommodation for them was but indifferent. Yet this we must observe that We have received the most solemn Assurances that the Report of Captain Brimage is entirely without foundation and that the Bullocks were in perfect good Condition when carried to Beach

1465 Fort St. George June. 1781

Company to be sent on Board.

Our Orders on this subject were express and positive, and you may rest assured when we informed you of our having 115 Recruits ready to send as soon as Convenient that we were well satisfied as to their being in good order and fit for Service.

In taking into Consideration that part of your Letter of 31st March wherein you recommend the appointing Captain Clapham a Major by Brevet from 16th Dec. 1778. We referred to the List of the Army and found that of that Rank were given we would thereby supersede Majors Colby & Kelly who have been full Majors for some time, conclude that You did not advert to this Circumstance We shall determine to any Resolution until We receive your further Sentiments on the subject, and in the mean while We would propose that this Commission be dated the day after that of Major Kelly

In consequence of the late Promotion of Officers on the Bengal Establishment, General Goddard has represented to us that several Officers who have hitherto acted under Captain Donald Mackay thereby become above him and has therefore recommended that a Majority Brevet be granted him from the time he was appointed to be Brigade Major in November last, to which We have consented, confining it to the present Service on the Malabar Coast and as Captain Kennedy is senior to Capt. Mackay

and

Fort St. George June 1787

and at the same time is particularly situated with respect to Major Clifton. We wish You to consider whether the same Indulgence may not be granted to him.

Having been under the necessity of making use of the Money consigned to Bombay and landed here from the Portland. We have likewise applied to Messrs. Belling & De Fries for the Money paid to them on your order on Captain Rodham who brought back the Treasure shipped per your Accounts at Calcutta and we beg you to be assured you shall receive from us every Assistance of Money the state of our Finances can possibly admit of.

We have received a letter from Captn Edmonds at Ongole simply informing us that the Bengal Detachment were at Ellore the 22nd May, and the Nabob has since acquainted us that he understands it has crossed the Kistna, if this be true we may rely upon the Detachment to be at Ongole by this time, We therefore hope to be shortly favord with your Sentiments as to the Mode You propose for its forming a Junction with the Army.

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient

Humble Servants

Chas Smith

Select Committee

Fort St George

13 June 1787.

Wrote the following Letter to the Captns of the outward bound Ships.

1467 Fort St George June: 1781

To the Captains of any of the
Honble Compys Outward bound Ships
Captains of Outward bound Ships

Sir,

We are hereby to desire that on
Application from Rear Admiral Sir Edward Hughes
you will permit him to open the Box Packets
committed to your Charge and take out of them any
Letters he may think proper.

We are
Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
Chas Smith
Jabez Hamilton

Fort St George
13th June 1781.

To Captain Thos Bridges
in Camp near Arcot

Sir

Your Letter of the 25th ultimo is this day
To Capt Bridges to
joint himself under the
Orders of Capt Lyon &c
One, We have received and notwithstanding the many letters
upon me[illegible] having addressed to
On the Arrival of the Bengal Detach-
ment at Arcot, We direct you joint Yourself under the
Orders of Captain Arthur Lyon as by his other Letters and the
Troops from the Coast which have been ordered to join Col Pearse

We are
Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
Chas Smith Jabez Hamilton

Fort St George
14th June 1781.

1468 Fort St George June 1781

To Captn Edmonds
Commanding at
Engoe

Sir

The President has laid before the Committee
your letter to him of the 21st May

Capt Edmonds regarding the Armed Boats conduct to be represented to the Board.

We are sorry to learn that the Armed Boats are so backward and Dilatory in collecting the necessary Supplies of Provision for the Bengal Detachment which we shall immediately dispatch under Lieut Huthwaite the Master and cause such Orders to be sent to them on that Subject.

In regard to the Men whom You Appointed borne Hurkish in consequence of our Order, We consent to your paying to such of them as have acquitted themselves to your Satisfaction the Sum you promised them.

We are &c

Your most Obedt Servants
Chas Smith &c Committee

Fort St George
12 June 1781

Received the following Letter

The Honble Chs Smith Esqr
Governor &c

Sir

I last Night was honored with your Letter of the 7th I sent off a Boat with Dispatches for the Select Committee 6 days ago which I hope went safe Coss Pierre was to march from Tottalanka the 7th the

From Patterson concerning the Manager at Mallow

1469 Fort St. George June 15th 1781

Works have been attended for the several
days as the Manager already refuses to give the
least assistance. The parties which I was under the
necessity of sending out for Bullocks & Sheep have been
very successful, but the other Articles wanted I fear, shall
very short, Mr Fleming cannot even get an Account from
the Manager of what little Grain is provided. The Troops
and Stores arrived safe, and none of the Enemy give
us the least disturbance.

I have the Honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Alex.r Anderson.

Nellore 11 June 1781

At a select Committee present
The Honble Edwd Saml Smith Esqr President
& Hugh Johnson
"
Friday 15 June "
"
Lt General Sir Eyre Coote and Major General Stuart
Hector Munro absent on Service
Mr Davidson on a Deputation to Tanjore
Minutes of last Committee Read and Approved
Wrote the following Letters

To Colo. Thomas Deane Pearse
Commanding the Bengal Detachment

Sir

We have had the pleasure to
learn by a letter from Nellore dated 11th Instant

A

Colo Pearse enclosing four
Letters to the Commdrs at Arcot

1470 Fort St. George June 15th 1781

If you have any Intelligence to march from Cuddalore the 5th of this Month from whence we conclude that you will by this time have arrived at Ongole

Having at the same time been represented to us that the Bullocks which had been sent to Nellore for providing draft and Carriage Bullocks as likewise Provisions for the use of your Detachment had been very insufficiently complied with, We lost no time in applying to His Highness the Nabob, for fresh Orders to his Amuldars at Nellore for that purpose, which go by this Conveyance, both which his Servants still continue assiduously in execution his Commands upon which you will have no other Alternative left to avail yourself of your own Authority to collect whatever Articles you may stand in need of, in which case We recommend to you that it be done in a manner the least liable to give cause for Complaint, and desire that Regular Receipts be given for the Provisions Bullocks &c which may be so collected.

The Squadron under Sir Edward Hughes arrived here the 2nd Instant and after completing their Water and Provisions Sailed yesterday to the Southward to take a Windward Station in the Hope of being able to intercept the French Fleet should it appear on the Coast.

Our last Advices from Sir Eyre Coote dated the 7th Instant mention his Return to Cuddalore after an Absence of seven in the

1471 Fort St George June 15th 1781

The Neighbourhood of Friendly
Grove
To
Governor Abercrombie
Humble Servant.
Chas Smith Select Committee

Fort St George
15 June 1781

To Capt.n Patterson
Commanding at Nellore

Sir

The President has laid before the Board a
letter of the 11th Instant informing him of the Marquis
Detachment having been to march from Cuddalore
on the 7th of this Month.

To Capt.n Patterson Nellore

We have represented to His Highness
the Nabob what You say in regard to the Bullocks
and Corrimoys which have been impressed by order
to be laid up for the use of Colonel Pearse's Detachment
and consequence of which His Highness has written
a positive order to His Manager at Nellore, that
You will receive enclosed, but should his command
not be properly attended to, We authorize and
direct You to take such Steps and independantly
of the Amildar as appear to You most proper
and effectual for providing the required Articles
of Provision as well as Draft Bullocks
We recommend to You at the same time the greatest
Caution to avoid all disputes and Litigation with
the Nabob Amildars, and desire that regular Receipts

1472 Fort St George June 15th 1781

be given for all such Articles as you may then find it necessary to provide of your own Authority.

The Boat you mentioned having dispatch'd with Packets for the Presidency is not yet arrived.

We desire you will keep us constantly advised of the Bengal Detachment

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

Chas Smith

Jeremh Lewis

Fort St George
15 June 1781.

Minutes on the Affairs of the Resident at Tanjore

The Committee being met to deliberate further on the Affairs of Tanjore the Company's Letter of the 18th October 1780 by the Lively is again Read.

