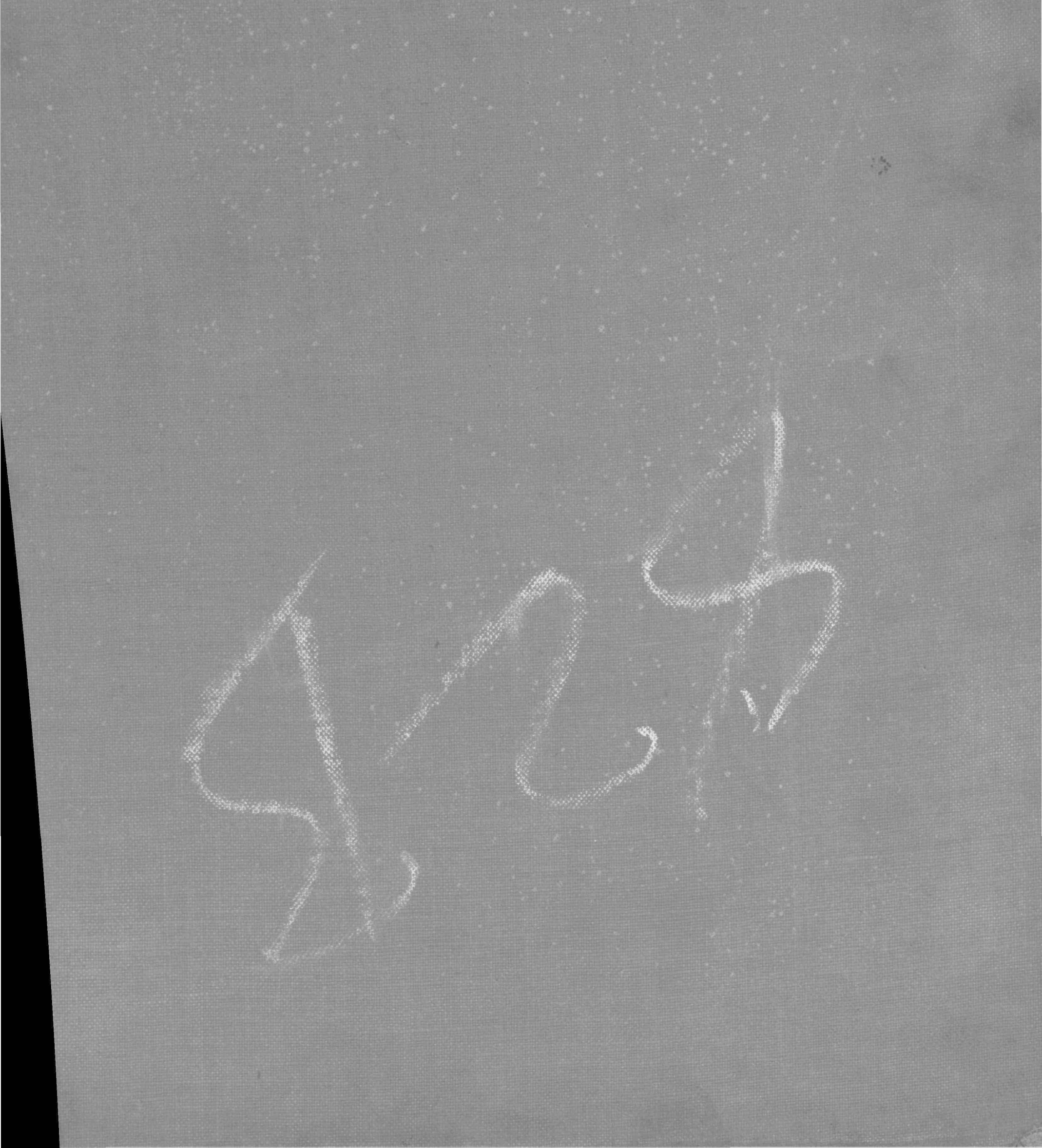


2. Date
3. Initial

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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RJ
8.1.43

1789 Sept 12th

Fort St. George September 1782

Sir

From Mr. O Donnell agrees to freight his Vessels to the Company

I have received your's Letter of Yesterday's Date, & agree to freight my Vessels the Free Trade and Shannon to the Honble the Company at three Arcot Rupees the Bag, under the Stipulations expressed in my Proposals of the 11th Inst.

The former Ship will sail this Night for Masulipatam and I request to be favored with the Right Honble the President and Select Committees Dispatches for the Chief and Council of that Place in Order that they may be forwarded by Captain Richardson.

I have the Honor to be

Sir

John O Donnell

Fort St. George 12th Septr. 1782

Your most Obedt. Servt.

John O Donnell

Minutes of the 11th Inst. Sent to Sir Edwd. Hughes

Sent to Sir Edward Hughes at his Request Extract of the Minutes of the 11th Instant concerning the Fleet and the present Situation of Affairs.

The Coventry Frigate sailed this Day for the Southward with most of the Officers lately returned on the Fleet and 500 Bags of Rice for Negapatam

The Coventry Frigate sails for Negapatam

Dispatched by the Coventry the following Letters with the Enclosures therein mentioned.

Lieut. General Sir Eyre Coote K. B.

Commander in Chief &c.

Sir

To Genl. Sir Eyre Coote with

We have forwarded to you in Duplicate by

2790

Fort St. George September 1782

10

with the Minutes of the 11. Inst. &c. on the Squadrons leaving the Coast — Two Pears sent to Negapatam — 20,000 Pags. sent for the Army —

by Land Copies of the Admirals Letter to us and account to us and account of his Operations, and of our Correspondence with him since his arrival with his Majesty's Squadron on these Coasts We now send you by the Coventry Frigate Duplicates of those Papers and of the Letters to you which accompanied them, together with Extract of our minutes of the 11th Inst. and of our Letter of the same date to the Governor General and Council —

Two Days of the present critical Situation of our affairs being fully stated on that Extract together with every thing which occured to us as useful to suggest to the Governor General and Councils it is not necessary to enlarge upon the Subject here —

Sir Edward Hughes at our Request favored us with his presence at a Committee Yesterday morning, and the great Importance of his staying the Monsoon in this Neighbourhood and the Danger to which Madras and all the rest of the Company's Possessions would be exposed by his going with the Squadron to the other side of the Peninsula were urged to him in the most forcible terms — but he represented his Ships to be so shaken by our Actions that his going to Bombay was absolutely necessary and unavoidable, and as five or six Weeks yet remain before the setting in of the Monsoon We forbore to press the Admiral further on that point for the present but proceeded to solicit the immediate departure of the Ships

2791 Fort St. George September 1782
19. 9

Isis and Coventry to protect your Operations, and earnestly requested that he would allow any of the rest of the Ships that would be got ready to go on the same Service. The Admiral answered that the Sceptre and Isis would be able to sail Saturday morning (the 14th) that the Coventry would sail immediately and that any of the other Ships should follow as fast as they would possibly be got ready, particularly the Magnanime and Monmouth.

The Coventry accordingly now sails for Cuddalore with most of the Officers that embarked before on the fleet for Negapatam, and with whom the Admiral has consented she shall proceed to that place. The rest will embark on the Sceptre and Isis.

Our President has received a letter from Mr. Digby advising that he has intelligence of the Enemy's intending very soon to attack Negapatam. Sir Edward Hughes also thinking it extremely probable we are of opinion, and hope you will concur with us, that it is absolutely necessary that some Europeans should be sent to reinforce that Garrison and we are extremely glad it can be done without diminishing the Number with your Army. Colonel Adams has reported the Men of the 101st Regiment arrived in the Major Indiaman to be in good health, and fit for Service. We have determined therefore with the Admirals concurrence, that they shall embark for

1794

Fort St. George September 1782

Sir

To Negapatam —
Officers Europeans
& Rice sent thither

I am directed by Lord Macartney to advise you that the Country now proceeds to Negapatam with the Officers (almost of them long since Ordered to the Southward) and that in consequence of a Report of the Enemy's intending to attack Negapatam 5 or 6 Boys of Rice are shipped on Teo for your Garrison I have the pleasure to inform you that upwards of 180* Men of the 101st Regiment are to embark on the Ships Sceptre and Isis and are intended to reinforce Your Garrison or if the General should chuse to detain them with the Army he is desired to send you as many of the Company's Troops in their stead — but if the Enemy should not attack Negapatam or be repulsed in an Attack, in that case these Europeans are to be sent to reinforce Col. Nixon, unless you should receive Orders to the contrary from Sir Eyre Coote who will send you Instructions for your conduct

* 8 Sergeants
8 Corporals
2 Drums
176 Rank & File
196
6 Officers &c
200
5 Lieuts.
1 Ensign

His Lordship has a perfect reliance on your Zeal and Activity and will do every thing in his power to enable you to assist them with effect.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
John Hudleston
Secy

Fort St. George
13th Sept. 1782

Dispatched the following Letters
To Mr. William Light
Sen

2795 / 19

Fort St. George September 1788

Lo. Mr. Light on his Money transactions with the Renters of Tennevelly

Mr. Proctor in several of his Letters to us, has mentioned Your Money transactions with the Present Renter Tirumaleppa Moodely, and the pernicious effect which they have had upon the interests of the Company in the Tennevelly Province —

After the Strict and Repeated Orders, that have been issued to prohibit all dealings of this Kind and to prevent any part of the Revenue assigned for the Company's use from being applied to any other purpose whatsoever, We should be concerned to find either that new transactions had taken place with the Renter or that any attempts had been made to recover former balances — We have yet no positive proof that such things have usually happened and shall therefore suspend Our Judgement untill we are better informed, but we think it necessary to apprise You, as we have done every other Servant of the Company, that the smallest interference or connexion with the Renter, contrary to the Orders We have given, will certainly be followed by the severest marks of Our Displeasure —

We are Sorry to observe when any authority is given to the Servants of the Company in the Tennevelly District, that cession is instantly taken from it, to assume a consequence with the Renter, and to interfere improperly in the Affairs of the Country — We are now led to this remark by the following passage in Mr. Proctors Letter to us of the 19th. July after or about the time

2796
12

Fort St. George September 1792.

Time of the Secretary's letter to Mr Light respecting the
Surveying of the Repaires of the Lanka Pol a plan was
Immediately was fitted up, and distinguished by the Name
of Mr Lights Shop or Cutcherry, where Commissaries and
other people assembled for the purpose of doing Country
Business & where Sums of Money have been and are as I
am informed daily received from the Country on his Account
The reason of establishing these Shops is I am informed in
consequence of Mr Lights having procured Bills on
Madras to enable the Renters to pay the whole or part
of 50,000 Pagodas which he had engaged to pay Co.s

This Complaint is of so serious a nature, that
we desire You will immediately transmit Your Reply thereto
and that you will particularly inform us whether any
such plan as Mr Proctor mentions has been settled up
by you for any purpose whatever

We are Sir

Your most Obt Servts
Macartney
Vice Committee

Fort St George
1st September 1792

Mr Proctor

Sir

We have received your Letters of the 20th
June, 8, 19, & 22 July

In our Letter to you of the 9th May and in
those which have been sent to you from the Right Honble
the President the line for your future conduct is drawn
in terms too plain to be mistaken, You were told that

whatever

Fo. Mr Proctor
drawing the line
for his Conduct
Relative to Disputes
with the Renters &c.

5

2797 Fort St. George September 1782.
2
1Bl

whatever interference might have been necessary before
the appointment of Trimolipa Mooly to the Rent of the
Sunnevelly Country, the same interference cannot be
requisite now that he is responsible to the Company
alone for his management, and of much inconvenience
and even loss were likely to accrue from the constant
disputes which had happened between you, and the
Renter, we meant to give Trimolipa the same authority
which is allowed and is nominately to all persons who he
farms from the Company — You seem inclined to
annex to your appointment the same Ideas and instruc-
tions under which it was originally framed, and to
think a considerable degree of consequence is still
necessary to enable you to receive the Rents, but you cannot
surely be at a loss to understand that the nature of your
Appointments becomes entirely changed by the late Orders
You have received, and that you are not to advert to your
Original instructions, but to those Orders alone for the Rule
of your Conduct — You quote a Paragraph of the Instructions
of the 3 March 1781. wherein the Commanding Officer
is enjoined to employ no Troops on the Service of the
Revenue, but upon your Requisition, and you now
Urge the necessity of continuing the same Regulation,
and Complain of Captain Ritcliffe for complying with
Requisitions of this sort from the Renter, who he says it
in Obedience to the Orders We have lately sent to him —
This disposition to construe our meaning by former
Instructions which do not in any Shape apply to the
present

2798
4
19

Fort St. George September 1782

present circumstances and which are superseded and annihilated by our late Resolutions — as the more explaining to us as much time is lost before We can remedy the inconveniencies resulting from it you surely must know that if the Authority for making requisitions for Troops and employing them were in your hands only all the Renters consequence would vanish at once, nor could You possibly exercise such an Authority without interfering in every Department of his concerns — You speak of the great Weight and influence Requisite to enable you to remove the Renter, but our reliance, as You have been Repeatedly told is on the Renters engagements and the power we have to enforce them or to punish him if he wilfully or negligently fails, as to our Responsibility on which you lay so much Stress, We look to you for more but that of giving a faithful Account of the Money you receive you say — "Cannot be presumed that the "Receiver will be less interested than the Commandant "in seeing that the support and Assistance of the Company's "Troops when necessary are duly and effectually afforded the "Renter"? but we must Observe, that the Commandant is to have no Interest or concern in the dealings further than to comply with the Requisition and to give such Orders to the Troops as may best enable them to perform the Service Required — This properly belongs to his duty as Commandant, and if he interferes further he will be answerable to us for his conduct, but we can see no good

can it

Reason

2792 Fort St. George September 1782.
12.

reason for entrusting the Directions of the Troops to you
after placing all the authority for making the future
collection in the hands of the Renter —

We observed several strong complaints in
Your Letters against Mr. Light with many observations
upon the supposed money Transactions between
him and the Renter — and the prejudice which the
interests of the Company have sustained by them — We
wish in a matter of so much consequence that you
had been at the pains of obtaining some kind of proof
either of the existence of any transactions at this time
or of any part of the Revenue being applied to the purpose
of discharging former Engagements to that Gentlemen —
Until we have this proof we cannot justly proceed either
to punishment or censure but the Orders which have been
lately dispatched will ensure that Mr. Light as well
as every other Servant of the Company upon his guard
against all interference or Connection but such as we
expressly authorise, and we shall not fail to make a severe
example of the first person that may offend against those
Orders —

The 50,000 Pagodas engaged to be paid by Ennaliya
Moodely in the first Month after receiving his Cowle were
not to be on account of any advance of Rent, but as he had
promised in his proposals that that sum should be paid
out of the current Revenue within the time specified,
We bound him to it in order that he might be the more
stimulated

2800
15

Fort St. George September 1792

Stimulated in his endeavors to realise the Collections for the Company's Benefit — If you had referred to his Books for the Discharge of the Rent you would have found that one part of his former Rent was to be paid before the 1st December next.

Whatever grain is required as a Stock for the Garrison of Pallamcottah must be under the charge of the Storekeeper as we have already directed — All that you may have over and above that Stock, must be sold by you, or issued for the payment of the Troops as occasion may require

Fort St. George
13th September 1792.