The Court of Directors have clearly pointed out the Duty of the Resident but the Committee observing to the ill consequences that have arisen from omitting to ascertain the precise Line between the respective Powers of the Civil and Military Servants think it necessary to be more explicit on the subject, as well to prevent those ill consequences, as to secure for the Resident that Weight and Influence without he ought to possess as the Representative of the Company at Tanjore which are indispensably necessary to enable him to fulfil the Intentions of the Directors expressed in the Appointment.

The Committee having the whole subject into their serious Consideration and advertising at the same time to the present State of Affairs and

Fort St. George June 15th 1791.

and the Troubles subsisting on the Tanjore Country come to the following Regulations.

1st That the Resident shall have no authority as to the disposal of the Troops for any Military Operation but that the Military Power and Control remain solely with the Commanding Officer, who agreeably to the Orders of the Company, must confine his Attention to the care of the Garrison and defence of the Province, and will make use of the Troops under his Command for any other purpose

2nd That the Management of the Company's Concerns with the Rajahs and all Matters of Revenue be entrusted to the Resident and that no other Person shall interfere in them directly or indirectly.

3rd That although the Resident is restrained from interfering with respect to the Disposal of the Troops for any Military Operation, he be empowered to make Requisitions to the Commanding Officer for Military Assistance for the purpose of Revenue in consequence of Application to him from the Rajah, or for the purpose of executing any Order they may receive from Government, and that the Commanding Officer do comply with such Requisitions.

4th That all Communications with the Rajah be carried on through the Resident and all Applications made to him in any case where the Rajahs Assistance may be necessary.

5th That if the Rajah should at any time make a Complaint to the Resident against any Military Officer of Oppressions or Irregularities committed in the districts, or on the Fort of Tanjore, the Resident shall transmit the same in writing to the Commanding Officer who under the Officer can be otherwise satis-

accomodated to the entire satisfaction of the Rajah shall occasion a Court of Enquiry to be immediately made on the Officer, the proceedings of which shall be transmitted to us, and if a complaint and if a Complaint be made against any Civil Servant or other Person not a Military Man the Resident shall immediately proceed to investigate the same and report the same to us, with his Opinion thereon.

6th That the Company's Despatches shall be received and dispatched by the Resident or under his Direction.

7th That the same Military Honors shall be paid to the Resident as are usually paid to the Chief Subordinate Settlements.

Agreed that a Copy of the foregoing Resolutions be sent to the commanding Officer at Tanjore and that another Copy be delivered to the Resident

Agreed also that the Extract of the Company's Letter of the 18th October 1788 Received with the said Letter and enclosures "Copy of Paragraphs to be sent to the Rajah of Tanjore" be delivered to the Resident for that purpose and that he be furnish'd with a Copy of the Extract for that purpose and that he be furnish'd with a Copy of the Extract for his own Guidance together with the following Instructions for his Duty in addition to those laid down in the said Extract

That as soon as practicable after his arrival at Tanjore he proceed to investigate the subject of the Rajah's Representation stated by the Company and report his Opinion to the Select Committee with the Proofs and Evidences that may be adduced of the Grievances complained of. That as soon as the situation of Affairs will admit he will enquire into and ascertain the annual Amount of the Districts of

1275 Fort St George June 15th 1781.

9

not delivered back when the Despa
was entered and report that hereafter the Select Committee
shall be wholly strictly adhere to the Company's orders
relative to his Duty and make them the inviolable Rule
of his Conduct so that his Appointment may be the means
of securing the regular discharge of the Rajah's Engage
ments and at the same time strengthen the Attachment to
the Company and his Reliance on their Friendship and
Protection. To accomplish these agreeable ends his
Attention must be particularly directed to the Support
of the Rajahs Dignity and Rights and to the preventing
every Species of Injustice, and more especially such
abuses as those of which the Rajah has complained

Agreeable to the Company's orders
Regulations must hereafter be formed for the Expences of
the Garrison of Tanjore, in the mean while attend
to what they have said on that Subject and allow
any Charge to have Place in the Accounts that he
does not think strictly proper and necessary. Lastly
The President will use his utmost Endeavours by every
Argument that can be drawn from the Rajahs connection
with the Company the Union of their Interests and the
sincere Friendship they have now manifested for him
to prevail on the Rajah to assist the Company in
the present Exigency of their Affairs and if the Rajah
should notwithstanding withhold any Assistance which
it may be in his Power to yield the President is to
not fail to communicate the same to the Committee
with his Opinion as to the measures most advisable
to be pursued.

m

Fort St. George June 15th 1771.

The Resident will be punctual in advising the Committee of every material occurrence and also correspond with Sir Eyre Coote the Commander in Chief and attend to whatever Orders or Advice he may be pleased to send him

A Residency being then Established at Tanjore it is proper and accordingly Resolved that the several Court Servants now employed there Mess.rs Basil Cochrane, Duncan Andrew Baine and Harry Taylor be appointed Assistants under the Resident.

For the Company's Orders relative to Tanjore it is mentioned that the Resident shall be Paymaster of the Troops, but the Committee are of Opinion that the Duties of his Station as Resident alone, if properly executed, will require all his time and attention & it is resolved that Mr. Baine continue in his employ of Accountant keeping with under the Resident and in like Manner that Mess.rs Cochrane and Taylor continue in their respective employs keeping them under the Authority of the Resident

The Committee now proceed to determine on the Resident's Allowances and having considered that he must unavoidably incur considerable Expence and that the Duties of his Station will necessarily prevent attending to any other pursuit and being willing also to make some additional to the Allowances

ordered

477 Fort St George June 15th 1781

Ordered by the Company in View of the Emoluments of the Paymasters Employ it is Resolved that the Resident be allowed Pagodas 50 Month together with the same Establishment of Servants allowed to the Chiefs of Subordinate Settlements

1478 Fort St George June 1781

16th Received the following Letters

To Charles Smith Esqr

Sir

Yesterday I had the pleasure to receive your Letter and one from the Select Committee, and am concerned that you have not heard from me. I wrote the Committee on the 14th April and have received an Answer and again on the 7th & 16 May & 3d June. I also wrote to Sir Eyre Coote on the 20th and 21st April 15 & 24 May 3d June, in which I gave the fullest Account of every material Transaction. We are now marching Towards You, in such Force and so respectable as I hope shall be sufficient for any thing and I hope I shall be effectual every where. I should have been at Nellore, if I had not been ordered to halt at Vizeanagram all this I told You before. I believe this as well as this for we were forced to wait at Ellore for what was not ready and if we had not been able to cross the River, the Blame would have been thrown on me, and yet I should not have deserved it, I told it very lately Mr Daniell went to Masulipatam; I would have broke my heart to have been stopped by the River because I should never have been able to make the World believe I could not have done better, and yet tho Mr Daniells was there things were not ready.

From Coll Pearse written to Nellore an Intimation after he reached Nellore

I esteemed it both my Duty and Interest to be of service, and my Honor is staked, and I will win the Game unless all the Cards are against me

As I do not know my Destination further than Nellore, I hope to have orders at that

1479 Fort St George June 1781.

please what to do, when I get there

I am

Sir

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

T. D. Pearse

Cadr

Just about to march this instant at 12 PM /o P

Camp
10 June 1781.

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr

Governor &c Fort St George

Hond Sir

I rec'd a letter received yesterday from Capt Edmonds repre-
senting the difficulties that
are made by the Armenians
in getting Provision

Capt Agnew the Bengal Detachment. They arrived at Elore the 22d
and encamped there waiting a General Court Martial among
them to be tryed upon Captain Sandys for some Misdemeanors
of the inferior People make their delay necessary.

I have several times represented to Your Hon
the reluctance with which the Armenians of these Countries
make such Provisions as I conceive to be necessary
for the approaching Detachment and am sorry to say that
every argument in my Power to use is often urged as the
accompanying Persian Letter is a Copy of. Convinced the
Welfare of this Fort has wrote the Nabob regarding
the conduct of the Armenians of this Place in not providing
the Fort with proper things. I mean Ghee Curry Stuff
&c &c things not to be got but by their consent. I did
myself the honor some time ago to address the Honble
Committee in behalf of such Men as I appointed to
raise Recruits for the Army in consequence of their
orders some of them having fully answered my expectation

1480 Fort St George June 1781

expectation. I would wish for my own sake to give 'em pay according to the Rank promised 'em they are well chosen Men and old Sepoys & I have the pleasure to say have trained nearly 300 Good Men, I have the honor to be with Respect

Honble Sir,
Your most Obd. Humble Servant
Edwd Edmonds.