I am

Sir

Your most Obedient

humble Servants

Macartney

J Stratton

To Captain George Campbell &c &c &c Tuticorin

Commanding at Nellore

Sir

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 3d Instant, Regarding the Dispute between Vengama Naig and Jagama Naig and to desire you will inform them that if they have any Complaints to make against each other they must Refer them to the decision of the Select Committee, but if they still persevere in occasioning Disturbance in the Country You have Orders to treat them both

as

To Captain Campbell
relative to the
dispute between
Vengama Naig and
Jagama Naig.

2801 / 1B

Fort St. George September 1782

As Enemies

Sam

Sir

Fort St. George
13. Sept. 1782

Your most Obed.
humble Servt.
John Hodgeston
Sec.

To Daniell Esqr.
Chief &c. Council
of Masulipatam

Gentlemen

To Masulipatam
to load M.r O Donnell's
Ryals with Rice

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to acquaint You that they have been pleased, to accept of an Offer made by Mr. O Donnell of the Ship Free Trade to bring Rice from your Settlement at 3 Arcot Rupees 1 Candy. The Select Committee therefore desire that you will load the said Ryal and dispatch her to the Presidency without a moments Delay

I have the honor to be

Fort St. George
13.th Sept.r 1782

Gentlemen

Your most Obed.t
humble Servant
John Hodgeston
Sec.y

15.th

Issue the following Advertisement as an Encouragement to the Inhabitants of the Jaghire

Advertisement remitting the Revenues of the Jaghire

Public Notice is hereby given that the Right Honble the President and Select Committee, desirous of alleviating as much as possible the distresses occasioned by the depredations of the Enemy in the Company's Jaghire, and in order to Encourage the Inhabitants to return to the Villages and

attend

2807
#
15.

Fort St. George September 1782.

attend to the Cultivation, have Resolved to Limit to the
said Inhabitants the whole of the Government share of the
Crops during the continuance of the present Troubles,
excepting the Farm of Chucacottah which has not been molested
by the Enemy, at the Pennamottah of Egmore also the Duties are
Still to be collected.

By Order of the Right Honble the Board
and Select Committee

John Henderson
Sec.y

Chucaracottah

Fort St. George
15. Sept.r 1782.

15th.

The Medea with the Grain Vessels under her Convoy
arrived from the Southward and the following is received
from Sir Edward Hughes Copy of a Letter to him from Capt.n
Gower Commander of the Medea also the papers mentioned in
the Letter as entered in Miscellany Book

To Sir Edward Hughes K.t &
&c. &c. &c.

Sir

To Sir Edw.d Hughes
from Capt.n Gower
with acc.t of his
proceeding to the
S.d with the Rice
Vessels

The 26th of August I received a letter from Sir
Eyre Coote requesting that I would proceed to the Southward
with the Convoy under my Direction as soon as possible and
that he was hopeful that I should be able to move on
Monday the first at farthest, I made Lord Macartney
acquainted with the Generals wishes, on the morning of
September the 4th — I received a letter from his Lordship
Acquainting me that the Troops &c.a were all on Board the
different Vessels, I instantly made the Signal to weigh, but
the Wind coming in from the Sea prevented it being put in
Execution; on the 5th the Signal was again made for weighing,
which

2803 Fort St. George September 1782
15.

which was obliged by the convoy September the 7th finding the winds and Currents so perverse that we could not get on with the whole convoy - I gave the master of the ..... master of the Intelligence Snow a Signal that always attended their Army / Orders to proceed to the Pendegnone with the utmost expedition and make Sir Eyre Coote acquainted with his Arrival, I likewise sent a Peccavah to Sir Eyre Coote, acquainting him with what I had done, the Day after I had the pleasure of seeing you I dispatched a second Man to the General with an Account of your having had an Action with the French Squadron, and that you were gone with His Majesty's Squadron to Madras Road to refit

That Tirucomallee was in the possession of the Enemy, and the particulars about myself and Convoy, I likewise sent Lieut. Rutherford in One of the Ships boats to Allamparvey, where I was assured that I should always find intelligence from the General. that Officer arrived there the 10th and landed at Peccavah, who made diligent Search by enquiries for some of Sir Eyre Coote's people, but none were to be found that Officer wrote to the General by my desire that if the Army was in distress for Rice, I would be answerable for giving relief by bringing part of it to the Southward in the Morea about 3 O'clock in the Evening of the 10th I received by a Cattamaran four Notes from the General's secretary, of the same Dates, and Language exactly as the enclosed, they were the first and last that I received from the Army, on the Receipt of those I instantly wrote again and dispatched it

instant

that

2804 Fort St. George September 1802

15th

This Evening saying that as the Winds and Currents continued to set obstinately against us that I was determined to take in 2000 Bags of Rice and some of the Battering cannon, if they could be got at, and bring them immediately to Pondicherry, and that he might be assured, let the Winds be ever so perverse, that I should be at the appointed place on Friday, I likewise sent the Account that I had received from the French Deserter, which I did myself the honor of sending you by a Malpeule boat: in my letter I mentioned that I expected to have all the Rice in that I could convey by Light in the Evening and to have set off immediately, but in that I was disappointed, the Winds and Sea Encreasing to that degree, that the Captain of the Hertford Indiaman would not let me say that he could not send any more that Evening with any Safety, early the next morning the Boats were again Employed about the Rice, and Continued so until 10 in the morning, when the Coromby Frigate hove in sight to leeward of us without answering the private Signal, that I was Obliged to desist from taking in Rice and prepare for Action, and got the Medea under way in Order to meet with the two, after having spoke the Coromby, I made sail to the Southward and arrived on Thursday Evening at 7 O'Clock off of Pondicherry I immediately wrote to Sir Eyre Coote acquainting him of my Arrival and that I had 1100 Bags of Rice, 200 Barrels of powder, and 58000 Pagodas on Board; at day light on Friday Morning I sent Lieutenant Rutherford on shore in Boat to wait on Sir Eyre Coote, and to receive his commands about

Landing

Medea

2805 Fort St. George September 1782

15. landing the Provisions &c. he had two Catamarans with him, who were met by some Spys of yours who told them in private that the Army had Marched on Wednesday for Fort St. George, and begged of them to Return instantly with the Officer into the boat, or they would be taken prisoners for there were a party of Hyders and some French in the Town — The Officer saw the French Soldiers Retreat off of Condicherry for seven Hours afterwards, in hopes of receiving some letters from the Army, but none came, I then dispatched one of the Ships boats in Shore, which rowed close to the surf down to Allumparvoy, being there Situated, I thought it best for the Service to return to the Northward, and collect the Convoy, and afterwards to steer for Madras, keeping close along the Coach, and Anchoring in the Night in hopes of meeting People on the Shore who would make the appointed Signal for speaking with me or, meeting with Cattemarans likewise sent a boat the next day to Allumparvoy, but all without Success. I have now only to hope that from the very great exertions the Officers and People have absolutely made, besides being Deprived of the appurtenants that are allowed them to rest in by carrying Rice, that you will be satisfied that every effort in my power has been put in Execution to prevent the failure of the Expedition —

I have the Honor to be —

Sir

Your most Obed.t and very humble Servant

Signed ..... E. Gower

Madras, Road 15. September 1782.

2806

15

Fort St. George September 1782

Dispatched the following Letter to Sir E. Coote

Sir Eyre Coote

Sir

Lt Genl Coote
the Grain Vessels
return from the
S. the Admiral will
detach some Ships
of the line for their
protection enclos
Copies of Intelligence
from the Southward

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to inform You that Captain Gower is returned here with the Grain Vessels under his Convoy having reached Pondicherry the 12th Inst and learnt there that you were marched to the Northward he sailed back to Namparava and not meeting with any of Your Vessels there, many Intelligence of the Army he thought it most advisable to return to Madras. The Grain, Troops Stores and Money all remain on board in readiness to proceed again to the Southward the moment You shall signify Your Wishes for that purpose, and the Sceptre, Isis, and Coventry, are ready to proceed with them Three Ships of the Line are getting ready to follow. The Wind is now fair, The Select Committee beg an Answer to this with all possible expedition.

Every exertion is using to convey Provisions dispatch.

I have the Honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) John Huddleston

Fort St George
15th Sept. 1782.

P.S. The Intelligence is just received that the Bullocks were at [illegible] when the above mentioned writing the above Sir Edward Hughes has attended a meeting of the Select Committee & given it as his opinion that he could detach for the support of the operations of the Army a sufficient number of Ships to protect any detachment that M. Suffren can send to [illegible]

2807 / 15

Fort St. George September 1782

Copies and inclosures of letters & Ltr received from Mr Sullivan and Colonel Nixon.

His Majesty's Ship Cumbustion sailed for Bengal with Foreigners enlisted here for that Establishment and the following Letters with the enclosures therein mentioned.

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

Honble Sir and Sirs

To Bengal, with Returns of Foreigners sent thither.

We have the honor to inclose You a Return of Foreigners enlisted for Your Establishment, and embarked on Board the Combustion Captain Halliday.

We have the honor to be
Honble Sir and Sirs
Your most Obedt
humble Servants
Hugh Munro
J. Commy

Fort St George
15th September 1782.

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

Honble Sir and Sirs

To Bengal, the Medea & Convoy return from the Coast with copy of Capt. Gowin's letter.

The Cumbustion being Ready to sail We have only time to inform you that about an hour since the Medea and Convoy intended to aid Sir Eyre Coote's views upon Cuddalore are returned, they arrived at Pondicherry on the 12th but learned there that the Army was coming back to Madras; we have no letters from Camp of a later date than the 9th Instant, but are informed there are letters

are

we

in

2808
15

Fort St. George September 15th 1782

in Town of the 11th the General was Mean at the Red Hills. Inclosed We send you a Copy of Captain Gower of the Medea's Letter to the Admiral, together with the only Letter which reached him from Sir Eyre Coote's Army on his Passage

We have the Honor to be Honble Sir and Sirs Your most Obedt humble Servts Macartney

Fort St George 15th Septr 1782

Dispatched the following Letter to Captain Edmonds

To Captain Edmonds Commanding at Angole

Sir

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee, to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 8th Instant; concerning Provisions laid up in the Fort of Tinivey Coll Grain by remaining any Longer in Store as unserviceable, it must be given to the Nabob Peo who are discharged or received into the Company's Ser in part payment of their Arrears, due to them by the Nabob, but at all events, no part is to be disposed of till the Renters can replace it

I am Sir Your most Obedt humble Servt

Committee of 15th and 16th Instant (signed) John Huddleston Jun.y

To Captn Edmonds relating to the Grain at Tinivey Collah

Fort St George 15th Septemr 1782.

1809 Fort St. George 15th September 1782,

Sept.r Sunday. — At a Select Committee present

The Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.

President and Governor

Anthony Sadleir Esq.r

Alexander Davidson Esq.r

John Holland Esq.r in Bengal

Minutes of last Committee Read & approved.

The President delivers in the following Minute —

The last letter to the Committee from the Army is that of General Stuart dated Red Hills September 8.th 1782. in which he says, that if the Rice Vessels did not arrive on the tenth, the Army would be under the necessity of returning towards the Presidency — The Convoy arrived at Pondicherry on the 12.th and learned that the Army had marched on the 11.th for Fort St. George, — The Convoy returned to Madras this day, having kept along Shore, and anchored every night in hopes of receiving intelligence, but were disappointed in that Respect — No news from the Army having reached us since, there does not appear to me to be any ground for the Committee to take any decided step farther at this moment with respect to an expedition against Cuddalore — There are 20,000 Bags of Rice & other provisions &c.a on board the Convoy There are not above 14,000 bags of Rice in the Garrison Store

President's Minute relative to the return of the Madras Convoy and the Provision in Store

2810 Fort St. George 15th September 1782

store as few risks as possible should now be run to endanger the Presidency, and particularly so, as the fate of your affairs is so much attend since the Capture of Trincomalee

There are no boats at present to send with the Supplies to Cuddalore if they were to proceed.

The great Object to us now is the safe arrival of Sir Richard Bickerton - Such Ships as it may be prudent to detach from the Squadron, should proceed I think to intercept the Supplies to Cuddalore and look out for Bickertons fleet, and throw such supplies as may be judged fit into Negapatan

15th September 1782.

Mr Sadlier concurs with the President

Macartney

Mr Sadlier concurs in Opinion with the President - Mr Davidson delivers in the following Minute

Minute of Mr Davidson proposes the consulting the Admiral at taking Cuddalore

Mr Davidson is of Opinion that a Requisition should be made to Sir Edward Hughes that the Sceptre, Isis and Coventry, should be immediately directed to proceed to the Blockade of Cuddalore - That the Rice fleet under the Convoy of the Medea should proceed to Sadras to wait the motions of the Army; should the Rice be wanted at Madras the Convoy can be ordered back to the Presidency

From General Stuarts Letter of the 8th and the Return of the Convoy of Provisions undoubtedly by the Army having fallen Back on Carangoly or Chingleput - Soon further

2811 Fort St. George 15 September 1782

of Opinion that till the arrival of Sir Richard Bickerton the Capture of Cuddalore is the only Object on which the Army can be employed. If General Coote succeed in the Siege of that Place - the Communication between Hyder Ally and Admiral Souffrein will be intercepted; we shall acquire a great acquisition of Military Stores particularly Gunpowder and if it be taken the reduction will be effected of the only place in the Enemys possession on this Coast; this measure will redound to the Credit of our Arms and for the present in some measure compensate for the loss of the important Fortress and Harbour of Trincomalee. -

The Army therefore I am clearly of Opinion on its Arrival at Chinglepat should be supplied with Provisions and Cattle to the Reduction of Cuddalore which with the Cooperation of a Division of the Squadron there is little doubt will surrender

Committee adjourned

Agreed to adjourn the Committee until tomorrow morning at 10 Oclock, by which time an answer may be expected to the Letters dispatched to Sir Eyre Coote this afternoon.

Monday the 16 at 11 A.M.

The Committee met by adjournment present as before - Read the following Letters

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B. President and Governor &c. Select Committee of Fort St. George

2812

Fort St. George 16th September 1782.

My Lord and Gentlemen

From Genl Stuart the Army moves from the Red Hills desires Dispatches may be sent to Chingleput

I have the honor of the Commander in Chief's still continuing His illness, I do myself the honor of acquainting you that in consequence of advices Received Yesterday from Lieut. Rotherford of the Attack Frigate, acquainting of the loss of Trincomallee the action of the 3d and the Return of our Squadron to the Presidency and also that the difficulties still continuing to prevent the Rice &c. from reaching the place of Rendezvous at Pondicherry. I thought proper to march the Army from the Red Hills to this place and we shall this day move to Sadras, the next to Pulicat on Communicating with the Commander in Chief during the intervals of Respite from pain his Excellency was clearly of the same Opinion with me that no advice could be wanderes to the state of the Army's remaining any longer on the Red Hills; Considering the intelligence we had received and what we know has also reached the French and Hyder and more particularly viewing the Number of Days Rice (when) at the remaining to carry the Army towards any place where they could have a certainty of Supplies. Before the Army moved from the last ground I took care to forward an Duplicate to Lieut. Rotherford or any Person at or near Alamparva informing them of our movements and desiring the Convoy both for this place of Rendezvous and Trincomallee to return to Madras Roads immediately. I am happy to inform you that the Commander in Chief has had a good night's Rest and

&c

2813 Fort St. George 16th September 1782.

Sir

Mr Rice has just sent to me to represent to your Honor &c.a that Rice should be sent with all diligence from the Mount to Chingleput as it will there be chiefly wanted.