Cuddalore 28 May 1781

The Committee being desirous to comply with the Governor's direction in sending Bullocks by Sea to Cuddalore the Presidency requested to attend by the Master Attendant for his opinion, in consequence of which he delivers in the following

To the Honble Charles Smith Esqr.
Governor & President &c &c
Honble Sir

From Messrs Farmer Gathorne Rathbone and Pearson to Gov. their Opinion on transporting Bullocks by Sea to Cuddalore

In compliance with your desire, that I should give your Honor my opinion in writing, how far it may be practicable to transport Bullocks by Sea to Cuddalore, with a prospect of landing them fit for the draught or Carriage service of the Army.

We beg leave to represent You, that having considered the several circumstances of the Monsoons being now in its fullest strength and the consequent length of Passage, together with the uncertain hurts and injuries which Cattle sustain on Board a Ship in Beating & tacking in and out and Lying through stuff, with the disadvantage of being indifferently fed and cleaned during a beating Passage We cannot hesitate to give it as our opinion, that tho' it is practicable to send Bullocks by Sea from hence

1481 2 Copies Fort St George June 17th 1781

to Cuddalore, yet we do not think, under the circumstances mentioned, they can be landed there in a good condition fit for draught or carriage service.

We have the honor to be
Honble Sir
Your most Obedient Humble Servts
P Tassell
Alexr Cuthbert
Coll: Roddam
Alexr Jamieson

Fort St George
June 16th 1781.

17th Received the following Letter.

From Mr Turing Commissary of the Naval Stores

To the Honble Charles Smith Esqr.
President Governor & Select Committee
Fort St George

Honble Sir Fleet

Pursuing a Deputicate of my letter of 16th Inst to the President, and Directed on his Highness Nabobs Service, to deliver me the Rice & he only answers me by Gallamonies that he will begin tomorrow and to tomorrow.

I have every reason in the World to judge from their Behaviour, that they don't intend to deliver me any Charge, nor do they seem to wish that any European to know what there is in Store I represented to him repeatedly, that if the Evidence of Measure over a sufficient Quantity of Provision for the Bengal Detachment, there would be nothing but confusion when Corps arrived

Nor would they send for any Bullock or Sheep, at the Capt's Batterion, and myself informed them, that the Bengal army was near.

Some

1102. Fort St George 9th June 1781

Some days ago Capt.n Peterson sent out Four Companys of his Highness Sepoys and brought in a good many Bullocks and Sheep. To the great displeasure of the Nabobs People who are making tremendous Lies & Stories on the occasion. I have agreed to return all the Grain I drove in on their bringing Bullocks in there Room But they seem, tho' willing inclined to do any thing for the good of the Service.

I perceive I shall be greatly distressed for Coolies, and Gunny Bags. Therefore request your Honor kindly please to send five or six Thousand x Gunny Bags for the Carriage Bullocks will be plenty & Straw and Reeds. I am in the utmost difficulty to get Straw for the Cattle about the Fort. I desire attention is paid here to any Orders his Highness may send to his Managers about the Bullock Country

There is large heaps of Paddy, but not above one Gunny day is dear into Rice. I acquainted them. The Consumption would be at least eight or ten Garce of Rice a day when the Army arrived.

His Highness Manager has informed me, that he is only ordered to advance me, at the Rate of Two Thousand Five hundred Pags per Month and the Detachment of the Madras Battalions will be when joined by the Northward Battalion, will be from ten to Twelve Thousand Pagodas Monthly

I am with great Respect
Honble Sir
Your most obedient Humble Serv.
W Fleming

Bellore 11th June 1781

N.B. Your Honor & will please to send one hundred

1403 Fort St George June 1781

Copy Circular Letter to the Governors

To the Honble President
and Select Committee

Gentlemen

I have received your Letters of the
16th 19th 21st 22nd & 24th Inst. The Shipwreck the Troops
Stores &c arrived at Vizagapatam the 26th In the
Evening & notwithstanding every effort in my Power
to procure the necessary number of Bullocks
Cooley's & bring up the Guns and Stores, I could only
send a sufficient number to effect it in 4 Stages at
my repeated Solicitations and even Threats to the Native
Manager have no effect upon him He is generally
in a State of Intoxication with shewing Symptoms
which time any Message from me are delivered
with Insolence & other times he shews no Inclination
to co-operate with me in Procuring
the necessary Supplies for the Troops.

Fortunately the Enemy have
not given us the least Interruption, and the last
Detachment safe here on the 5th at Night. I hope
you to Mr Turing for every Information respecting
the Quantity of Provision & Bullocks procured
for the Bengal Army. I am convinced it will
fall greatly short of your Expectation, but you
may be assured that no exertion in my Power
has been wanting to induce the Peoples to
procure more. By the latest Information I under-
stand that the Force under the Walls on
the 5th Inst. & as I considered that the Troops

From Capt Patterson complaining of Bullocks Manager

providing him with Bullocks and Sheep was a matter of the very utmost consequence to the Service & that Night thought it absolutely necessary to detach Capt.n Mc Ewen with 200 of the Native Sepoys and 400 of the Coogie Rajahs to bring in as many of each as he could find in the adjacent Country & that object Mr Twining to give Receipts for them to the Owners. The Engineer has been constantly employd upon the Works, but as the Powder he has not furnished him with more than 200 Cooties daily, the addition to the strength of the Place is not in any degree Answerable to your Expectations.

I intended herewith to have sent a Return of the Troops in Garrison, but as they are not yet made out, I thought it better to dispatch the Boat without loss of time. The Country is quiet at present <u>except</u> in the small[est] degree by the Enemy. Mr Ferguson Surgeon arrived here the 31.st Inst.

Gentlemen
Your most Obedient &
Most Humble Servant
Alex.r Davidson a.t Hon.ble Co.

Vellore 7 June 1781.

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr
President & Governor & Select Committee
Fort St George

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Agreeable to your order of 22 May I proceed with all Expedition to Vellore, where I arrived the 29.th a few hours afterwards I waited on the Naiks Manager and acquainted him I was come to take charge of the Stores in Garrison on account

Recom.d Mr. W. Twining the Naiks Manager keep 4,000 Pagodas — Commandt returning of Stores &.

1485 Fort St George June 1781

of the Honble Company. When I get the Wheat measured, I will send your Honr an exact account But am sorry to observe that the small Quantity of each Article will not serve Colonel Pearse, Army above ten days. Nor is there above one Thousand Bullocks, and fifteen hundred Sheep, belonging to the Circar. so that I hope your Honor & will please to send such Circar as is able to collect, and to receive the Quantity of Grain, Bullocks, Sheep &c your Honor would wish to have in Store. There is not three days fire wood in Garrison. His Highnesses Manager has told me, Four Shillings Madras Three Swamy Pagodas.

The Fort of Nellore is about two miles round, is in a bad state of Defence, nor will the Nabobs Manager afford the Engineer the number of Coolys required; for the Ditch is in many places not two feet deep and Walls washd away, that a man may walk up with ease.

Enclosed is a return of the Troops and Stores in Garrison.

I am with great Respect
Honble Sir &c
Your most Obedient Servant
Wm Turing

Nellore
6 June 1781.

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr
Governor &c.
Fort

From Co Pallamcottah
return of Garrison &
Nellore.

Enclosed is a Return of the Troops in the Garrison of Nellore under my Command The three Native Letters I have sent Your Honr for the Nabobs Family. The Man that brought

1486 Fort St George June 1781

brought them accts he came from Hay Dos Camp

Sam

Sir

Your most Obedient &

Humble Servant

Alexan[r] Patterson

Nellore

11 June 1781

The Honble Chas Smith Esqr President & Gov[r]

& Select Committee

Honble Sirs

Since my Arrival here the 6[th]

Inst. I have repeatedly done myself the Honor of

addressing You, informing you that I marched

from the Camp on the Banks of the Mutla the 2[nd] Inst.

by order of Captain Lyons with five Companies of

my Battalion, for this place, and that on my arrival

should further find orders for me, to be guided by any

Captain Commd[g] might have received on the

Subject. As I did not find any Orders for me, and

as Captain Edmonde had not any Cattymaram letter

of the 23[d] of April, to hold himself in readiness to remain

to Nellore on receipt of your Commands for that

purpose, & immediately advance off the Coast of

writing You and have done so frequently, but are

apprehensive all my Letters have miscarried and

as Captain Edmonde is my junior Officer I

could not go into the Fort & therefore encamped

near it and have ever since been waiting your

Commands. I have the Honor to be with the justest Respect

Honble Sirs

Your very Obedient Most Obedt Servant

Thos Bridges

From Captn Bridges arrivg near Angole with 3 Comps of Sepoys

Camp near Angole May 30th 1781

P

1487 Fort St George June 1771.

To the Honble Charles Smith Esqr
Governor & President & Select Committee
Fort St. George

Honble Sir & Sirs

Recd from Capt. Lavender, acknowledg-
ing receipt of the Letter of the
21st Inst.

I am favored with your Letter
the 21st and shall with pleasure obey any orders I may
receive from the Board of Marine, also
give Colonel Pearce the earliest Intimation of
every thing of importance that may come to my
knowledge. Mr Ferguson will forward to Madras
immediately. I have the honor to be with respect

Honble Sirs Your
Cuddalore Most Obedt & Most Humble Servant
31st May 1771. Edwd Edmonds.

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr
Governor & President & Select Committee
Honble Sir Fort St George

Recd from Edmd Saunders
Esqr Commander

Herewith I have the honor to send
you a List of Casualties which happened in this Month
in this Garrison, and to acknowledge the receipt
of your orders bore Dated the 21st & 25th of May
I am with much respect
Honble Sir Sirs
Your most Obedt & Most Humble Servant
Edwd Edmonds
Capt. Comdt

Cuddalore
31st May 1771

12 Wrote the following Letter to Bengal.

To the Honble Warren Hastings Esqr
Governor General and Council
Fort William

Fort St. George June 1781

Hon'ble Sirs

Our last Address dated 11 Instt was dispatched to you by His Majesty's Ship Nymph Duplicate of which you will receive herewith.

Enclosed we transmit to You a List of Black Prisoners embarked for Calcutta on board the Ship George Captain Robert Smith many of these Men were sent from the Army with a Request from Lt General Sir Eyre Coote that as an example to others they might be sent to Bengal as Slaves Any opportunity has offered or is likely to offer from hence and as we are desirous of complying with his wishes respecting them, We have judged it most advisable to send them for that purpose to Calcutta more especially as they are a great Burthen to Us in the present Time of Scarcity. The accompanying List particularizes the Crime each person is charged with and recommends the Punishments to be inflicted which is submitted to your Decision

We mentioned in our last Letter The necessity we were under of detaining the Surely Brig Captain Thomas Forrest whose Care and Activity in performing the different Services he has been employ'd on has given us the greatest Satisfaction. We wish therefore to recommend that Gentleman to your Favor and to hope that his appointed Destination was to Calcutta you will be pleased to grant him on the same footing with respect to the Allowances from the time of his Arrival there as is customary to make to the Commanders of Vessels in your Establishment, his present Pay

To Bengal with Lists of Prisoners recommending Captain Forrest of the Surely Brig.

Rot

1439. Fort St George June 1781

Paying only 80 Rupees P Month.

Fort St George
June 16th 1781

We have the Honor to be
Honble Sir &c &c
Your most Obedt & Humble Servants
Chas Smith &c Select Committee

19th Recd the following Letter

The Honble Chas Smith Esq
President & Select Comme
Honble Sirs. Madras

From Bor Pearse advising of the Bengal Detachment having rejoin'd the Army

I have this Moment received the pleasing report of the whole Army's being safe on the South of the Kistna but the Pettiveram not yet when that report came away then expected the River had fallen above a foot & half and was falling so that I trust they will get all over even with Carts Boats which however are ready by this Time.

I am with the greatest
Honble Sirs &c &c
Your most obedt Humble Servant
J D Pearse &c

Masulipatam 2 June 1781

To the Honble Chas Smith Esq
President and Governor &c &c &c

Honble Sir,

From Mr Hornby and Capt Sinclair that the Dutch have sent orders to Negapatam to detain Bengal Ships &c

Yesterday and the day before came Express to the Chief 2 Catamarans from Negapatam The Intelligence I have been able to obtain is, that Positive Orders are Received at Negapatam from Batavia to declare War against Hyder and in Consequence a great Quantity of Stores and Ammunition have been sent from Columbo for that Purpose immediately after the receipt

Fort St. George June 1781.

of these Dispatches the Chief gave an Order for the Gates to be shut, and has been shipping off all the Company's Stores, Matarees and necessary for the Defence of the Garrison of Negapatam. Mr Swaney who left Cuddalore yesterday and arrived at this place this Morning, brings an Account of Coote having marched and taken Possession of Chillumbrum with a great Quantity of Provisions and that he is soon to be joined by 6000 Cottaries. Sir Edward Hughes is still in sight, there having been a strong Southerly Wind for these 3 days past.

Permit me to congratulate you upon the approach of the Bengal Army, which I doubt not will relieve Vellore, & have the Honor to remain

Honble Sir

Your very Obedt & Humble Servant

P Kindersley

Saroor
19 June 1781

To the Honble President and
Select Committee of
Fort St George

Sir & Sirs

By a Letter which I have received from Lt Genl Sir Eyre Coote, he informs me, that it is not improbable the Enemy may come in Force into this part of the Country and desires me to be upon my Guard and prepare to make the best possible defence. You may depend on my paying the strictest attention to his orders and doing every thing in my Power for the preservation and safety of the Fort if attacked. As yet I don't learn that the Enemy are moving towards me. I have wrote to Engr Wilkins to lay a Plan of the State of the Works

From Genl Coote thinks it probable that Pondicherry will be besieged

1491 Fort St George June 1791

Works before You, and as he is on the spot and was employed in the Repairs, and Doubt more to your satisfaction that it is in my Power to Do I Must since Engineer Wilson left this carried on the Parapet on the South face and Layed a Platform for the Guns on the southeast Curtain the Ditch has Little less Water than when he left this in fact it is dry more than 3 parts round and every where Passable.

The collection of Grain has for some time past fallen short. I shall be glad Your order on the Nawaub for Money for the use of the Troops, he has a considerable sum by him but does not chuse to part with and denies having it. Those of the Works which I have repaired has been by the Labour who were left in the Garrison and more than 300 Bombaleys employ'd Seven a every time Expence incurred. I have the honor to be with the Greatest Respect Your most Obed.t and most Humble Ser.t

W.m Anderson Lieut. Com.

Lieut Anderson commanding at Carangoly having represented to the Committee that by advices he has received from the Commanding in Chief, that there is a Probability of the Fort being attacked, and Engineer Wilson & Engineers who lately left that Garrison on Account of the Health being now much recovered, the President proposes that the Chief Engineer be directed to order Engineer Wilson to proceed thither directly with Engineers under his Command, to assist the Lieut in the best state of Defence possible and

Carangoly
16 June 1791

President's Minute & Proposal that Engineer Wilson be sent to Carangoly

1492 Fort St George June 1st 1791

the more speedily to effect this, the President also proposes that a Sirdar & 20 Sepoys with Pioneer Tools be sent with Ensign Walker.

21 21st June 1791

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr
President and Governor &c Select Committee
Fort St George

Gentlemen,

In the Letter which I had the Honor to address you under date the 7th Instant, I informed you of what had Lamentably from neglect had happened in the Tanjore Country, and of the Effects which had been thereby produced. The duplicate and Copy of the two last Letters I have since received from Colonel Braithwaite I herewith enclose. From these You will learn every particular which I am sorry I should write upon with the favorable conjectures I had formed from the Verbal accounts that had been brought me. I am nevertheless white Satisfied as Coll Braithwaite has written to the Different Garrison to assemble in Force, that he will soon be enabled to send us good accounts of the Enemy to the Southward of the Coleroon. I herewith enclose for your Information the Duplicate of a Letter which I have received this day from Colonel Nixon.