I have the Honor to be

My Lord and Gentlemen

Your most Obed.t and Devoted humble Servant

(Signed) Jam.s Stewart

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B. President & Governor &c.a Select Committee

My Lord & Gentlemen

Fort St. George

From Genl Stuart desiring more Rice may be sent to Chingleput Lord Cornwallis comes over with 7 p. Horse

The Army came to the Ground here this day at noon, & we march tomorrow to Acherawauke; Another Hircarrah has been sent towards Alamparwa to stop the Snow Hastings from proceeding to the Southward, and as Lieut.t Blundell is on Board of two these is scarce a Doubt that even should ours Notes not reach that Vessel he will see that the Army has gained its position on the Red Hills. The General's Flag being removed from that Place where he had last seen it. Accounts have been received of a certain quantity of Rice 1000 Cooley Loads being sent from the Mount to Chingleput. It is the Commander in Chief's wish to send as much more to that Place Chingleput as the time will admit of because if not immediately needed, it must ever there be

her

7

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of use - Acheruwankie, Carangoly, and Chingleput are
now three neat marches, the Roads are good, & there
seems little Chance of interruption from Water - The
Rice however that may have been sent to Carangoly
will be in time wanted there, and it will not now
be used by the Army but in case of Necessity - Some
Horse were seen on our left flank on this days march,
and from the Intelligence it is supposed they make
part of the advance Guard of Hyder, who is now nearly
parallel to us on the Westward, proceeding to the
Southward by the Maylum and Gingee Roads. I had
forgot to mention that on the Evening before our march
from the Red Hills four Men from the Enemy on Horse
back came to the Generals Tent, offering on the part of
their Leader to bring over a certain Number provided
they had protection: The General's Parole was given them
next morning to the Number of 70 or 80, gave themselves
up to Lt. Col. Owen Field Officer of the Day - The Name of
the principal Man is Lolo Carone, they call themselves
Patans and Seem in general to be a better cast of Men &
Horses than have hitherto came over - Colonel
Campbell Seems to think there may be 40 or 50 of their
Horses fit to mount our Troopers, and the People
themselves are not so anxious to come as to dispose
of their Horses and to be sent by Sea to Masulipatam
to return to their Country, and to be out of Hyders power

I have the honor to be
My Lord and Gentlemen Your most Ob. & H
Humble Servt
Signed

Camp near
Sindevanum -
Thursday 12th Sept. 1782

2815 Fort St. George the 16th September 1782.

Letter to Genl Coote to be sent in Duplicate

No answer having as Yet been received to our Letter of Yesterday to Sir Eyre Coote. Agreed that a duplicate of it be immediately dispatched with Copies of the Letters from Colonel Nixon and Mr. Sullivan of the 5th & 12th. Instant

Information to be given to Sir Eyre Coote that the Admiral will detach Ships to protect the Rice Vessels.

The Admiral now giving it as his Opinion in Committee that he can detach for the support of the Operations of the Army a sufficient Number of Ships to protect them against any Detachment that Mr. Souffrein can send to Oppose them; it is Agreed that Sir Eyre Coote be informed of this declaration in a postscript to the Duplicate now Ordered to be sent to him.

Agreeable to the Intimation given to the Committee at the meeting the 20th August

Minute of the President in answer to the Nabob's letter of the 17th August exhibiting many complaints against the president.

The President now delivers in the following Minute on the Nabobs Letter of the 17th of that Month.

The President has the honor to lay before the Committee a Letter which he lately received from his Highness the Nabob

It is meant to convey the severest Censure upon the whole of the President's Conduct in this Government, and he acknowledges it is no pleasing performance of his Duty to communicate, even to the Witness of that Conduct, Charges which derive at least apparently, there Source from a Person of so respectable a Rank as the Nabob

That

It

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It is a Subject of much mortification to the President to be disappointed in the desire he had formed of pleasing and satisfying this Highness, for whom he has the greatest Respect; It is a severe misfortune to him, either to have really had the Weakness of being guilty of those several Charges by a flagrant abuse of the trust Reposed in him, or by a faithfull discharge of it to have created Enemies, to have excited the efforts of the Nabob's Ministers and Dewans to remove him from it, by an accusation on the part of His Highness of heavy Crimes.

He is aware of the unfavourable light in which it will be made upon the Public at a distance by the Weight of such a Name; He has observed on this occasion the successfull Union of European address and oriental falsehood in exciting the passions to a Commiseration of His Highness's Sufferings and in comforting those Sufferings to the President; But his Inclination would lead him to prompt, or his Situation permit, even if the Nabob had enabled or his case required him, to have recourse to such Arts in aid of his Defence. He conceives that it ultimately must Rest upon those plain and important matters of Fact that have happened in his Government and which cannot be altered or suppressed. To the Deliberate and impartial consideration of them he commits his Conduct and himself, perhaps it will be found, that his Task not been easy or his Situation pleasant

The

2817 Fort St. George 16th September 1782

The Letter indeed under the Nabob's Seal does not Deal much in the Proof, or even the assertion of Facts, but in directing the drift of Interrogatories addressed to the President in such a manner, and with such a tendency as, to insinuate, that the answeres to be true, should be given in the affirmative, which affirmative must stamp a Guilt upon the Answerer.

If the truth be really on that side, and the President be guilty of all those Crimes concerning which he is thus questioned, no denial of them will prevent the Indignation so justly on that Case, excited by the display of injuries Committed, and wounds inflicted, by him, and if it should prove otherwise, more of that indignation than the President requires, will recoil upon the Aggressors.

If this attack had been restricted to any particular instances of deviation from the General Line, which has marked the present Administration of the Presidency, or had been founded on a supposition of facts compatible with those which have a known existence, the President might have been justly apprehensive of the Consequences of a change on the part of his highness, or on his Name, and should have to rely only on the Candor of his Employers, in being forgiven for any Error, into which he might inadvertently have fallen. But when in the eagerness of Accusation, and the vehemence, or Blindness of Passion, every appearance of Probebility is overturned, and even the Testimony of Record is rejected in order to heap upon the President the guilt of Tyranny, Usurpation, Injustice and other daring Crimes,

for

2818 Fort St. George 1st September 1782

for which he could have no more an Incentive than an Epis-
tle would be sufficient for him to give a plain
Recital of the Facts, to which the charge alludes; and those
Facts, shall not be assertions loosely advanced to Answer the
present purpose, but founded on authentick and indisputable
Documents.

The Letter assigned to the President
contains a list of Grievances said to be suffered, and of
Questions supposed to be put by his Highness the Nabob
it is not reputed by his Ministers or Advisers that the
former should be acknowledged, or is it required that the latter
should be answered by the President, the real Object of sending
to him such a Letter being the hope of giving weight to those
accusations elsewhere by the boldness of asserting them
upon the Spot.

Thus President Thompson runs no Risk of
giving any Real dissatisfaction by not replying to the Nabob's
Letter, which he shall notice otherwise than by the subse-
quent account of his Transactions with his Highness.

If as is asserted in this Letter the President
had quarrelled with every Gentleman of Distinction
among his own people and the Servants of the Company the
Repeated expression of their Sentiments of his moderation
Integrity and assiduity would come in the President to favor
with all the strength of the acknowledged munificence
He does not indeed keep the Judgment
or even the Testimony of Men by exciting Sentiments in their
Minds of personal Interest gratitude Attachment to Engagements

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with the Economy and Oeconomy in the expenditure of its
Funds having in the present administration superseded
every Consideration of private advantage. ×

× Of all the proceedings of this Government
none have been carried on with more caution with so
much personal delicacy, or with less reprehensible,
and indeed reprehended delay, on account of that delicacy,
as those which respected His Highness the Nabob—

× Whether he has had prudence or Judgment in the conduct of public affairs he has had at least the approbation of them by his successive colleagues in the administration, which was manifested by their concurrence in his or his concurrence in their proposals; no disagreements having happened among them, nor has experience thrown any doubt upon the propriety of Proceedings.

Letter from Govr. Smith to the Nabob 30th Sept. 1.

. . . . . tho' from the first moment of the Invasion of the Carnatic he ceased to pay a single Pagoda into the Company's Treasury towards assisting to Repel that Invasion, as if his own Treasury had at once been annihilated by the Event

Sir Eyre Coote to the Committee 18th April 1781.

. . . . . tho' he made but did not perform even the smallest degree, a solemn promise, on the Representation of the late Government and of Sir Eyre Coote to pay one Lack of Pagodas on or before the first day of February 1781. nor did he pay any part of it afterwards—

Sir Eyre Coote to the Committee 18th April 1781.

. . . . . tho' that General whose testimony His Highness will not at this time controvert, would not allow that His highness's delay proceeded intirely from inability as he thought he could not have exhausted the large Sums he had borrowed from Individuals, and the very considerable Revenue which he not only collected but enacted from the Country, insomuch as to reduce it to a Deplorable State even before the Enemy entered it—

Tho'

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Fort St George 16th September 1782.

Letter from the Nabob to Governor Whitehill, the 25th Octr 1780.

We failing to give Money and having in lieu of it assigned to the Company the Revenues of the Southern Provinces of Loichinopoly and Tinnivelly towards the Support of the War after having stated that the Net Revenue of the former amounted at least to 50,000 Pagodas, besides the Amount of the Assignment to Individuals on that Revenue; and that the net Revenue of Tinnivelly was at least 90000 Pagodas besides the Assignment to Individuals amounting to several Lacks, he soon after the Assignment drew out a Statement of those Provinces by which the Charges of Loichinopoly to be defrayed out of the Revenues and to be retained by his Officers for that purpose, were made to exceed considerably the Revenues of that Province; and the Revenue of Tinnivelly to exceed its Charges by little more than one Lack of Pagodas, and his second Son and Ministers the Annual Amount sent preping Orders to the Phougdars of the Provinces, of the Assignment to the Company to Remit to him Bills of Exchange for that Lack of Pagodas

Letter from Govr Smith to the Nabob 30th April 1781.

Tho it was not avoided from the Engagements into which he entered since the Invasion of his Country but that he was possessed of the means of furnishing Supplies for its Defence and was told that it was a fatal policy to withhold them in the Letter from Govr Smith to the Nabob, 30th April 1781.

Saw that the Company had too much at Stake not to find Resources for carrying on the War.

We

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That the Treasury of Fort St. George was actually exhausted and that of Bengal much drained, and the Civil Servants of the Company deprived even of their Salaries for a long period in Order to apply the Amount towards paying the Troops for the defence of the Carnatick.

That the property of the Company had been sold to raise Funds for the same purpose, and money had been taken upon Company's Bonds, while any could be procured upon them and Bills of Exchange were drawn upon the Court of Directors contrary to the Instructions and Interests of the Company, and the these funds were still so inadequate that the Troops were Still much in Arrear and Ready to Mutiny.

That His Highness was in possession of the Company's Jaghire and received some Revenue from it daily without paying the smallest part of the stipulated Rent;

That when that assignment of Districts only and Finally, was found to be of no avail by the last System of Charges into which His Highness would not consent to any enquiry or alteration, but desired that the Surplus of the Revenue of one Province should be applied towards defraying the Surplus Charges of the other, instancing at the same time such unproductive assignment as a proof of his Regard for the interest of the Company, and when pressed by the late Government to give effectual Aid and warned that unless Resources were

Letter from Fort St. George 30th April 1781.

April 30th 1781.

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were furnished for carrying on the War the most favorable issue of it would be to purchase a peace by ceding a part of the Carnatic to save the remainder. His Highness to avoid immediately importunity upon the Spot sent Agents to the Governor General and Council of Bengal informing them that of several Talooks or Provinces of the Carnatic still seaved from the Enemy some were included in the Rev.s of the Company, some were assigned to his Creditors and of some he had received the Peshcush or Tribute in advance and signifying his consent that whatever should be collected from those Mahals or Districts might be expended for the Company's thinking at the same time that the State of War in which the Company was engaged and the distress in which it was plunged, was an unfavorable occasion for his asserting and obtaining an acknowledgment that he was the Hereditary Prince of the Carnatic and Balaghaut and Peanghaut, and was independent of every one that the political Administration of those Countries should be altogether dependent upon him and that his good Friends the Company should not interpose in it.

Requests of the Nabob to Mr. Hastings communicated to the Presidency of Fort St. George — 22d August 1781.

Request 2d.

Request 6th.

And that a Treaty of Peace should be made by the King of Great Britain with the King of Soame including the Rights of this Government without the Connection of any one, together with a Power in him to appoint a Successor in the Carnatic to be settled in a solid Manner.

Request 9th.

And that his Friends the Company should be just and favorable to him by assisting to conquer and by giving

2823 Fort St. George 16th September 1782.

giving into his Hands after the Defeat of the Enemy the Talooks or Provinces of Cuddapah and Tairghaut and Several Mahals or Districts in Balaghaut belonging to Carnatic Peanghaut.

And that the Talooks or Provinces of Sanjore was his Right that conformably to the Rules or Practice of Indostan, he had taken possession of it with the assistance of his Friends the Representatives of the Company, to whom he had returned his thanks, but that it was afterwards taken from him by force at the Instigation of Self interested People, and his Right given up to a Ryot or Peasant of this, that if his Friends would act Justly and give him back Sanjore great advantages would be derived to the Company's and his Affairs, and the views of the Enemy counteracted, but if otherwise that the Collections of Sanjore ought to be appropriated to the payment of the Carnatic Army, of this, the Nabob's public and private Debts and to the expulsion of the Enemy.

Request 10th.

This the disposition which was manifested to favor those manifold and momentous Requests might be supposed to induce his Highness to be attentive to the Advice he asked and which followed it, and this his Highness's Agents solemnly executed in his Name a Treaty of Assignment so advised of the Revenues of the Carnatic for the Support of the War, with Clauses to render the same really productive, and this when intreated

Message from Nawab to the Governor 6th July 1781.

to

2874

Fort St. George 16th September 1782

to assist in alleviating the distresses of the Presidency were before the arrival of the Treaty he reported that not having fixed the Assistance he should give and that he solemnly ratified it on its arrival and promised to execute whatever depended upon him.

Nabob's letter 29th August 1781.

The Committee of Assigned Revenue was appointed for the more regular and effectual execution of this Treaty which was chiefly composed of Persons agreeable to the Nabob, and presided by Mr Paul Benfield who has been and is now again supposed to be honored with much of his Highness's Confidence.

Consultations of Fort St. George 6th October 1781.

The Powers which that Committee unanimously thought essential to be vested in the Collectors of such Revenues and implied in the Treaty, were absolutely refused to be granted by his Highness, and Mr Benfield was said to have incurred for the time, as the proposer of such Powers, the Highness's severest displeasure, and the Treaty was by such report rendered of as little avail as the former Assignments of the Southern Provinces, which it was to succeed and Remedy, and that there was thus some Ground for the Suspicion of a plan being settled that the Complaints of Engagements broken or defeated were to be gratified by new Engagements doomed to the same fate and that the Commander in Chief of the Forces declared that in case of secret and improper Correspondence carried on

Minutes of the Committee of assigned Revenue 2d October 1781. and their letters to the Select Committee 5th & 15th Novr 1781.

by

Fort St. George 16 September 1782.

Letter from Sir Eyre Coote 19th Sept. 1781

by the Nabob it was better to give up the burdensome task, and spare the British Arms from shame & disgrace and the British Interests from the total Ruin in which they would be involved by the hidden and double Transactions of the Nabobs Government.

Letter from the Governor General & Council of Bengal 26th Aug. 1781

Ord. that the Governor General and Council of Bengal had expressed their sentiments that the present Juncture justified this Presidency in demanding from the Nabob the immediate Suspension of his whole Country in exclusive Assignment for the Expences of the War, and that his Highness's Refusal ought to be construed as it would virtually prove a declared Separation of Interests from those of the Company, and would require the adoption of a new System both for the present Security of the latter and future indemnification for the Expences and Hazards entailed on the Company by their former Connection with the Nabob.

Letter from Sir Eyre Coote 12th March 1781

Ord. that the General of the Forces employed in resisting the Invasion of the Carnatic had early observed that there was some fundamental Error in his Highness's Government of the Country as otherwise the Inhabitants would not so speedily have forsaken his Interests and urged that the Experience of His Highness's total inactivity and neglect of his own affairs and of his having rendered no one aid, and of his continuing inability or disinclination to give the least assistance towards the Recovery of the Country then in the hands of the Enemy

Letter from Sir Eyre Coote 11th Sept 1781

would

Fort St. George 16th September 1682

would justify the Committee to their King & Country
in taking for a time the entire management of the Countries,
and the General afterwards informed the Committee that
it was necessary to encourage the Polygars or principal
Inhabitants, in the hope that they would experience
from the justice and equity of our Government some
Relief from, and a Degree of Security against, a Repetition
of those oppressions which they did not scruple to confess
had a principal Share in alienating their affections from
the Nabob's Government, and the General also reminded
the Committee of his having pointed out to them repeatedly
the necessity of taking a lead in the executive management
of the affairs of the Carnatic until the War should be
brought to a Conclusion, and even warned them in the
most expressive terms of the Ruin which in the mind of
all their Exertions might be brought upon the
National Interests by the Duplicity and iniquity of the
Nabob's Government.

Letter from Genl Coote 4th Nov. 1781

Letter from Genl Coote 8 Nov. 1781.

Letter from the Select Committee 12th Nov. 1781.

And tho' the Committee acknowledged
the necessity of a material Change in the Countries
management of the Affairs of the Country until the War
should be brought to a Conclusion, and gave the General
assurances that they were employed by me thats consonant
to their powers and the Nabob's engagements to effectuate
those salutary and indeed essential purposes.

Yet they observed that the connection of the
Company with his Highness required and their instructions

directed

12. Nov. 1781

2827 Fort St. George 16th September 1782.

directed, that in the Transaction of all Business with him they should proceed with temper and even with Delicacy, that they wished to interpose with effect but without giving Offence, they were indeed determined to give the Nabobs no cause of Offence and to avoid disagreement with him even after the infringement of his own Treaty, they once more consented to take into consideration new proposals for a new Assignment from him.

These proposals were another modification of the former Assignment better calculated in his Opinion, as he said to preserve the Dignity of his station in the Eyes of the People, and on that Account absolutely Refusing as is Related by the Witnesses to the Transactions to communicate to any of the Company's Servants under the Rank of the President any Portion of his Authority and is expressly stipulating that Mr. Benfield, to whom he was not yet reconciled should be removed from every Concern in the Assigned Revenue. He conferred on the Governor on behalf of the Company the Power of Renting and managing in His Highness's Name, the Revenues of the Country which implied a Power of regulating the publick Charges, for a limited time.

Letter from Governor dated 20th March 1781.

Those who know the extreme Reluctance with which his Highness had consented, even to the unavailing Assignment of two of the Southern Provinces upon the irruption of Hyder and who reflected upon his

9

2828 Fort St. George, 16th September 1792

the

his Reason of the Assignment expressly stipulated by Treaty publickly declared that he must have been impelled to the present Assignment which promised favour to be efficient than any of the former either by his knowledge of the sentiments of the Governor General and Council of Bengal, and his apprehensions of decisive instructions from them to this Presidency; as well as by the effect of the strong and Repeated Remonstrances of the Commander in Chief on various Instances of the Highness's Misconduct, or that he had confidence in the present President and found that no Dispassive arguments would Operate on his Integrity, or that his Highness & his Ministers still flattered themselves that they should be able to defeat the present as they had defeated the past Assignments — But the marked Respect of the President towards the Nabob and his Professions to his Highness's favor, would not allow him to see in this Transaction at that time, the effects of any other Causes than those of his Highness's Regard for the Company and the English Nation and his sense of the Necessity of sacrificing every inferior Consideration to the support of the Common Cause.

He was particularly desirous too, that his Highness should experience from this arrangement the Gratification which he had so much at Heart to recommend as the Chief Instrument of it to his second son and Ministers the Amir ul Omrah who bears the

responsible

Fort St. George 16th September 1782.

unfavorable Character the bore in the private Opinions of Men, was frequently recorded in the General Letters of the Presidency to be artful, intriguing and adverse to the Interest of the Company and in the very Government which had favored his Fathers Views upon the Kingdom of Tanjore, his second sons restless Spirit of Ambition was a ground of Apprehension and Representation whom lest he should gain a Dangerous Confidence in the unsuspecting Breast of a Person lately arrived in the Country, a very Respectable Person in high Rank and Trust to whom his Highness the Nabob calls his good Friend thought it necessary to write to the President and this it might be displeasing, to caution him from his Regard for him as well as for the Welfare of his Country against the Intrigues of the Ameer

General Letter from Govr Wynch & Council 4th July 1785.

But whatever may have been the Number or magnitude of his Demerits on former occasions, the Presidt was careful to proclaim his merit in forwarding the present arrangement, which promised to be essentially beneficial –

The Presidents Tongue and Pen which the Nabobs letter supposed were employed in diffusing his own praises on this occasion, were employed on the more necessary Occasion of praising the Ameer. He informed the Select Committee in the handsomest terms of the considerable pains which had been taken

Consultations of Fort St George 4th Decr 1781

by

2830 Fort St. George 16th September 1782

General Letter to the Court of Directors 26th January 1782

by his Excellency in forwarding this important business, and on the President's Assurance of them and Account to that purport was transmitted to the Court of Directors,

The part which the President had borne in this transaction did not require the Assistance of his own Longue or Pen to impress a favorable Sense of it upon the Public, they were sufficiently inclined to give him credit for qualities which they thought must be exerted in Order to derive from the very exigency of public affairs what on no former or similar Exigency had been produced, an arrangement capable of supported and continued of establishing that certainty of Revenues and Security of Defence on the Coast which the Company had found to be precarious, and which objects it had in vain attempted to obtain ever since its Arms had given the Nabobship to his Highness

Minute in Select Committee 4th Dec. 81

The Members of the Committee therefore thought it would be the greatest injustice to themselves as well as to the President to be content with the mere expression of their approbation of such a measure to attain an Object of that magnitude, and which had so much opposition to encounter in the Jealousy and Prejudices of the Nabob, the greatest Ability would alone have been ineffectual without that judicious and temperate line of Conduct which the President

pursued

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preserved throughout the Negotiation, and the most perfect Conviction in the mind of the Nabob of his just and upright Intentions.

Not the Longues and Pens alone of the immediate Witnesses of the Presidents conduct rendered it unnecessary for him to proclaim his own exertions and address but the superintending Council of Bengal, who in investing this Government with every authority and confidence which could aid its Operations declared that they did so from their perfect reliance upon the impartial clear, and discriminating Judgment of the President, who was disencumbered with any Local or party views in the Carnatic, and from his great experience in public Affairs would distinctly and justly decide when the claims of the Subject interfered with those of the Government, and when the Rights of Princes in alliance were involved with both, under all the evils of a general War.

Letter from Supreme Council of Bengal 26th December 1781.

This declaration was accompanied by an express Desire that in a crisis of such actual danger to the existence of the territorial Rights of the Nabob of Arcot, &

Local

partial

Letter from Supreme Council of Bengal 26th Dec. 1781

Raja of Tanjore, no obstructions of their little contests or any unreasonable interposition of their local authority should be permitted to prevent this Government from taking care that the produce of the Country be collected and applied to its immediate defence; and the Governor General and Council on hearing of the voluntary cession of the Revenues of the Carnatic for the support of the War,

express

Fort St. George 16th September 1782.

to express their entire satisfaction and applaud the Ability and Address with which so considerable a point must have been gained from the Nabob.

Whatever were the flattering hopes entertained by the President & confidence placed by him in the Cordiality and Sincerity of His Highness and his Ministers, the Committee had very soon occasion to observe to the Governor General and Council of Bengal that the power lately vested in the President was found liable to be counteracted by Artifice prevailing on the habits of implicit obedience to the intimation of any wishes from the ministers of his Highness, and that though the authority immediately trusted to the Governor was exercised by a Committee of Gentlemen elected for that purpose from their knowledge and their application to public business, there was reason to apprehend that it was the perseverance only of that Committee in its efforts, and the continuance of a decided support from their superintending Board that could enable them to succeed in that desirable, but arduous undertaking.

Letter to Govt. Genl & Council of Bengal 1st Feby 1782

To the Board of assigned Revenue as a fit object of their sole occupation, the whole detail of this important business has been in fact uninterrupted intrusted.

Transactions carried on by a public Board open to the inspection of his Highness, subject to the control of Government, and rendered effectual by the signature of the Governor were not likely to create the impression

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of that rashness, violence, and oppression into which sole
and unlimited authority sometimes degenerates, or of that
partiality and corruption which the darkness or secrecy of
private Offices might afford a temptation as well as an
opportunity to Individuals

But His Highness the Nabob and his Excellency
the Amen were as sincere in their wishes, and as Cordial
in their Cooperations, as they were strenuous in the hopes
which they expressed of the Benefit of this Arrangement
to which the execution was placed with so much caution
into such proper hands, and being vested with the apparent
absolute authority of the Nabob, could not fail of producing
immediately its natural effect.

It requires neither the Assistance of real
or fabricated testimony to prove, because the Nature of
the thing demonstrates, that this Assignment whilst was
proving ineffectual His Highness the Nabob was
required to be surrendered back to him, could not have
even for a time become so, or the fact take place which
furnished the Opportunity of making this demand,
otherwise than by the Operation of that Assignment
having been secretly counteracted and interrupted, by the
only means that could effect it, and which had been
sufficient to overthrow all the former engagements of the
Nabob, and which seem to proceed from the adoption of
that short sighted Policy, so long observed to have influenced
his Highness's Conduct, and so frequently exposed in the
accounts

2834 Fort St. George 16th September 1782.

Accounts given to the Company of his publicly consenting to what he privately prohibited, and which constituted part of those fundamental Errors, those hidden and double Transactions, and that duplicity and iniquity in the Nabob's Government already mentioned to have been repeatedly represented to this Government.

It is really true that for a considerable time after the execution of this Assignment it was utterly unproductive.

The attention of the President towards the Nabob, and which operated upon the whole Committee, the determination of proceeding with delicacy and tenderness towards even the Officers, who had been of his Highness's Appointment induced the President who had an express Power to remove to make a point of continuing the Nabob's own Amildars and Renters in their respective Offices.

But it was found that those people, instead of obeying his Orders respecting the Revenues were still influenced by the Nabob's Ministers, and that remittances were secretly made to the Ameer Ul Omrah, notwithstanding all the vigilance exerted to oppose it, and which only was sufficient to detect it. Every Information even or account of the Collections made in the different districts was withheld by various evasions and delays.

Of the Ameer's early intention to defeat and his Industry in defeating this Assignment, the testimony is not derived from native and devoted Servants, or Subjects bewitched or obscure or partial Individuals, from whom false attestations might be extorted, but from Facts which

Letter from the Select Committee to Supreme Council 12th March 1782.

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which are Stubborn, unequivocal, and involve the intention,

That the same was indeed universally observed,

may be collected from the Report summed up and transmitted

among others by the Company's Resident in the southern

Countries. Mr. John Sulivan, which is added here, because

he is known to be of a Character too respectable to be

doubted, as well as too solid to take notice of slight warnings

to the prejudice of his Highness or his Family—

Mr. Sulivan acknowledges that the

suspicions relative to the Durbar were too well founded

that every Letters he receives from the southward mentioned

some circumstances of counteraction, that the People of the

Country were taught to look upon the interference of the

Company as a temporary measure that must soon terminate

and that Vengeance was denounced against every Man who

should dare to oppose the Mandates of the Durbar—

Was the President from partiality favoured, or

from weakness suffered the speedy termination of the

Assignment so announced he might have escaped the

Invectives thrown upon him in the Name of his Highness,

and his Highness might perhaps still declare that it was

through his good fortune that the President had arrived

here, and his hopes from his well known honor and abilities

would have been realized—

It is possible too that the hopes of his Cauldny

the Answer may have been checked in a point which was

personal to himself, and which he is fond of talking, being an

Object of some difficulty, to the Assignments granted by his

Father

The

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Treaty between the East India Company, the Nabob Wallaw Jaw and the great Nabob Nizam Ally Soubah of the Decan Article 7th

The exalted and illustrious Emperor Shaw Allum had been pleased out of his great favor and high esteem for the Nabob Wallaw Jaw, to give and grant by his Royal Phurmaund, bearing date the 26th August 1765. to him, and to his Eldest Son Omdut Ul Omrah the Government of the Carnatic Peanghaut, and the great Nabob Nizam Ally Soubah of the Decan was likewise pleased to consent that the Government of Carnatic Peanghaut should be enjoyed as a free Gift by the said Nabob Wallaw Jaw, and after him by His eldest Son Omdut Ul Omrah

This Phurmaund or Grant of the Mogul which was obtained by Lord Clive and accompanied by Pittes which the Nabob still uses was in 1766. proclaimed at this Desire in the presence of the Governor and Council of this Place, of the principal Inhabitants, and of all his Sardars or Leaders of Troops By such acceptance of the Grant he acknowledged the Mogul to dispose of that Government and which grant fixed the succession in his eldest Son.

General letter to the Court of Directors 4th July 1782

By a Treaty between the Nabob and the Peishwa, the same succession was agreed to, In the Treaty just quoted by the Soubah of the Decan in 1768. to which the Nabob was a party, the same line of succession was confirmed, the Company were guarantees of the Treaty, and the Nabob actually afterwards joined his eldest Son in, and for the payment of all the Bonds given to his Highness Creditors, as the Heir and Successor to the Carnatic

However so early as in November 1775. a General Letter from the Court of Directors mentions the

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Letter from the Court of Directors 25th Nov. 1785

apprehensions communicated to them of the Nabob's
Design to appoint his second Son his Successor in the
Carnatic, which Design they disapprove, and desire their
Representatives to prevent and to secure the Government
of the Carnatic in a just and lineal Succession, according
to the above Phirmaund and Treaty of 1768.