On the 19th in the Morning about 8 O'Clock large Bodies of the Enemy's Horse appeared about Pollams. said to be commanded by Meer Saib in his Person Accompanied by Lalle Buxey Hanmay Row they made an Attack on the ground Encampment which they were repulsed. At the same time about 300 Patans chosen Men and Stout Lewde

From Genl Coote with copies of Letters from Col. Braithwaite advising of one of the Out Posts being attacked by the Enemy repulsed with the Loss of twenty Men. — represents the want of money —

1493 2 Fort St George 2 June 1781

well mounted made a very desperate attack upon a Picquet consisting of two companies of Sepoys which were posted on the Northside of the Pomeer which in the course of one night had rose so high as to be almost unpassable, a circumstance which no doubt the Enemy very justly considered as an effectual barrier to their Retreat and to their receiving support from the Main Army, the Sepoys observing the Enemy coming down in a regular Body, One Company took post in a Choultry which the other made good their Retreat to the Banks of the River into which they ordered as fast as they could without giving their Ammunition stood firm and received the Charge of Horse at the point of their Bayonets giving their fire at the same time by which eight or ten Men fell and several Horses amongst whom was a Jemadar of considerable Station who was mortally wounded and died in a few Minutes after he was brought to the South side of the River

The Sepoys of the Choultry also bravely resisted and repulsed the Enemy in every effort the fire which the Sepoys gave at the point of their Bayonets checked the Impetuosity of the Enemy but they continued to press on with a firmness and resolution little to have been expected, until a Gun was brought to bear upon them from the South Bank of the River which obliged them to give up the attack On their Retreat they lost about 20 Men which were left dead upon the spot eight or ten Horses killed or totally disabled and three taken the rest got off wounded all of whom from appearances will after the Enemy had retired for considerable distance

two Men came out from the Main Body asked for Cowle and begged the body of the Jemadar who had been killed the Officer to whom they spoke assured them of Protection and brought them blind folded to Head Quarters by asking them by whose orders they acted in the Attack they had made, they informed by Meer Saib who had upbraided them with Cowardice and that they had undertaken it with a Resolution to conquer or die that they had come to search for the Body of the Jemadar who had been killed. who was a Commander of fifty Horse and one of five Brothers who had accompanied them on the present Service, and was the fourth who had offered I readily acquiesced in their having the Body and took that occasion to contrast with them our Conduct with the cruel treatment which our brave Officers & Men who had been unfortunate as to fall into Hyders hands met with at Seringapatam & Bangalore, that they were in Prison on Irons and not allowed even enough for a bare subsistence. That I was willing to believe that Hyder who was himself a soldier would never give his consent to brave men of their own Profession being treated with so little Humanity, I therefore desired they would make my Compliments to the Meer Saib and request of him to inform Hyder of the Knowledge I had obtained of the treatment our Prisoners met with at the above places, and to beg that if he would not himself supply them with what they stood in need of to permit us to send Money for that purpose

The Men seemed highly grateful for the Indulgence I had granted them and went away much pleased. it will afford me unfeigned satisfaction if by this Incident I shall prove instrumental in

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in alleviating those distresses and cruel hardships which our Country Men suffer in their present Bondage A Letter addressed to the Town Major by Lieut Blace one of the Unhappy Prisoners, informs a compleat list both the Officers and Men in confinement at the different Places. It has been forwarded to Major Sydenham by this Opportunity.

By a letter from Mr Mitchell dated the 27th of last Month, I am informed that the Dutch have sent for the Troops at Jaffanapatam and they were soon to arrive at Negapatam. That there was a Company of Rangers among them of one hundred strong all young Men, and that this Reinforcement was commanded by a Major Esker formerly in the Prussian service. That Hyder continued encroaching in his Demands upon the Dutch and that his Troops were present in preventing all supplies going into Negapatam.

In my last I informed you that I was making every possible preparation to proceed to Cuddalore from all the Provisions and necessary stores have accordingly been loaded on board the Ships but owing to the strength of the Current and the Southerly Winds which have prevailed for three Days, they have not been able to proceed. And of such important consequence are they to the Expedition That I cannot withdraw exposing the Army to much risk or movement until I have certain Intelligence they shall have gained their station with the Provisions I wait with great Impatience for further advices of the Northern Army as well as for the return of the Admiral with the Squadron which I shall accordingly

to

1496 Fort St George June 1781

is by this time sailed

I hope the importance of the
Subject will plead an Apology for my again troubling
you concerning the urgent necessity for getting Money
for the Payment of the Troops. I am fully convinced of
the difficulties which upon experience on that score, but
at so very critical a conjuncture of the Combined affairs
I have not a doubt Gentlemen that all methods however
unfavourable when compared with more prosperous times
will be tried by You in order to raise Money, rather than
feel the evil consequences which are to be
apprehended from the want of the

The Powerful combination by Land now making
head to be fatal to our European members of them
are falling each Day. The Complement of Officers
as well to the European as Sepoy Corps is much wanted
in both by the same cause.

You will observe by the Postscript
to Colonel Braithwaite's Letter that Lieut Brown who
raised and Commanded a new Corps of Pike Gunners
has been unfortunately killed in taking a Battery
Fort near Madura. He was an active spirited and
most promising young Officer, and possessed those
Abilities which make one to deem their Death as a
Loss to the Service, the Command of that new Corps
devolving thereby upon me, and I beg leave to recommend
Lieut Chester to succeed, whose General Character as an
Officer best speaks him as deserving of such a Trust

I have the honour to be
Gentlemen
Your most Obd Humble Servant
Eyre Coote

Camp near Town
June 1781.

1197 Fort St George June 1781

P.S. since writing the above letter has arrived from Coll. Braithwaite dated the 7th of June which gives the account that Hyder Ally remains at Arnee that he seems intent upon his Collection and seems determined to make them good, that it is expected he expects large supplies from his own Country by the way of Cudalore and that Bednore and Palacaut had just entered the Southernmost Country westward with about 20,000 Pagodas and is busily employed &c.

Mr Mc Intosh is now just arrived from a Trip he made to the Southward, and informs me that the French residing in Tanjore are greatly confirmed by the Arrival of their Fleet already that large Stocks of both Rice and Paddy is collecting from Carical and laying up at the aforesaid place for the service of their Squadron when it comes upon the Coast.

Repeated Intelligence has this day been brought me from Mears Camp that Sevaji Tales the Commander Coll Baillies Army was killed in the Attack which was made on our Post on the 19th and Shabbers Body has been sent to Arcot. E.E.

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

Haire the Bearer waits with your Letter of the 14th Instant with the Post Receipt of the 22d and a Letter for the Gentleman. Sam

1498 Fort St George 2nd June 1781

am happy to find that the behaviour of the Troops on this
distressed occasion meets with your Approbation. Their behaviour on
those occasions were truly Commendable, and the notice
you are pleased to take of it will doubtless be a Stimulus
to them. On my last meeting with the Enemy your
Information in regard to Hyder's having crossed the
Coleroon (which he did the 20th at Sunrise in the morning)
was true, he has continued to draw his Supplies from
this Country, which he says very convenient for
And in addition to the Force left has sent frequent
Detachments to destroy the Villages about Tanjore only
And one considerable one to cut the East Bank of the Anicut
On the 29th the Coleroon was so high as to render it
fordable and as Tanjore Hyder's People were
possessing a Pagoda in Command and strong situation
the Fort of Chercotah about 3 Miles from it and between
which and Combaconum they were encamped I
determined as soon as the Gates were clear and no
Intelligence could be escaped to form a Detachment under
Captain Burrowes to beat them up, according to
formed in the Fort a detachment of Cavalry Grenadiers
under Lt Cameron two Companies of the 6th Battalion
under Ens Gordon which have not been able to return
to Trichinopoly since they escorted some Ammunition
thither, One company of Topasses under the Aquitant
Mohaud and one of the 9th & 18th Battalions of Dady.
There were joined without by Lieutenant Lamondth
his Irregular Cavalry and some Irregular Horse from the
Polygars which have been some time obeying, and several

Fort St George June 1781

of the Batteries under the same circumstances the Commanders of the Corps to
proceed Major Godfrey 12 three Pds with Grenade Cannoniers
Lascars Head Pioneers to be commanded by Capt Thomas the Corps the next
which commenced the Battle at Night about daylight and finish the
great disadvantage as nearly being necessary one of the Battalion
not to come down they allowed any Soldiers with Provisions after marching any
24 Miles stopping three hours it was not to be expected the Enemy would be
altogether unprepared accordingly they found them at 8 in the morning
hastily assembled without their Camp with 8 or 10 four Pds and Grenadiers
our People were observing with some Coolness a large Body of Horse Regulars
coming before them when the Vanguard began they commenced a Brisk
Fire upon them when the Vanguard began they commenced a Brisk
Fire upon them when the Vanguard began they commenced a Brisk
Fire upon

1500 Fort St George 9 June 1781

Mutiny. The Cavalry & Brinjary Grenadiers & Topasses behaved very well, rest assured that the Troops to the South will not be inactive from your Letter that I should suppose Condemn, from any Place more convenient, I should suppose you mean the several Garrisons to the Southward to be under my Orders but the Officer I apprehend does not consider the former order to relate to any more than what might then have been assembled in the Field. If you think proper to honour me with the command of the Forces now to the Southward of the Coleroon I should hope to settle all the Southern Countries whilst that River is unfordable, but what we shall do for Money I cannot say, Unless it can be raised by reducing with the Southern Polygars.