His Highness the Nabob means however
that the Succession should not be there secured, but in
the Treaty with the Government of Bengal for the
Assignment of the Revenues in April 1781, he desires
that this Right to appoint a Successor in the Carnatic may
be settled in a solid manner by a Treaty between European
Sovereigns.

Request to the Governor

The good will and word of his Highness the
Nabob and of his Excellcy the Amew must indeed be
secured to the Governor General of Bengal by the implicit
faith he appears to have placed in the information given
to him by the Nabobs Dewaner Agent, that the Nabobs
proposed Letters from the Company and the King
Minister and the King himself on the Subject of his
Highness's will and by his reliance on Copies presented to
him by such Agent, of such Letters from the King and
from the Company, all expressing a clear acknowledgement
of the Nabobs right to appoint a Successor to the Carnatic,

Governor General's Reply

Had Precedent and personal Policy superceded
Sentiments of Restitude and Adherence to Instructions in
the mind of the President, he would have avoided observing
after

their

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where

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after the Examination to which his duty lead him that nothing was on the Records of this Presidency to confirm the information of the Nabob's Dewan, and which only contain a letter from His Majesty simply expressive as to this Subject of the Receipt of the Nabob's will and of his Royal promise that the same should be preserved as a sacred deposit until his Highness's Decease, but no Recognition on the part of the King or of the Company of his Highness Right to dispose of the Carnatic, nor any other Order nor Instruction except that already quoted which had the direct contrary tendency—

This want of Confidence in the Assertions of the Nabob's Agents, or in the copies of Letters produced by him, this reference to and examination of the Records of the Presidency, and of the Company's Instructions, may have perhaps been considered by his Excellency the Answer as a virtual infringment of the last Assignment in Decemr 1781 in which he is acknowledged to have born a Considerable Share, and for which he may have expected the Return of a more valuable consideration than the recommendations that were given of him

Yet least the President had, on the occasion of this last Assignment, fed the fanciful hope of his Highness, and had promised to promote his views of being independant of every one, and of gaining possession of Cuddapah and Lungham, and other districts of Balaghaut and of soon recovering the Palook or Province of

Tanjore

2839 Fort St. George 16th September 1782 —

Letter from the Nabobe to the Court of Directors 29th Jany 1765.

Letter from the Court of Directors 24th Decr 1765.

Instructions to the President at the Court of the Indies of the Swan 15th July 1781

Sanjore then possessed by a Ryot or Peasant of his, and in the meantime of throwing all his public and private debts upon the Revenues of that Province which conditions had accompanied this precedent Assignment, and as the present Grant was still more beneficial, if in return the President had encouraged him to receive his Scheme, of acquiring the Soubahship of the Decan, which he once seriously proposed, and of which Mr. Du Pre' and Mr. Hastings thought his Ambition had never lost sight, persuaded that his earnest wishes were to possess all Indostan if he could. It is now unlikely that the President might have been favorably represented by the Nabobe in His Letters to Europe, and even entrusted on the Presidents return thence to assist in the promotion of his projects.

But the president adopting the principles often inculcated by the Company, and sometimes forgotten by its Servants, took occasion in Order to calm the Jealousies of the Neighbouring Powers to declare with the Select Committee, and has since kept up to the Declaration that the power and Arms of the Company were solely to be directed to the maintenance of Peace and Harmony among its Allies, to the establishment of Justice and the promotion of happiness, and that it was clearly best not to disturb the possessions of the several powers of Indostan, but that they and the Company should continue satisfied with what they then respectively possessed.

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A Difference to Instructions and a consideration of a Right which were so Opposite to the second Son's unjust Designs, and principles of equity and moderation equally opposite to the Father's weak and inordinate Ambition, Rendered the present President more unpalatable to both & Rendered his removal from the Government meet more an Object of their eager desire than the ostensible reasons alleged for their discontents.

It is true that the former Administration of this Presidency had Observed, and Observed it to his Highness, that not all the Calamities which had already befallen him, nor the danger with which he was still threatened, seemed to convey him any profitable Instruction, but that he contended for Privilege and Punctilio to the sacrifice of his dearest Interests, with as much earnestness as if in the plenitude of his power

Letter from Governor Smith to the Nabob, the 30th April 1781.

But this Highness must be sensible in the present Instance that any Infringement of his Privileges or Deficiency in Punctilio would originate only in the Committee of Assigned Revenue, who first examine, deliberate, prepare and recommend all matters without exception that relate to the Nabob's assignment: The detail and in the detail his Highness seeks for occasions of Complaint is entirely left to the direction of that Committee. The President fully trusting to that discretion, approves and signs, the Select Committee likewise approve conscious however that they alone were Answerable for their approbations

But

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"But if a measure unjust or improper
even merely unbecoming happened at any time to be
imposed upon their Confidence, a Representation to
them on the part of His Highness would not have to
combat any of the private motives that might have
led to the Suggestion of that measure, nor even with
the predilection of self Opinion, but that merely
which when the Grievance is suppressed is not demanded,
is not the Redress that is really wanted — It was
therefore no particular hardship felt in the execution,
or any abuse of the Assignment which might have
been remedied on the Spot, but the entire and absolute
Surrender of that Assignment which was the real
Object with the Nabob and his Minister nor did
they scruple actually to found an Argument for the
propriety of that Surrender on the failure of the
Revenue from the Renters of the Nabob's appointment
whom the President's delicacy towards his Highness had
continued in their Offices His Highness repeated his
wish to take again the management of his Country,
into his hands, and said he would give good and
proper security for all the Revenue, This would
have been a fourth new Arrangement during the
War, the proposals, the Dejections the Agreements,
the subsequent Breaches of the former Arrangements
had consumed near two Years, during which nothing
as to Revenue was executed. The War was waged by the
Enemy, but not supported by the Country — The press
was

Nabob's letter 7th March 1782

two

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was fully arrived for carrying into effect some of the plans, which, as eligible, were already agreed to rather than to incur the further delays of other new proposals, however they also might be eligible. But this last proposal with the certain loss of time and an appearance that was suspicious, could not really be effected by the one Party, and ought not to be accepted by the other, as to security for Revenue in this Country, it is only obtained on giving to the Sureties for their indemnification possession of the Lands which are to yield such Revenue, with an Allowance of a considerable Percentage, to be deducted from the Crops, and an opportunity of deducting a great deal more; all which must fall ultimately upon the Public, it is no mark of disrespect to his Highness to assert that it was not safe, or warrantable to depend for the Supply of their Army's wants on the punctuality of the best and most proper security he could have to offer. Where Deficiency in Receipts was the very evil to be remedied and punctuality was become essential, actual possession was not to be exchanged for any security of the Sword.

Much of the benefit to be expected was to arise from Economy in the charge and diminution of the Exactions as well as accuracy and Fidelity in the accounts, the Sureties would produce new charges and new exactions, and might not be as accurate or faithful, and as to the Nabob's own management

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management to render them so. The words of the
Select Committee at a former period may be justly
repeated, It is obvious that if a successful collection
of the Revenues depended upon the exertion and authority
of this Highness, and that he had been sincerely —
disposed to let the Company have them to defray the
Expences of the war those Revenues might have been
thrown into the Company's Treasury immediately
from his Highness's Officers without the intervention
of the Company's Officers, whether the total failure
which has happened in this Respect be owing to the
want of inclination, Power or Skillfulness on the part
of this Highness, the fact equally proves the
necessity of using other means than those which
have hitherto proved ineffectual — But of the
delicacy which retarded the good effect of the plan
already executed, the Governor General & Council of
Bengal do not give their approbation, they express
their regret that any consideration, even of delicacy
towards the Nabob or attention for those feelings
which it might be natural for him to retain,
should have in this Situation of necessity restrained
the complete effect of the Assignment, and they
recommend the placing of persons in the management
of the Assigned Countries who were likely to be more
under the control and Authority of the Select Committee

Letter from Supreme Council 6th April 1782.

This Presidency was obliged to apologize
to that superintending Board and to observe that if
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Letter to Supreme Council 1st May 1782

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in their transactions with the Nabob, they seem to have been too much guided by the Spirit of caution and forbearance such caution really proceeded from an anxious desire of making the Nabob a principal and willing party to the measures to be taken for his own immediate Security

Those measures described minutely in the Proceedings of the Committee of Secrecy Revenue shewed all the means that were pursued to effectuate the purposes of the Assignment and the precise manner of carrying it into execution they were transmitted to Bengal, where his Highness already had appealed, and sent that Minister to support his new complaints who had managed the former Treaty.

Letter from Select Committee to Bengal 29th June 1782

It requires no long experience of oriental practices to be convinced, and information was indeed actually received that every species of intrigue, artifice and falsehood were employed to give an Odious colouring to these Proceedings, upon was said to be regularly formed, and it appears by the Highness's present letter to be completely executed, of throwing out such a Multitude of aspersions that it might be taken for granted there must be some ground for Accusation.

Out of a vast number of false Tales fabricated Letters, and distorted Facts of wh it was hoped, would meet with credit and a few of such would

Port St. George 16th September 1782.

answer the purpose of imposition. Each would produce the double effect of injuring the President and Committee, They were the Authors and Advisors of all the measures respecting the Nabob, his Revenues and Countries, they possessed no power separately from the President - he exerted no power but in signing the Orders they advised, he claimed only the merit of adopting the measures suggested by that Committee, their cause was therefore common and the Judgment pronounced has been that of satisfaction with their Proceedings and entire approbation of their conduct.

Extract from Gen.l Consult. of Bengal 5th May 1782

Before the decision was thus pronounced Gosain Cawn the Nabob's Dewan, or Revenue Minister had already been a considerable time employed at the Presidency of Bengal in endeavouring to procure a condemnation of this Conduct. His Restoration to the Management of the public Revenues would have followed his success.

Extract from Gen.l Consult. of Bengal 5th July 1782

The Representative and Minister of the Governor General and Council to the Nabob, & who was appointed for the purpose of maintaining the faith of that Government with his Highness and previously been one of his Highness's Agents at Calcutta was returned there and those two Ministers were abundantly able to depeat any Cavil in that conduct, or to solve any Doubt, and supply

Extract from Governor General & Council of Bengal 2d April 1782

any

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the best Security that could be found, and a Committee of five Persons was accordingly appointed by them, and enquiries made, and Advertisements published by them in order to procure such.

This method of advertisement which His Highness suffers himself to call a disgrace upon his Government, is the method which the Court of Directors positively Ordered to be pursued in letting out their Lands, and which reflects upon them no disgrace. It Opens the Market to all Bidders, it prevents private preference, and what may have given him pain, it precludes the Opportunity of suspicion, or if plausible Censure.

It is not however impossible but that their choice may in some Instances have fallen on Men who will not always correspond to the confidence placed in them, and the hopes that were formed of them, essential favors are sometimes not regarded by fidelity and Attachment.

The speedy termination to which the people were taught to look, of the Company's Interference in the Revenues and the Vengeance denounced against those who, contrary to the mandates of the Durbar should be connected with them as reported by Mr Sullivan, may at once put a stop to the former vexations and Oppressions of the Nabob in the Revenues as reported by the Commander in Chief have deterred some of the Settlemen from Offering to be concerned in it.

The timid disposition of the Hindoo Natives

2849 Fort St. George 16th September 1782

Letter to Supreme Council 18th March 1782

Natives of this Country was not likely to be insensible of the Specimen of that Vengeance given by his Excellency the Nawab who upon the mere Rumour that a Bramin of the Name of Appajee Row had given Proposals to the Company for the Renters ship of Nellore, had the Temerity to send for him, and to put him in Confinement

A Man thus Deiged by the Nabob's Troops within the Walls of Madras gave a general alarm, and Government found it necessary to promise the protection of the Company in order to calm the apprehensions of the People

As yet however it is not known that the Renters or Managers employed by the Committee of Assigned Revenue have been guilty of embezzlings any revenue, but those with whom the situation of the Enemys Forces allowed a communication with Our Troops and a conveyance of safety with this Presidency, have more than embezzlement would have, discontented his Excellency the Nawab in surmounting some of those obstructions to the progress of the Army, against which the Commander in Chief had strongly and repeatedly remonstrated in the Nabob's Government, and have remitted sums for the support of the Troops considerable in proportion to the times and unexampled since the War, in any, the smallest, Degree under his Highness's Government, or the management of his Renters

What

2850

Port St. George 16. September 1782

What promises were made in Relation to the amount of the Rent is not merely implied, but is expressly declared in the Instrument of writing executed by his Highness and by the President. The Engagement of the latter appears to have been, not that the Rents should not be inferior to the gross produce, but that it should not be inferior to the Net Revenue of his Highnesses Exchequer in similar circumstances.

Agreement between his Highness the Nabob and Lord Macartney on behalf of the Company 2d. Decr. 1781

This Engagement was made in the name, and on the behalf of the Company. If the Committee of Assigned Revenue were so inattentive to this Engagement, and to their Duty, and to their Interest in gaining by their Exertions the approbation of their Employers, and to the public Welfare depending on those Resources, and to the Credit and gratification of extending, if possible, those Resources, as to propose the acceptance of lesser Rents than those they could obtain, and which appear to be very nearly equal to the average of the aggregate Rents of the four last Years preceding the War, even according to the Nabob's Accounts; If the Select Committee to whom from the other Committees those proposals were submitted, could have been so weak, ignorant or wicked, as to approve of the weakness, ignorance, or wickedness of others; and lastly if the President, who is alone made culpable for this transaction could wantonly

Minutes of Committee of Assigned Revenue 27th May 1782

under

2851 Fort St. George 16. September 1782

render himself so Culpable by conforming to the folly
or the Guilt of those two Boards, the Company is
undoubtedly liable to the Nabob for such a misconduct
of their Servants, and would be bound to make good to
his Highness what he had suffered by this breach of
their Engagement —

For this discussion on the existence of
such a Breach, and the degree of it if it had existed, his
Highness might and indeed the Governor General and
Council have declared all controversial explanations —
with him ought to be referred to that period at which
he may require a restitution of the Trust, and a faithful
report of the manner in which it shall have been

Letter from Governor Gen.l & Council 6.th April 1782 —

discharged.