To Sir Eyre Coote
Commander in Chief
Sir,

I have been honored with your Letter of the 26 Ult. and you may depend upon it neither in my Power shall be wanting to give you good assistance from the Southward. That I have not been able to conform the narrow scale upon which I am obliged to act to I hope appears to You. I had the honor to inform You under Date the 31st Ult. of an Attempt made from hence of which Letter I now enclose a Duplicate. The Attempt brought Hyder himself again on the Coleroon with a large Force and forcing your Detachment to return unexpectedly before Daily the 1st Instant upon which Post where I had stationed the Remainder of the Nabobs Battalion with three Pounder &c

1501 Fort St George June 1771

to cover the arrival of Parties. The Fort was very defenceless but they fired so fast for their Ammunition
at last long I ordered Lt Campion with a small
Party and ammunition to them and sent Capt
Hook with 2 Companies and a Gun to assist
them, or cover their Retreat but the Commandant
the Europe Officer Mr Godfrey being wounded in
Pangore I divided into three Parties and attempt
to push their way into the Fort. Every large Body
of Horse charged in upon the Flanks of the Party
with the Gun under the fire of two heavy Guns
from the Fort which reached them and Boromans
of the Men and carried the Gun off to Hyders Tent
was in Batchmans Garden, and he moved off down
with the whole and encamped the Caveroon the 2d
in the morning at two O Clock. The other parts
of the Battalion I am told took Post and Service
I learned 17 of our Men killed and 92 came in
terribly cut from the Hospital and about 300
are come in endeavd but without Arms or Colly
on the whole there were about 400. The force that
surrounded them was about 4000 Horse 2000 Regulars
Foot and Hyder was a little way behind five
Battalions and some more Horse. 1200 of Hyders
People were buried on Batchmans Garden 30
of his Horses lay dead upon the spot near the Fort
and they say scattered in Tents and Trees for
several Miles on his Ground. Three were taken
and brought into the Fort and I am told he has
lost on any Horse and Men in crossing the
River which was very deep and Rapid and
he was obliged to leave his Baggage Tents &c

1502 Fort St George June 1781

lines of Elephants drawn thro cross the River We have
ordered two 6 Pace Guns and Howe to cover and
Cover Fort and the Detachment we leave in that Country
from Conjeveram to Pondatore 20 Miles further off
and a much better Fort than Chandragherry about
2 Miles from the Coleroon and where Timber and the
means to assemble her Boats. He has ordered
Mahomed Ally Command and with 5 Battalions of
Chillumbrum and with Sam Fd march with the
force he has and with him chiefly Horse Discovery
to Vellondapuram. I shall every soon having dispatch
ed to Colonel Baillie Cuttings Capt Ewing from to
give you good accounts of the Force he leaves here.
The Peshwa Fort and indeed all the Southern country
having ventured to open a Negociation with the
several Polygars under Hyder's Yoke your authority
I have the honor to Remain with
Respect.

Sir

Your most Obed Servant
John Braithwaite

Tanjore
3d June 1781

To Lt Genl Sir Eyre Coote KB &c

Sir.

I had the honor & pleasure to receive
your Excellency's two letters of the 23 and 26 ult
and am extremely happy on two accounts the
arrival of the Admiral and your Approval of my
poor endeavors. The Polleys to the Westward are
backward and awed into silence by Hyder
Now who is near them with a very large Force

Come

Fort St. George June 1781.

some of them have suffered by their Depredations which I hope will serve to irritate the whole to declare freely and join us with their united force I took the liberty to forward your Letter to me to Cuddalore Eddingtown and left it to them to judge from circumstances whether it was proper without delay to send on here the forces formerly ordered from that Country which together with what I can collect and what Tanjore be able to clear that Country of the Enemy. Hyder found means to pass the Coleroon and made a successful attempt on a Fort near Tanjore defended by a Battalion of Nairs Sepoys and a Three Gun under the command of Nagul Naick whose whole Battalion was demolished and himself carried Prisoner to Hyders Camp from whence I heard first of the accident it was fortunate that Bussawey Detachment of 1,500 Men returned so opportunely from Combaconum where he made an attack on a Pagoda that did not succeed by reason of the bad behaviour of the black Artillery. There he killed 200 of the Enemy with the loss of 100 nearly on one side From Tripatore I have this day received the most favorable accounts of the Marawa country of the Raja has arrived there safe and was joined by a large body of the Poonah People and expected the general of more. We now have full hopes of a favorable reception and our prospects become much better in that Country not only from that Confederacy but with the Colleroy at Pondicherry which I am sure has taken place many Troops in that Country will therefore be unnecessary

I have heard this day that

1504 Fort St George June 1781

That Wyder marched towards Intatore and may probably
at Tegagar to morrow the end the Anaicutta Bank
several days ago which turns as the water of the River
into the Colleroon, which nevertheless is considerable
fallen, and now passable at most places.

I have the Honor to remain
Sir
Your most faithfull Hble Servant
E. Nixon.

Trichinopoly
6th June 1781

Return of the Troops for Duty — Topas Gunners total 91,
Troops 306 — 6th Batt. 656 — 16th Batt. and additionals 1290.
— Nabobs artillery 183 — 2464 — Horses 53.

20 Copy the following Letter to Mr Kinchant

To Mr Kinchant
Resident at
Tanjore

Sir

To Mr Kinchant &c

remain at Cudaar
unless he shall perceive
circumstances
will admit.

The President has laid before us
your letter to him of the 4th Inst. mentioning that the
Governor & General at Batavia had sent orders to the Govern
Coromandel & Pegu at Ceylon to declare War against Hyder
and the steps that had been taken in consequence thereof
we desire you will communicate to Sir Eyre Coote
Should this Information prove true We
conceive it may dispose the Dutch to a more open and
amicable Conduct towards us but if they still refuse
to hoist the Colours of their Flag and will not admit
you into the Fort at the time of Danger from an Invasion
of the Enemy, which we understand is the case, You
have our full Permission to return thither when-
ever you think proper so long however as you may

1505 Fort St George June 1781

judge it safe to remain at Sadras, We desire you will transmit to Us and to Sir Eyre Coote every material Intelligence

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

Chas Smith Select Committee

Fort St George
20 June 1781

Received the following Letters

The Honble Chas Smith Esqr

Honble Sir

Enml Patterson advises of a French Privateer being at Ramnaphatam confirming of the Commodore of Pulicat

The Commodore of Ramnaphatam on the 20th Inst to the Northward of this Place writes that at 4 OClock of the 19th a Ship supposed to be French came in there and Engaged 3 Boats loaded with Provisions for Madras. I have heard nothing further of her but have sent People to the different Ports in this Neighbourhood for Intelligence Capt Lysaght writes me that the Bengal Army is then to be at Angole the 15th or 16th so that I expect them here about the 23d The Manager will neither deliver us the Provisions to Mr Swaine nor even give him an Account of what he has but that there is no reason to fear that the Quantities of every thing (except Bullocks and Sheep which I have secured for the Sale every Shop) He says he has received no Instructions on this Head None of the Enemy near us The Troops that came with Captain Folsom having applied to be continued off Field allowances, as they considered themselves belonging to Col Pearses Army, I thought it proper to direct Mr Swaine to supply the Europeans with Mutton Rice and Dholl, to the pleasure of the Board, should be known. I was the more induced to comply with their Application as the Europeans are greatly

Lithe foot

1506 Fort St George June 1781

distress for the want of Linen Shoes &c. & therefore beg
will be enable them to fit themselves out for the Field
The Officers also plead that they are obliged to retain
their Boats &c the same as if they were in the Field.
send off a Dead the 8th and the Escape Sloop expected from
with dispatches for the Presidency. Have the honor
to be with Respect

Your most Obed Servant
Alex Anderson

Bellore 13th June 1781

P S I request you will forward the accompanying Letters

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr

Dear Sir

I have the pleasure to inform you that
the Bengal Troops are at last on the Southern side
of the Kistna and herewith I enclose you Copy of a Letter
this moment received from Capt Lyne at Condapilly
Every thing coming on very fast and in the course of
two or three Months we may expect a very large supply
from the Deccan or rather Commendars who are most
of them arrived in the Nizam, and upon any Service
in time shall be lost in our Adjustments with them at the
Durbar they appear most anxious to delay it by the Latest moment
Dick Sadlier and Upham have with me three Months
and unless you send a Frigate for them I know not
how they are to proceed to the Presidency. Compleat
Corps with me and proceed to Camp to morrow
but I imagine by no means can be detained
some days till all their Chain of Bullock Carriage &c
is collected on the Southern side and their Payments
finished. During that time I shall move to Gangam & Lack
of Rupees which I shall proceed to Condapilly
Detachment with a Lack more Convenience. The

from Wm Daniel the Bengal Detach.t crossed the Kistna 2 Jan.y of this Year having pass.d with 8 Pieces Cannon his Detachment & Stores & 1 Lack more for the Presidency

1507 Fort St George 2 June 1781.

The York Snow proceeds hence with 400 Bags of Rice & Paddy to Cud we had another Vessel Measurement
is also ordered for the Bendery. Pray send us one
as soon as you can. Although many Hircarrahs from hence
have not been able to reach Madras I have not hereto
them to return thither, and they are daily waiting an
opportunity of getting in. His Majesty indeed & his
some of them have succeeded. They to be recommended
to Little Charles, and with my best Respects to Mrs
Smith have the honor to be very respectfully
Masulipatam
2 June 1781
Dear Sir
Your most obedient Servant
P Daniell
P.S You may send us 3 Lacks for this we have 1200 Candies

Thursday 31st June 1781

At a select Committee present
The Honble Charles Smith Esq President
Samuel Johnson
"
Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote
and Major General Sir Hector Munro attended on
Summons.

Mr Davidson on a deputation to Tanjore
Minutes of last Committee read and approved.

Minute of the President on the subject of the Vencatagherry Rajas.

The President informs the Committee
that he understands the Vencatagherry Raja has
returned to his Polliams with the pretext of going for
Money to be presented to Lally, but secretly with an
Intention of withdrawing himself entirely from
Hyders service with a view of joining to Peace
Detachment. That he intends by assuring him of our
Protection on case he returns to his Allegiance

1508 Fort St George June 21st 1781

To Lieut Thos Deane Pearse
Commanding the Bengal Detachment

Sir.

Allegiance it may Perhaps on our Interests be
therefore Ordered that a Letter be written to them
to that Effect. Agreed that a Letter be written accordingly

Yesterday we had the pleasure to receive
your Letter Dated at Mausulipatam the 4th Inst. advising
that the whole of your Detachment had crossed the
Kistna.

To Lieut Pearse enclosing
Copy of a Letter to the
Vizeiatog Murry Rajah
a return of the Force
under Lallah

Enclosed you will receive Copy of a Letter our
President has wrote to the Vizeiatog Murza Rajah who
we understand has returned to the Pollams with his whole
Force under the pretext of going for Money to prosecute
to Lallah, but sincerely wish an Instance of his withdrawing
himself altogether from Hyder's Cause and returning
to join the Bengal Detachment in this Expectation
therefore the Letter has been written to him, and if
there be any Truth in the foregoing Report, or even
should he be undecided what Part to take, we think the
Encouragement in assuring him of our Protection
in case he returns to his Allegiance may Perhaps
in our Interests. We desire you will cause the enclosed
Letter which also goes enclosed to be delivered to him

You will herewith receive a Mark
List of the Force under Lallah Jemmaul
it has been reported that a large Body of Troops in every
Hour expected to pass Conjeveram in their way to the
Northward: how far this may be depended on, We
know not, but we shall take care to give them the forth
Information we may further receive on the same

In a former Letter we acquainted

1509 Fort St George June 21st 1781

acquainted you of our having greatly reinforced the Garrison of Nellore, and that the same time sent a Train of battering Cannon which it was thought might be absolutely necessary for your future Operations you will be pleased to consider the whole as belonging to your Detachment. The necessary Bullocks &c for the Guns we doubt not are in readiness.

Lt Genl Sir Eyre Coote having some time since intimated to us His intentions of leaving Stores at Nellore, on your Arrival there we wrote a Plan should be formed for your future Movements, to which we desire you will have strict regard until you hear either from us or from the General on the subject.

By the last Letters received from Sir Eyre Coote we think it probable he has marched towards Chillumbrum, and on his return we doubt not but he will furnish you with Orders for proceeding to the Southward

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

Chas Smith Fleet Hammiton

Fort St George
21st June 1781

To Capt. Mackay
Commanding at Chunglepet

Sir

To Captain Mackay 4 and 60 or 80 Men Cavangory

As from advices we have received from Cavangory we think it not impossible but the Enemy may make an attempt upon that Fort and being therefore desirous to strengthen it Garrison as far as can be done conveniently We desire you will avail yourself of the first safe opportunity of sending thither 60 or 80 Men belonging to the Army also were left with

1510 Fort St George June 21st 1781.

sick at Chingleput and have since been discharged from the Hospitale

We are
Sir
Your most Obedient Humble
Chas Smith
Jubd Committee

Fort St George
21st June 1781

To Mr William Luring
Pay Master at Vellore

Sir

I am directed by the Honble President and Select Committee to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 6th and 11th Inst.

To Mr. Willm Luring orders sent to the Amildar of Vellore to advance 4000 Ps

Captain Alexander Patterson having at length acquainted the Committee as the same Points of Accusation against the Amildar of Vellore, regard to his neglect of the orders he had repeatedly received for collecting Provisions for the Bengal Detachment, a letter was in consequence written to his Highness the Nabob who immediately dispatched fresh orders to his Amildar which it is to be hoped will have a proper effect.

As you represent the Scarcity of Gunny Bags for the purpose of containing Rice for the use of the Bengal Detachment Orders have been given for supplying you with the Number specified in your letter together with Twine and Needles.

His Highness the Nabob has sent orders to his Amildars to advance you 1000 Pagodas per Month for the payment of the Troops at Vellore.

I have in further charge from the President Select Committee to inform You they expected You to have advised them of the Return D

151 Fort St. George June 21st 1781.

under Colonel Pearse having crossed the Pennar and they assure you will in future omit no Opportunity that may offer to convey to them all material Intelligence

I am

Sir

Your most Obed. Servant

Tho. Oakes Sec.

To Captain Maxwell Patterson

commanding at Nellore

Sir,

We have received your Letter of the 7th and the President has laid before the open Letter to him of the 13 Instant.

In our last address we informed you of our having represented to His Highness the Nabob the great Delay, and neglect of his Amildar at Nellore in collecting the revenue arrears of Provision wanted for the Bengal Detachment as well as the insufficient manner in which the Engineers had been supplied with Cattle for the purpose of conveying the Train, and we have great hopes that the letter which His Highness wrote to his Amildar in consequence will have the desired effect, but should he not immediately comply with any requisition you may think necessary to make to him, you will then adopt the alternative pointed out to you in our letter of the 15th Instant. Copy of which is herewith transmitted to you.