But in fact the security of the Renters
under the Companys protection, and immediately
communicating with the Presidency against
interference and injustice of Civil or Military Officers
residing in their respective Districts as well as —
against the caprice and exactions of the Nabobs —
Ministers was an inducement powerful enough
even to counterwail the disadvantage of the past and
danger of the future evils of the War —

These Rents with the great reduction
of unnecessary charges have left an estimated —
Balance, in case of an end to the present Invasion,
much greater than the Members of the Government
of Bengal confess they had any idea of —

Let Doc to the Select Committee 4.th July 1782

In

2852 Fort St. George 16th. September 1782.

In Regard to the nomination of the Renters, South would have forced the President to Answer affirmatively to his Highness's Interrogatory, if instead of asking whether his Lordship did not solemnly engage and promise that the Renters to be appointed by him should be Subject to the Nabob's confirmation, His Highness had asked whether he had not empowered the Governor to appoint all Amildars or Renters to be confirmed by his Highness which are in fact the precise words as far as they go, of the first Sentence relative to this point in the assignment and his Highness who is possessed of a Counter part of it would have struck to the words exactly, if he had been quite sure that they would have answered all his purposes, but he suspected that the exact words might the Door of that express Stipulation for the absolute Subjection of such Renters to, and the indespensible condition of his confirmation, which the substituted words more strongly indicate. The Sentence as it is here quoted, and really stands in the Original the Nabob's Advisers foresaw would be considered as simply and Strictly declarative of two Acts on the part of the Nabob a present Act in empowering the Governor to appoint Renters, and a future Act in confirming such Renters, it is plain and simple confirmation promised by him absolutely and conditionally, if it had been meant to be conditionally, the appointment would have really been expressed as his Highness felt it to be necessary to represent, it as subject to his confirmation. The Failure in this instance cannot

Assignment 2. Dec. 1781.

be

2853 Fort St. George 16th. September 1782.

be the Breach of the President who did not engage for this performance, but this Witness who did perhaps he considers it merely as a Ceremony intended to gratify his own wishes of maintaining his Dignity his favorite precaution in the eyes of the people, and what therefore he might refuse without giving occasion for a complaint, But if of consequence as perhaps it was to strengthen agreeably to the meaning of the word, the authority of the new Centers the absolute Refusal of it might, in the Degree of that consequence, be instead of a ground of accusation on the part of this Witness a juster ground against him, if it were not the determined purpose of this Committee to be silent, except when the just defence of others calls them forth.

The intent of this Assignment would not indeed have merited the praise it has acquired, if according to that intent, its operations were left to the uncertain determination of either of the parties, but an agreement solemnly executed, is to be understood & not to be defeated. What each is to do is on each obligatory to do. The Idea of conformation implying choice in particular circumstances has arisen from the necessity of public Affairs, which requires sometimes the temporary nomination to offices at a distance from the seat of Government, but the purpose is answered, though the nomination should not afterwards be approved. There is no Necessity, no Obligation to continue it. The continuance of it is a voluntary confirmation that might have been withheld, because it was not promised, though it might have been

expected

2854 Fort St. George 16. September 1802.

requires a Confirmation previously covenanted implies,
at the period of performance an internal approbation or
act of the Mind, which is not allways at a mans Disposal,
but a mere external act that is so and in the present
instance consists in nothing more than the signature
to a paper called a Sanad or Sunnud, and left by any mis-
construction of Words, or confusion of Ideas it should
have been proper to mistake this absolute for a
conditional Engagement, it is repeated in the second
sentence of the Assignment on the subject of the Nomi-
nation of Renters, in which his Highness proposes to
covenants in so many precise words that he will
give the usual Cowle to the Amildars who will be
appointed by the Governor.

This engagement therefore stands
no longer in construction, it leaves us room for doubt
or Cavil. The Governor is answerable for the appointment,
the Nabob is bound to the confirmation.

If unfortunately the Amildars
could have proceeded without this act on the part
of his Highness, and that the Assignment were
therefore become a Nullity he alone would have
been accountable for the failure of what is allowed
to be, and declaredly approved as being the first and
natural means of maintaining the Defence of the
Carnatic.

The appointment however was found
to constitute the Renters, the Deed of appointment or
Sunnud Chitt was the only Cowle granted by
the President, but if more had been necessary to

give

Fort St. George 16. September 1782.

give effect to the Assignment, he would or certainly ought to have done it readily, For it has been already shewn that the produce of the Country was not previously to the Assignment collected or applyed to its Defence, that collection and that application were the objects of the Assignment. If the Local authority of the Nabob interposed to impede it, this Presidency was required, by the superintending Presidency of Bengal, whom it is bound to Obey, not to permit such an unreasonable interposition to take effect.

Letter from Supreme Council 26th Decr 1781.

The management of the Revenue includes a power to reduce expences, and the Agent to that Reduction is in the Nabob's Letter formally acknowledged. In that indispensible reduction of expences, in that forbearance from payment of useless Officers and Retainers has consisted what this Witness in the same Letters describes as an unavoidable dismission of all his People.

Though as was observed to the Presidency of Bengal, His Excellency the Nawab Ul Omrah mentioned the convenience of getting rid of a vast load of useless Pensioners and Retainers through the authority of the President, which their connections, Interests and Importunities at the Durbar would have rendered impracticable for his Highness alone to effectuate.

Letter from Select Committee 12th July 1782

It is true that the forbearance of Pay might have Operated as an effectual dismission from Office, if before for a considerable time, those Offices had depended on, and had been in the Receipt of

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Fort St. George 16th September 1792.

any Pay, but the distinction, the Power, which Office gave, and especially the exactions which it effected as well as screened, were sufficient inducements to continue in it without Salary.

The exactions indeed have been also checked by the Company's Amildars and his Highness's Officers may have really diminished in their number as well as their power of doing mischief, but the President issued no Order for their removal, the Select Committee or Committee of assigned Revenue gave no order. The Company's Government is nowhere and its authority conveyed by formal and fixed Channels. Its commands are not signified by Nods or Obedience paid to the obscure or irregular intimation of its will. If the President from the Presidency assumed and exerted any authority in the Nabobs Country, except what is relative to Revenue on the suggestion of the Revenue Committee as he was authorized to do, the evidence of that assumption and exertion must exist in Letters or Orders from him, as his Revenue Letters and Orders do but more than the last described ever did exist.

Little indeed is the authority really necessary to exert over the peaceful and timid Hindoo Natives of this Country, few disturbances arise among them, the common Police is regulated by the Natives or Chiefs and Heads of Casts residing on the Spot. Disputes are settled by Arbitration under the direction of the Amildar who is an Officer of Justice as well as Revenue,

and

2857 Fort St. George 16th September 1782.

and Christian and Mahomedan interference are equally dreaded by them.

The Renters have not which they would willingly have given as a pretext for some allowance in their Rents any accounts of disorder or confusion in the Towns or Villages, except where the enemy's Troops have introduced it, as the cause therefore are not in a state of Anarchy, either the Nabob's officers continue in their engagements, or it is not necessary they should do so. His Highness's latest communications on account business, not intended for working an effect in Europe, shew indeed the countenance of his Officers in their stations through the Country.

Nabob's Note to the Governor 16th Sept. 1782.

The specific charge of the removal of the Courts of Justice from the Nabob's Government board at Sriehinopoly implies however the continued existence of those Courts, and the Omission of any specific charge in Relation to the Courts in any other of the Nabob's Districts seems to imply that in those others no alteration had been made, This is true that the Courts at Sriehinopoly were removed, but without any authority from hence, and it is not less true that orders were immediately transmitted by the President that they should return to the Nabob's Government House

President's letter to Mr. Norris, 9th March 1782 - Sriehinopoly Book in the Register Revenue Office.

As His Highness made, has frequently repeated a Specific charge of Bloodshed in consequence of the execution of a Peon Dar or Lieutenant of Cavalry for Mutiny at Vellore.

and

The

2858 Fort St. George 16th September 1782.

The disposition at length concerning the transaction were laid before his Highness, If he had made a Requisition, as he has on former like occasions done for a Court Martial on Captain Campbell the Commandant of Mallore at the time, it would have been granted, but an acquittal might impede the one with which the charge is now renewed, if the time admitted of Captain Campbell's being relieved from his command, a requisition from the Nabob for a trial would have been unnecessary, but the Act whether just and necessary, or unnecessary and unjust, is not the Presidents Act, nor did he give any power, or any directions that might have led to it. The Loss of Nose and of Ears is for the first time mentioned in this letter from the Nabob, no names of Sufferers, or of the place they suffered, or of the Persons who under the Presidents Authority, committed those Cruelties and oppressions. It is not pretended that the President directed the Commission of those Cruel Acts, if the authority he had given has happened to be abused, he is no more accountable for it than is the Nabob for the flagrant abuse which he complains the President has made of the power delegated to him by his Highness.

The Armed Men who are Officers of Justice, may have in the proper discharge, or under the Color of the discharge of their Duty, ordered such punishments which the Laws or Customs of the Country may have in some particular cases authorized, but no Accounts of such punishments have been laid before either of the Committee or the President. If the Nabob conceals the representations of such Facts in Order to display them at a Distance, it will

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not be a presumption that they were incontrovertible on the spot — perhaps it is meant to be no more than the Ordinary Complaisance and unsubstantial ornament of an Oriental criminatory charge somewhat like the legal and technical but unmeaning Mandate of European Procedure, or like the empty Sounds of those Lom Tomas or eastern Village Drums by the beat of which his Highness is pleased seriously to ask if his Officers, at the time possessed of Real power, weight and influence were not dismissed and driven from the Country.

It does not appear that the Nabob ever once proposed to appoint Auditors or Inspectors of Accounts, but the accounts are public and Open for such Examens or for any other persons his Highness may be pleased to appoint for the inspection and examination of them. His Highness is in fact possessed of those accounts or Abstracts of them, and he reasons on them.

But though his Highness may have been mistaken in relation to his Country when he does not reside, but in the precincts of Fort St. George, or to his Officers who may deceive him, he cannot be mistaken as to his personal situation. It might be thought perhaps that the Violence of his animosity, the bitterness of his Expressions his accusation of the Subversion of his Government, of the usurpation of his Powers and Concealment of his Revenues by the President, may have been the ebullitions of Resentment arising from the Poignancy of his own distress; But the Invasion indeed of the Carnatic he quitted his native

Madras

Fort St. George 16. September 1782.

Mansion, which was suitable to his dignity, but ill suited to his safety. That moment preceded the arrival of the President to this Government His Highness has since dwelt in the same Habitation, is protected by the same Guards, is attended by the same Officers as to some Revenue Cloths receives the same Honors and appears to lead in every Respect the same life, which he did in the former Government, or previous to the Appointment. The mode of His Highness's attack seems entirely founded on the Observation that accusations of injuries of this strong kind painted in moving and lively colors are apt to catch the Sympathizing affection of the mind; and to leave an impression that the foul and cold hand of Truth does not afterwards easily efface. Bold assertions, warm representations, private influence supercede investigation among oriental Politicians whose wit and eloquence are equal to their depth of Intrigue, and freedom from Scruple.

Indeed the Members of the Select Committee in a letter written in June last mention having had occasion to observe such rapid changes in the Sentiments expressed by his Highness Mar Nabob of the same Persons that they could scarcely consider his praises or his censures as prompted by affection or Resentment, but that they were the Weapons of which he successively tried the use for the attainment of his purposes. They had their turn of the strongest Declarations of his esteem, and they were forced himself to repetitions of them by a continuance of good Offices

Of the Nabob's proceeds upon the

President

Letter to Supreme Council 29th June 1782

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President for not allowing the pay of his Body Guard
out of the current expences of the Country, and of not
withholding from the Public the Collection of several
Pagodas or parcels of land in favor of the Women of
his Highness's family his Children, his Relations,
and faithful Servants. It is necessary only to observe that
the expence of the Nabob's Body Guard residing in
Madras, form no part of the current charges of the
Country, to be deducted out of their gross Revenues, and
that his Highness in his Letter reserving as his part
of the Revenues for himself, expressly says, it is for
defraying among those things the Charges of the protection
of himself and family; and to the Latter object there is
no exception in the assignment in favor of any Lands
or Possessions of Lands — All Revenue except one sixth,
was to be applied to the support of the common Cause,
The President would be accountable in his private
capacity for any such Indulgence or deviation. He
must have done it independent of the Subordinate
and principal Committee. and he has done nothing in
this business independently of them, but has acted
solely on their Suggestion. It is neither favorable
to his Highness, or to the President that such private
arrangements should have been made between them: and
for their joint sakes such Charges must be supposed,
as the others are known to be entirely groundless.

On the Subject of the Nabob's queries
relative to his Elephants, it is sufficient to observe
that the Charges of their maintainance were retrenched
with the consent of his Excellency the Answer, and
would

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Fort St. George 16th September 1780

would have been done without it because they were an expensive object of mere parade, and at a distance from His Highness's Residence, and in the present juncture a Politicalness one, and that the Topays at the same place were at the time in want of maintenance, but proper allowances have been made for daily charity, and for the Service and support of Mosques, Churches and Pagodas with precautions for their usual application to those purposes.

Minute of Consult Revenue Dep. May 1782

Letter to Mr Place of Permacoil 14th Feby 82.
Letter to Mr Sallofield at Cuddalore 20 Feby 1782.
Letter to Mr Rain receiver at Trichenopoly 21st Feby 82
Letter to Mr Proctor receiver at Pallamcottah 21st February 1782
Letter to Mr Swing at Nellore 12th March 1782

district

Letter from Colonel Kennedy Commandant of Madras to the Town Major 7th May 1782.

Receipts have been ordered to be regularly given for supplies furnished in the several Districts, and no Instance has been represented to the Committee of the Refusal of a receipt for Stores or Provisions delivered by Order of this Highness or by any of his people.

Some Ammunition was delivered to some Troops of his Excellency the Nawabs through perhaps an imprudent Complaisance because Ammunition is so scarce as not always to be given to His Majesty's Fleet to the full amount of its Demands, and because the Nawabs Troops are reported to have done no Service, but to have kept a wide of the Road.

The President did not communicate at home or abroad that he made any reduction in the publick expences, but the Committee of Consult have laid a comparative Statement of the gross Amount of the Rents according to the Nabobs Accounts at an average for the four Years immediately preceding the War, and of the annual expences by the same Accounts with

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with the gross amount of the present Rents and
present expences, by which it appears that in the
Districts ceded there will be if not ravaged by the
Enemy, an actual increase in the Annual net Revenue
of upwards of Six Lacks of Pagodas. If that reduction
were really such as the Company might make in
Delivering over the Administration of their Affairs to
two or three of their Youngest writers, such Reduction
would not have continued until Now, or the Company
would as Right to follow the example
The Assignment did not begin to be
productive till the Nine Districts entered on the
exercise of their Respective employments about May
last. Of the Districts ceded there is no safe or certain
communication with three of them situated to the
Southward, from the interruption of Enemies by Sea
and Land, and no remittance whatsoever has been
received from thence. The three remainders have supplied
in Money, Grain and Bullocks for our Army upwards
Months about two Lacks of Pagodas. Though no
remittance was made by the Nabob in the eighteen
Months preceding. His Highness has received indeed
40000 Pagodas which is more than a Sixth of that Sum
because he wished to receive some Money in advance,
and the President wished to gratify him but if the
Northern had been as unproductive as the Southern
Provinces, the Nabob must have suffered the loss of
his Sixth, as the public must have done that of the
three fifths that proportion, not a definite
Sum was his Highness's own choice, either that

amounth

Comparative Statement
in Minutes of the
Committee of Assigned
Revenue 27th May
1782.

Nabob's Letter
2d October 1781

2864 Fort St. George 16. September 1782.

Amount was equal to the like proportion of what he had received for a similar period during his own Management since the Troubles, and of which he must have foreseen the sufficiency for the Nabob of the Carnatic and his Family, and and attendants confined by the Calamities of War, and without the necessity of expensive Splendor to the Town of Madras. Or if he received more than the Sextuple of what he now receives, he will have been equally an enemy to his own Interest and to that of the Company, in not supplying a single Pagoda from it to the Treasury of this Presidency, for the support of that War which is waged in Order to Expel the invasion of his Country.

But to disculpate the Nabob from so heavy a charge, it is just to declare it probable that such were the mismanagement and wasteful expences in the Countries, and such was the imposition and rapacity of the people about him that he did not receive from those three Provinces, as Territorial Revenue, much more than what he now draws, after applying five sixths of it to the discharge of his Debts, and the recovery of his Territories. But Comparison may be upon the estimated value of what was in itself abundantly valuable, 40,000 Pagodas in four Months out of three Provinces only, make for the Year, just no more than triple, the Income of the Company's principal Representative on the Coast; Compared to this triple stand united the

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the other Provinces become productive, has the Nabob stretched himself. He allows indeed a dependance on other Resources within his Reach, having declared that although his expences are very great yet out of the growing Revenues he wishes only in this time of trouble to have what is necessary to defray his table, and supply the wants of a few people employed for his protection.

Nabob's letter to the Governor & Select 1781

One third of what may be necessary for the Nabob, merely to defray his Table in Madras, and supply the wants of a few of his People, might not have been thought an extravagant Allowance and compensation for all the trouble as well as the expences of a Governor of Madras, however free he may be from Ostentation, and for all his Family and for all his attendants, even if that Allowance had depended upon his own discretion to have established, but it is the act of his Employers, settled before his time, and they complain that his Predecessors were not satisfied with it.

If the Present Governor had chosen to have added to it other Gains, which would be criminal, his Satisfaction with his Salary alone, and his receipt of it, would not have been alledged against him as a crime. A Man who is accused for the exercise of Right, must have left no ground for being so, in doing wrong. He who rejects all other resources but the Stipend allowed him, has the more occasion for the amount of that Stipend, who draws bills and negotiates bonds, or with various interests

if

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if they exceed not what is strictly due to them, he is equally justifiable.

If he were to receive a compensation for the unjust reproaches that are cast upon him, If his Employers were to allow for the advantages he might have reaped, and the praises he might have gained from his Fellow Subjects the Nabobs, by so doing a conduct directly the Reverse of what he has held, the Salary, which he now has not cheaply earned, would form but a small Proportion of his Profits.

All the Drafts for public and for secret Services pass through his hands as Governor The former which are immense; and the latter, which including the Salaries and expences of Agents to Indian Courts and on the Continent, & and on the Island of Ceylon, have not exceeded in the fourteen months of the present Administration, when the returns of the War calls for secret services, which to be performed must be paid for the sum of 14.000 Pagodas, are all accompanied by such Vouchers as the cases would admit and submitted to the Inspection of his Employers who will have no reason to doubt of his caution or his Oeconomy

That Caution and that Oeconomy were wanted, and have been exerted in supplying the disproportion between the Resources and the expences and exigences of the War, In the eleven months during which the War was carried on previously to the arrival of the President on the Coast, the Army, there consisting only of Carnatic

Lieu Statement by Account General

2867 Fort St. George 16th September 1782.

Troops was subsisted entirely by remittances from Bengal. Administration has furnished Specie equal to the Subsistance of those Troops, the Treasure remitted from Bengal, though considerable, being not more than sufficient to defray the Charges of the Reinforcements sent from thence under Colonel Pearse.

During the first eighteen months of the War when the Country then less exhausted was under the management of the Nabob, the Army was supplied with fewer Bullocks being — when the same Country necessarily more exhausted by the Continuance of the War, was entrusted to the management of the President who supplied

Statement of supplies by the Army Agent

Letter of supplies in the Army under General Joseph Smith from to the Agents Office

& Bullocks and ½ of Rice being more of each than was supplied, or was occasion to supply in any equal time in the former Carnatic War.

If three thousand Bullocks were suffered to be captured in one Night, for which the Officer in Charge was broken by a Court Martial. If the Country be so desolate as to supply no provisions for the Troops, or Grain, or Fodder for the Cattle employed to carry Provisions, and which on that account perish faster than they can be replaced If there be an absolute want of Cavalry the greatest part of those of the Nabobs, having before the War

Letter from Genl Coote

Letter from Genl Coote

Deserted for want of Pay, and gone over to the Enemy — Causes like these could not fail to have cramped the Operations of the Army, tho' it has effected more in the present administration, than before, and have led the superintending Board at Bengal who are

directed

from in the eight succeeding months

13000

100000 bags

2868 Fort St. George 16th September 1783.

Directed to take the lead in all Military Operations to be of opinion in which the Presidency entirely concurred, that the most certain method of putting an end to the Invasion of the Carnatic) is by a powerful Diversion in the Territories of the Invader, on the other side of the Peninsula.

Though the Carnatic Army has not been decisively successful, notwithstanding its Bravery, Discipline and Perseverance, and the Ardor and Experience of the General, because the Situation of the Country, the Resources and Precaution of the Enemy and the want of Cavalry were Sufficient to render such Success impracticable. The Troops in Tanjore, though a small body have had the fortunate occasion of rendering essential Services. They have with the cooperation of his Majesty's Squadron taken the principal Ports and Settlements of the Dutch, a natural Enemy on the Coast of Coromandel, whose Numbers under Arms were greater than that of the Besiegers and a Detachment from them, with the like Cooperation from the Squadron took Trincomalley in the Island of Ceylon.

For these concerted Operations with the Admiral the President was visited by the Committee with its Authority to act and they seemed satisfied with the Spirit and perseverance with which the objects of such Trust were undertaken and accomplished.

It is this truth which his Highness is pleased to include in one of his Interrogatories,

under

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under the Name of the assumption of the Command of the Southern Army, under Colonel Braithwaite. It is not merely an Error in Chronology, for Sir Hector Munro, not Colonel Braithwaite, commanded at the Seige of Negapatam, soon after the Surrender of that Place; the President wrote to Sir Hector Munro to communicate to Sir Eyre Coote the Commander in Chief, an account of all his Operations, and desire all the Commanding Officers to the Southward to write to him at the same time with Regard to all military points, and as his plan of Service might extend to very distant branches they would probably receive military Orders from him from time to time to which he, the President, desires they will pay all due Respect and obedience.

Such Orders were in fact given, and such obedience was paid, Sir Eyre Coote in a letter of a date immediately subsequent, and addressed to Sir Hector Munro after entering circumstantially into the detail of several movements which might be useful, he adds that those Suggestions were not made with an intention that they should be considered as measures absolutely to be adopted, but as points which struck him as deserving of attention, provided the circumstances of Sir Hector Munro's Situation might at any time render them eligible to be carried into execution, for at so great a Distance the propriety of undertaking any particular Services must be left to the Judgement of the Officers in Command.

Sir

Letter to Sir Hector Munro 23d Dec. 1781

Letter from Sir Eyre Coote to Sir Hector Munro 24th Decr. 1781

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The Orders of the Eyre Coote were transmitted, on the Hector Brinjarry's departure from Sanjore to Colonel Braithwait, on whom the Command again devolved, and whose Letters shew that he Obeyed them, nor were those ever Contrary, or indeed any Order issued by the President or Committee to Colonel Braithwait upto the Siege of Negapatam.

Letter from Colonel Braithwaite 24. Jany 1782 & 17th February 1782.

Colonel Braithwait mentions that in Consequence of Orders from the Commander in Chief communicated to him through Sir Hector Munro he had out of the few Battalions with him detached 1 Battalion to Trichenopoly, and was afraid to hazard that Defeat or that Disgrace to the Enemy of which neither the Presidency nor the President, were the Cause, but of which they have not without some Pains and endeavored to prevent the ill Consequences.

The truth of the Answers in that Negotiation to some other less important of the Malabar Questions may not be easily within positive Proof for perhaps the President may not be slightly supposed to have so far departed from his former Life and usual Demeanor as to divide his Highness before one of his Majesty's principal Officers to calumniate him in his absence, to Dismiss his Vackeel or Agent from the Government House, and to Open all his Letters, such a Conduct would be extraordinary, unaccountable, and unaccountable it does not appear to be very compatible with Europeans, or with any Knowledge and practice of the World to gratify even the meanest resentment

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by modes so mean, so silly, and so short of their
intended purpose.

The President has on all occasions
testified the highest Respect for the Nabob, still
seeks opportunities to oblige him, and still expects
he will see his present errors, the Nabobs
Jealousy perhaps leads him only to suspect that
the President had treated him unhandsomely, his
Highness only asks him if he did not? the Question
may be said to imply a doubt of the Fact it seemed
least to put the truth of the accusation upon the
issue to the Answer, and that answer is a most
solemn Declaration in the Negative; the President
recollects being in the presence of his Highness in
Company only with two principal Officers of his
Majesty's Sir Eyre Coote between whom and his
Highness the President had the good Fortune to
effect a Reconciliation, and General Medows, whom
he accompanied in a visit of Ceremony to his
Highness it would have been a singular provocation
of such meetings to renew them occasions of offence, and
the Offence would be also to those respectable Officers
to them both, one upon the Spot, and one in England,
the President appeals for his behaviour.

To the question of his calumniating
his person, Opening his Letters, except one sent by
Petitions in the Persian Language, which the
President does not understand, and of which a Clerk
mistook the meaning of the address, or of dismissing
his

Clerk

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his Excellency the answer can be only a simple Negative.

But some Negative as a matter of presumptive proof. If the President has told the Nabob that the Treaty which his Highness had made with the Supreme Government of Bengal would ruin his Affairs, such an Answer would have been the very best Reply which his Highness could have made, but did not make, and must have been an unanswerable argument to that President, when in letters in October and November last he urged the Nabob in the strongest terms to the execution of that Treaty informing him that his Duty would not suffer him to consent to any other alternative than his Highness's compliance with the unmediate provisions of the Treaty, or with the present Agreement which his Highness calls an instigation to perjury and a restraint under Guards of Sepoys, and in which he asks if the President did not partake, an so perfectly known to the Members of the Board at large. That the consideration of it is left to a meeting of that Board, His Highness may have misunderstood as he has in the Sentiments of his Creditor from whom he says the President has withheld those just rights, and any sort of satisfaction.

Her accusation may seem too

Last to form a probable judgement of those others, in

which

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which no testimony intervenes between the Charges
of the Enquirers, and the denial of the Answerer.

If the President had withheld from
his Highness's distressed Creditors their just rights,
and every sort of satisfaction, the indignation of so
considerable a body, so large a proportion of the
Settlement would not be felt in Silence, and their
Complaints would have been a presumption in favor
of the Nabobs Assertions.

Those Creditors have not been
backward in the Assertion of their rights on other
occasions. They were loud in their complaints and
warm in their expostulations to this Presidency,
during the administrations of Governor Boucheir and
of Governor DuPre because they apprehended that
justice was by those Administrations denied or delayed
to them.

The Creditors have some times ——— extended
their Suspicions even to his Highness and have
proceeded to expressions of disrespect that the pressure
of distress only could excuse one of the most considera-
ble among them, who is supposed to be in the ———
intimacy of his Highness and of his Minister the
Prince, in addition to the Court of Directors declared
that the Nabob was destitute of the smallest
inclination to pay his Debts and employed his whole
time and attention to avail himself of every possible
Subterfuge, by which he could elude Payment.
Though it is by no means believed that he is
destitute

Letter from the Ct
of Bengal to the Court
of Directors 14th Decem.
1780 received in 1781

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destitute of resources, and even in of considerable Treasury; yet certain it is that he studiously conceals and withholds them.

The entire body of creditors residing at Madras in a public letter since presented by their Directions, complain that his Highness the Nabob withheld his Payment from them, if the present President had opposed to them to stand in the way of their satisfaction, as they conceived that Governor Boucheir and Governor Du Pre had done. If they imagined that he withheld their just Rights and Refused to give them any Sort of Satisfaction, he would like his Highness and those Governors be an Object of their complaint. If they were entirely intent on ruining him, notwithstanding their importunities exerted with disappointments, it might be some presumption that the President was not guilty of the charge alleged on this occasion by the Nabob. But is at least a certainty of the Failure in the positive evidence of such a charge as can if it were true to be adduced. It may be possible that these allegations are connected with such design as he was formerly accused of entertaining to involve the Government in fresh disputes with his Creditors, in which it was then thought probable he would succeed. But the present Instance such a Design has not succeeded, nor have the Creditors left the insinuation against the President to be combated by negative

Letter from the Nabobs Creditors to the Governor & Council of Fort St. George 11th March 1779

Letter to the Court of Directors from the Presidency of Fort St. George, dated 6th April 1780.

Consultations of the Presidency of Fort St. George 6th Octo. 1780

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Memorial to the Court of Directors 10th August 1782

presumption in his favor they in a memorial addressed by them to the Court of Directors a very few days before this Accusation of the Presidents injustice and inattention to them, have declared, after mention of the Nabobs failure in his Agreements made five Years ago, and of their sufferings in consequence, that they drew an auspicious hope from the equitable attention of the Right Honble the President of this Settlement who in a plan which he lately framed for the arrangement of the Nabobs affairs was pleased to include the Demands of all his Creditors, and in their Letter to that President they repeat to him, that from the equitable manner in which he had taken up their Concerns, they had the greatest reliance upon his Representations in their behalf

Letter to Lord Macartney 10th August 1782

If the Nabobs Advisers were not perfectly indifferent as to the truth of what they suggested to his Highness's mind, if they preserved the least degree of Regard to his Reputation for veracity, if they did not prepare the Success they expect from the first impressions of the Nabobs heavy charges against the President, to the permanent Credit which facts on his Highness's Assertion should be made to derive, they would not have hazarded his Signature to Assertions, so capable of disproof, so effectually disproved.

The accumulation of those baneful attacks defeats the purpose intended by them. It betrays the foundation on which they were laid, and precludes

the

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the necessity of guarding against their effect. It must therefore be acknowledged that much of the pains have taken has been unnecessary, the Consultations should not again be swelled, on the attention of the Court of Directors detained on such an occasion.

But to judge of the future by the past conduct of the Nabob's Ministers, they will not be deterred by the refutation of those charges from a renewal of them or from substituting others in their room, it is not however an unfavourable condition that those they have already made are the most obvious and prejudicial shall be a scale to measure the Guilt, the probability, and the justice of those they may have reserved for subsequent occasions.

The cautious of those Advisers of the Nabob is alarmed at their being brought forward by the President, they wish his Highness alone to run the Risk, and resume the Peishcausa and all the consequences of yielding to their pernicious suggestions they Pardon him dejectedness at being told he is advised, they whose Rank, Offices and Stations are or are thought eminent, want him to recommend or a few Harmless and unaspiring individuals, who happened to accompany the President have with Honour from the Court of Directors, or actually in their Service, the Nabob asserts that he is now told for the first time that he cannot distinguish good from evil in his own Affairs, and that even the Animals of the Field can easily distinguish Enemy from Friendship, least animals of the Air and Inhabitants of

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of the Earth may be sometimes caught in the snares
of apparent kindness, and may feel anguish in the
most sincere and salutatory assistance

It has been many times told of the
Nabob, and even by that Governor, who was dismissed
from the Company's Service for Services rendered
to his Highness, that not being of a resolute or active
Mind, he has frequently been misled by those who
have had the Art to raise his Jealousy of the Company,
or who have flattered his Vanity or raised in his mind
Ideas of conquest or future greatness

Not long even before this period when
he disclaims advice the Commander in Chief of the
Forces, who has had the best Opportunity of knowing
his Highness would not when he was conducting
a Letter from him conveying censure, allow himself
to believe that the diction although patronised by
his Seal, could have been entirely his own but the
Secret infusion of some vindictive, invidious and
Disappointed Advisers

That such infusions were not confined
to persons of the Nabob's own family and Country may
be collected from the Reason given by the Translator
of the Persian Copy of his Highnesses present Letter
for the Delay in making the Translation that he
could get little assistance from the native Moonshees or Writers who said the Person was in
Several Places different from Persian Letters in
General what difference he could not otherwise —
account for than by supposing it as to those Places
Originally written in English.