Enclosed you will receive Copy of a letter our President has written to the Nawab

Fort St George
21st June 1781

To Capt. Patterson enclosing Letter to the Nawab requiring Bullocks for the Bengal Detachment

3

of letter

1512 Fort St George June 21st 1761

Vincat as there Rajah who Wonders and has returned to the Poliams with his whole Force under pretext of going for Money to be presented to Lallah but secretly with an Intention of drawing him away from Hyder Cause, and delivering to you the Bengal Detachment, in that Expectation therefore the Letter has been written to him and of there be any Truth in the foregoing Reports, or even should He be undecided what Part to take, We think the Encouragement in assuring him of our Protection may be returns to his Allegiance may prove him our Interests

You will likewise receive enclosed a Particular Account of the Force under Sadulla Comand in has been reported that a large body of Troops is every hour expected to join Cowjeeram in its way to the Northward. Now for this may be depended more Reason not, before shall take care to give you the first Information We may receive on the Subject.

In regard to the Application made to Us by the Troops lately arrived at Nellore to be allowed full Batta we are to inform You that we cannot consent to it, but in consideration of what you have set forth we are willing Allow them half Batta from which we direct the Pay Master to pay them accordingly. We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

Chas Smith

Fort St George Batta
21st June 1761

Lieut Governor

1513

Fort St. George June 21st 1781

Received the following Letter from Mr Kinchaud

To the Honble Chas Smith Esq President & Governor
&c &c &c.

Honble Sir,

The circumstances arrived from Sir Edward Hughes this Evening and I have no time in forwarding the same. The Fleet is considerably to the Southward and will not probably be in sight of Cuddalore to morrow, We are daily alarmed with news of the Horse, and the Dutch having refused me admittance into the Fort, permit me to request your Compliance with the following proposition. There is an old Fort within 3 or 4 Miles of Madras Commanded by Ensign Lefs with a Garrison of about 70 Sepoys, my residing there can be attended with no bad Consequence with Respect to the Company's Business, and any Person to secure from the Fears of the Horse. I have a particular Aversion to a Town defension, and as the distance here to the Ocean defension, and as the distance it is very short, I shall be ready & will oblige me so far as to comply with my Request. The Dutch I am confident will stand on no Ceremony in giving me up, and as I have no possible means of making my Escape should a body of Horse enter the Fort, of course I must fall a sacrifice to their savage Barbarity. I have the honor to Remain

Honble Sir

Your most Obedient &
Most humble Servant
R Kinchaud

Madras
20th June 1781

1514 Fort St George June 21st. 1781

To the Honble Chas Smith Esqr
President & Governor &c &c &c
Hon'ble Sir,

I have had the Honor of being favored with your Letter of the 17th Inst. I had the Pleasure of Judging you yesterday Morning, the Person having the Letter was sent into my hands by a Person by Name of Barlow wherein he positively affirms, that the Dispatches which Mr Jones received from Negapatam informs him of War being declared between England & Holland & was confirmed him very minutely how he came to the Knowledge of it & which he supposed, that he was very intimate with the Chief Prize Master and that I might depend upon the Truth of it. Sir Edward Hughes being at Anchor off this Place I have thought proper to Communicate the same to Him, Agreeable to my Instructions. A report strongly prevailed yesterday, that a Body of Horse was near this Place, and the Country People flocking in from different Quarters in some measure confirm the Report. I took the Liberty of Applying to the Chief for a Room in the Fort to which he replied, that so far from being able to comply with my request that he was under the Necessity from being so much confined in that Point to secure several Guns out of the Fort which he wished to provide for, but if it was otherwise, he should be obliged to refuse me, as my Personal Security may in some degree Endanger the Fort, An Answer that Discovers such a degree of Meanness and Inhumanity, which none but

From Capt. Kinchant enclosing Paper of Intelligence regarding Admiral Hughes.

1515 Fort St George June 21st 1781

a Dutchman could be Capable of giving
I have the Honor to remain
Honble Sir
Your very Obedient
Humble Servant
P Hinchant.

Madras
20 June 1781.

To Mr Chas Smith.
Sir,

I have the honor to inform You, that the Chief of this Factory received a Letter from the Governor of Negapatam on Sunday last, at half past 6 O'Clock by a Catamaran, with Intelligence that our King of England had declared War against the Dutch: the said Chief Mr Deneys is apprehensive that this Fort will be taken by our Troops from Chungleput. a Jemadar from the Lgnadoon, on which account he has embarked the Cofre or Valuable Effects of the Company on a Vessel; he keeps the Gate of the Fort shut except the Wicket, which has been open for these two days: the Military are stationed and a man is constantly watching from the Flag staff. The Commandant and Writers, who have hitherto lived, are now obliged to sleep in the Fort None of Hyder Alley Cawns Cavalry are at present in the Environs of this Factory: and when they were in the neighbourhood of this Settlement, the Chief did not make so many Preparations to protect himself from them I mention, as he has done within these two days since the receipt of the said Letter. I have the Honor to be with great

1514 Fort St George June 21st 1791.

very profound Respect
Sir
To the Honble Charles Smith Esqr
President & Governor &c &c
Hon'ble Sir

Sam'l Kinniard

Yesterday passed a considerable
Distance from this large and small. They were too far
off to discover the Colours, but from circumstances
I apprehend they are the Fleet from Madras.
I have the honor to remain
Hon'ble Sir
Your most Obedient & Humble Servant
R Kinniard.

Sadras June 17th 1791.

Wrote the following Letter to Mr Kinniard

To Mr Richard Kinniard
President at Sadras.

Sir.

I am directed by the President & Select
Committee to inform you that the President has laid
before them your two letters to him of the 20 Instant
and to express their satisfaction at your attention in
communicating to them and Sir Edward Hughes the
intelligence contained therein and that they desire
you will continue your communications.

In the accompany Letter the Committee
give you leave to return to Madras, should you find
your situation unsafe, but should you think your
Person secure with the Detachment you mention
to be near Sadras, they can have no Objection
to your remaining there

Sam'l Kinniard write have
to come to Madras to day
at Sadras as circumstances
will admit

acco

1517 Fort St George June 21st 1781

Madras 21st June 1781

Sam

Sir

Your obedient Humble Servant

Tho Oakes Jur

President's Minute
Mr Stock Escape offered
for 600 Pags in opinion
not to be accepted

The President informs the Committee that the Stock Escape has been employ'd for some past between the Presidency and Nizinapatam, which is a Port the most contiguous to Pulicat. she has been of the greatest service and avoids as many Expence which has induced the President to enquire of her owner of the purchase of her, and he has offered her 6m Pags on condition that he is allowed Interest thereon from the day she was first employed on public service this Proposal the President thinks as extremely reasonable. and is of opinion it ought to be accepted.

21st June 1781.

Agreed, that the Stock Escape be purchased on Account of the Company.

Wrote the following Letter to Lt Anderson

To Lieut Walter Anderson

Commanding at Carangooly.

Sir

To Lt Anderson to Order Men to be sent from Chittoor to be sent to Carangooly Troops with them to proceed to Carangooly.

We have received your Letter of the 16th Inst. informing us of the Letter you have received from Lt General Sir Eyre Coote, by which it appears not improbable but the Enemy may make an attempt on Carangooly, in consequence of which, we have agreeably to what you recommended in a letter to the President sent orders to Capt Mackay at Chingleput to strengthen your Garrison with

1578 Fort St George June 21st 1780

40 Soldiers belonging to the Army who were left sick there and have since been discharged from the Hospital, and for the further security of Carangoy, We have received back Each Engineers Workers of the Corps of Engineers and to whom you Send 20 Sawers and 20 Pioneer Makers from this Place

We are

Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

Chas Smith Lieut Commdg

To Major Mawbe

Chief Engineer

&c.

Lieutenant Anderson commanding at Carangoly have represented to the Honble President and Select Committee that by advices he has received from the Commander in Chief, there appears a Probability of the Fort being attacked, and Engineers Workers of the Engineer Corps who lately left the Garrison on Account of ill Health being now much Recovered, they direct that you write to him to proceed thither without loss of time and to put the Fort in the best State of defence possible, for which purpose it is resolved to Reinforce him with 1 Tindal 20 Sawers and 20 Pioneer Makers from this Place

Lt Chief Engineer and Engineer Workers to Carangoly

I have the Honor to be

1519 Fort St George June 21st 1781.

Fort St George

er June 1781

Sir

Your Most Obedient Servant

Tho Oakes Jun.