General Letter from Governor Wynyates and Council to the Court of Directors 4th July 1785

Letter from the Cyre Coote in Consultation at Fort St. George 29th October 1782

2878 Fort St. George the 16th September 1782

In fact the mildest and most favourable interpretation that could be given to a conduct by him who disapproves of it, is to free it from the imputation of deliberate mischief by attributing it to the influence and misinformation of others, it no doubt was more decent, and it is hoped it was just to lament the effect of the Insinuations of factious and designing Persons whose sinister views were forwarded, and Passions gratified by instilling Jealousies into the Nabobs mind against the Representatives of the Company than by personally accusing his Highness of inflexible obstinacy, jealousy, and perverseness, and of his having given many proofs of his want of faith and honor, which was the Language of Governor Bourchier Mr. Du Pre the present Governor General of Bengal, and General Joseph Smith-

Letter to the Court of Directors 21st March 1769.

Remarks on the Nabobs letter of the 26th March 1770 in Country Correspondence

It is possible indeed that through error his Highness may have been accused unjustly the example of groundless attacks against the President is sufficient to warn him against yielding to the impression of violent accusation against others. The President is not indeed the only instance when the President has had to oppose his actions with firmness and patience to obloquy & opposition.

His situation indeed particularly exposed him — appointed to the Government at a particular crisis, and out of the usual Course, by an example alarming to the prospects of the former Servants of the Company sent out with instructions

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Instructions of reformation effecting private Interest, and arrowing at a plan when Calamity led to discontent. The unproductivity he had to encounter could Yield only to favorable Opinion of his Intentions His Subsequent efforts for the public good have secured indeed to him the impartial Voice of general approbation, but the devices that have been thwarted the claims rejected, and attempts Opposed even in high Departments when interfering with the Order and welfare of the Company, have excited the Operation of adverse passions, which were to be resisted but could not be calmed by any goodness of conduct or example, The President opposed by such passions and struggling at the same time with the difficulties of the War, and partaking in the distresses of the people, He has a claim on the Generosity as well as justice of his Colleagues to aid, and of his superiors to approve his efforts, which he desires as long only as he shall be found to adhere to public and private Faith & Honor, and consistently with these to have no other end in view than the good of the Company and the State.

Minute thereon.

The Committee having attentively perused the foregoing minute, although they are persuaded it is not possible for them to say any thing that can add to the conviction which it must carry to the minds of our Employers of the falsehood of the Accusations to which the Nabob has been

2880 Fort St. George 16th September 1782.

been prevailed on to give the Sanction of their name, and the malignant and dangerous views and motives of the Men to whose direction this Letter is ascribed himself. Yet the Committee cannot deny themselves the Satisfaction of giving this Public Testimony of their indignant sense of the Injuries which the President has drawn upon himself by this disinterested Zeal for the welfare of the Company's Affairs and the just, and necessary measures which that Zeal has dictated, nor should we acquit Ourselves of our Duty to our Employers, or do that justice to the President which he merits at our Hands and theirs, if when any Species of Calumny and abuse is employed to traduce and vilify his Character, and every pretext tried that low Cunning and disappointed Ambition can suggest, to embarrass his administration we omitted to declare our most sincere and conscientious belief, that to those very measures, the Company principally owe the Salvation of their Interests, and the Nabob his hopes of being restored to the possession of his Country.

The Committee have also pride and Satisfaction in declaring that although the Nabob has not thought proper to include them in his Reproaches, they have uniformly supported and acquiesced in the conduct by which they have been innabled, and they claim their share of responsibility for that conduct, and of the Censure or Applause which it shall be found to deserve from our Employers, and from the Public.

Agreed that Copies of the Nabob's Letter and the Presidents Minute thereon be sent as Numbers in our Packet Capt. Rooney, and also that the Sentiments of the Committee here expressed on both as above stated.

Sobieski Numbers in the Packet

2881 Fort St. George September 1782.

No 16.

Received the following Dispatches from the Southward.

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Governor &ca Select Committee of
Fort St. George.

From Colonel Nixon, Tippoo Saib is arrived with a large Force at Calgoody. Some Disputes are likely to arise between the Renter and Sondeman the Madura Renter has escaped from the Enemy. enclosed [illegible] of a Letter from Capt. Billcliffe.

My Lord & Gentlemen.

I had the Honor of writing to you two Days ago, wherein I informed you of the Intelligence I had received of Tippoo Saib's being resolved to possess himself of the Carnatic Country, which from its Importance to this Place, I was resolved to maintain, and ordered the Detachment at Curnapatore, to join the Party which had so well defended that Place lately in three several Instances, but now their Provisions begin to run short, and I greatly apprehend we shall be under the Necessity of evacuating it. Tippoo Saib as I hear is arrived with a large Force near Calgoody, we see several Villages on Fire, on the North Side of the River, and Parties of their Cavalry were seen this Morning from the Rock. I am greatly concerned to tell you, I am not in a Condition from various Reasons to attack these People. Inclosed I have the Honor of sending you a Letter from Captain Billcliffe, since the Receipt of which, I hear Brigadier Dewar was near it endangered with a small Force. The Renter will inform you

2882 Fort St George September 1782 —

the
16 of some Disputes which are likely to arise between him and Tondeman, (about Golam Ali Khan's Jaghire,) he seems resolved to keep Possession of it, I hope you will be pleased to consider and settle this Matter soon, as they may run to greater Height, and must of Course produce fresh Troubles in that Country

I have the Honor to be
My Lord & Gentlemen,
Your most faithful
and obedient Servant.
(signed) Eccles Nixon.

Trichinopoly
2nd September 1782

P.S. The Madura Renter after various Escapes from the Hands of the Enemy, arrived here two Days ago, on his way thither, but has been taken violently ill, so that the Time of His Proceeding is quite uncertain. —

To Lieutenant Colonel Nixon, commanding the Southern Troops.

Sir

I am just now informed that Murphy Davey, who for some Time past has been on the Borders of Catapa Naig's Country, and had with him some of Catapa

2883 Fort St. George, September 1782.

The 16th Catapa Naig's People, and some of Hyder's, are moved towards Ramnad, which Place it is reported they intend to take if they can, after the first Day's March Catapa Naig's People left them, and returned to Pandalam Country.— Report say Mauply Davey is joined by 1600 of Hyders Horse, this Amount was given by a Sepoy, sent from Tudekorine purposely for Intelligence, and to observe their Motions. I have wrote to Cutupa Naig, to know if what I have heard is true, or not, and to know whether he will join me, in Case they enter the Country.— It is also said that he has received Letters from the Dutch, I have desired he will inform me of the Truth of it. Two Dutchmen, both Deserters from Pandalum Country, and arrived at Tudekoryne. Lieutenant Tolfrey was sending them hither under a small Guard, but they were stopped on the Road by a Party of Cutapa Naig's People, and were obliged to return to Tudekoryne. It is certainly reported that the Dutch intend sending Troops this way in a short Time; Time must shew whether the Report is well founded, or not; I request you will forward the Intelligence to Sir Eyre Coote and the Select Committee if by you have a safe Opportunity, and think it proper so to do. The Renter was to pay 50,000 Porto Nova Pagodas to Mr. Proctor, within one Month after he commenced Renter, now more than twelve Days are expired since it became

(Due

2884 Fort St George, September 1782.

the 16. due, and he has not paid any Part of it, but hath offered to pay fifteen thousand Chuckrums in ready Money, the Remainder in Bills payable in a Month or two, this Mr Proctor complains of, and says the Security he offers is not good, and says, the Reason of his not fulfilling his Engagements, is owing to my not supporting him, (Mr. Proctor,) with Troops, which I ought to do on all Occasions, and that I have no right to refuse Troops, when he applies for them, or to tell the Officer commanding the what they are, and what they are not to do; but only to tell them to obey such Orders, as he may think proper to give them. It is not possible for me to support both the Renter and Mr Proctor, agreeable to your Orders, and the Orders of the Right Honble the President and Select Committee. — I have supported the Renter, and will continue to do so when I think he is right, but not otherwise. I request you will inform me, how I must act, when he does not pay his Rents at the proper Time, as this will certainly happen in my Opinion, and that Mr Proctor will endeavour to throw every Blame upon me; I shall be glad to receive positive Orders how to act in that Case. I beg leave to refer you to my Letter to you, dated the 6th of May, as every Thing I mentioned to you, relative to the Disputes, and that I must be censured, has since happened, and from the Representation he may have made to the Select Committee, perhaps I may be censured by them.

I am Sir,

Your most obedient
and most humble Servant.

[signed] J Bilcliffe

Pallam Cottah
26th August 1782.

2885 Fort St. George, September 1782.—

16

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K. B.
President and Governor &c.a Select Committee of
Fort St. George.

From Colonel Nixon
Mackennon
Lieutenant has defeated
Sied Saib, and ans Detach.
of Force, to oppose Tippoo
Saib's Progress.

My Lord & Gentlemen!

I have the Pleasure to acquaint you, that Lieutenant Mackinnon, with 1500 of the Company's Troops joined with the Reddy's gained a complete Victory over Sied Saib's Party, consisting of 7000 Men, on the 2nd; the Action lasted two Hours, and altho' Tippoo was advancing by hasty Marches with 20,000 Men, he kept Possession of the Field of Battle, till five in the Afternoon, and is now encamped in the Pettah where I think Tippoo will gain but little Credit, the Reddy's People behaved with great Bravery, and his Manager gives general Satisfaction, insomuch, that I have laid aside the Idea I had of recalling the Party, and mean to collect as soon as possible a sufficient Force to try at Tippoo himself, many Reasons appear to forbid this Rashness, but we must see if it is practicable, and act accordingly.—

(Duplicate)

I have the Honor to be,
with great Respect
My Lord & Gentlemen,
Your most faithful,
and obedient Servant.
/Signed/ E. Nixon.

Trichinopoly
5th September 1782.

2886. Fort St George September 1782.

the 16th

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K.B.
President &ca Select Committee of
Fort St George

From Mr Sulivan —
encloses Copies of his
Letters to Sir Eyre Coote
The Rajah is Negotiating
with some of Hyder's
Jemidars of Cavalry

Gentlemen!

Since my Dispatch of the 2nd, I have had Occasion to address Sir Eyre Coote several short Letters, the Copies of which, now wait on the Committee. I hope in a few Days to have the Honor of communicating to your Lordship &ca the Success of the Rajah's Negotiation, with some of the Jemidars of Cavalry, now in the Service of Hyder Ali. The Principle Obstacles which have hitherto impeded this Negotiation, have been our Want of a sufficient Force to keep the Field in this Country, and the Lowness of our Treasury. — The Approach of the Army under General Coote and the March of the Troops from Calicut, will now greatly facilitate the Rajah's Endeavours. —

I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient
and most faithful Humble Servant
(Signed) John Sulivan.

Negapatam
12th September 1782.

2887 Fort St. George, September 1782

No. 16.

To Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote K. B.

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

Sir.

I have in former Letters mentioned my Hope, that some of Hyder's Cavalry might be induced to come over to us. You are too well acquainted with the People of this Country, to make it necessary that I should trouble you with a Detail of the Reasons and Excuses that have been urged for the Delays hitherto. I have but this Moment heard from the Rajah, that the Business is in Train, and that he has reason to expect between two and three hundred in a few Days, from Tippoo Saib's Army, and that the Promises given him extend to nearly as many Thousands. The Terms offered them are similar to those which you gave the Jemidars, who came over last Year. I have written to request the Rajah will give all his Attention to this Business, and to assure him that the Horsemen shall be received upon the Terms he has promised, and I have done this with the more earnestness, as I have this Day learnt that you were arrived at Chinglepet, and that it was probable that the Army or a large Detachment from it would come to the Southward. I have some Fears for the Detachment from Trichinopoly, now in the Tondiman Country, but you will be better informed by Colonel Nixon on this Subject. — I am much concerned to acquaint you, that a Portuguese Vessel arrived at Tranquebar from Trincomalé, has brought Accounts of the Surrender of the

Castle

2888 Fort St. George September 1782.

16th latter Place the 31st to the French — The Garrison to be transported to Madras. A few Days must determine how far this Intelligence is to be relied on; from Circumstances I fear it is too well founded, if I should learn any Particulars to Morrow, I will do myself the Honor of writing to you from Tranquebar; no certain Accounts have come from Colonel Humberston later than those of the 9th, mentioned in mine of the 26th August, but the Report in Tippoo Saibs Camp is, that he is on his March to Paliachery, and that Tippoos Division is to meet him.

I have the Honor &c
with great Respect
Sir, Your most obedient
humble Servant
John Sullivan.

Karical 6th
September 1782

To Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote
Commander in Chief &c &c &c

Sir

I have the Pleasure to acquaint you that the Coventry arrived last Night at Tranquebar, she left the Admiral the 6th of Trincomalé, on the 3rd he had an Engagement with Monsieur Suffren, reinforced to 15 Line of Battle Ships, but notwithstanding this Superiority and his being to Windward Sir Edward had the Advantage. — The Nottingham with part of the Hanoverian Regiment had joined Sr Edward, The Rest parted from Sir Richard Bickerton at Sea, in the Latitude of 6° South I have not yet heard the Date of her Separation, nor the State of the

16 the Fleet, but I hope for further Information, this Evening, when I will do myself the Honor of addressing you again. — I am happy to inform you, that Tippoo Saib with his Division, has moved towards Coembetoor, and left the Detachment in the Tervore Country in perfect Safety.

I have the Honor to be with great Respect.

Sir, Your most obedient & faithful humble Servant.
John Sullivan.

I have further Assurances upon the Subject of the Horse, mentioned in my Letter of the 6th —

Karical 9th September 1782. 1 P.M. —

To Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote K.B. Commander in Chief &c.a &c.a —

Sir — Karical 10th Sept.r 1782: 2 P.M.

I had the Honor of communicating to you Yesterday the News of Sir Edward Hughes's Engagement and Success off Trincomalé, I also mentioned that the Detachment in the Tervore Country was no longer in Danger, as Tippoo Saib had marches Westward, and it was believed, to meet Colonel Humberston; I have this Moment received a Letter from Trichinopoly of the 7th which says, that the Enemy was still near Tervore, that they had been twice beaten off

from

the 16. from the Barriers of the Pollem, but that there was still reason to be anxious for our Party. the 1st Carnatic Battalion with two Guns marched the 6th at Night from Tanjore for Trichinopoly; but whether they can join the Detachment, or any designed for any other Service I am not informed.

I have the Honor to be with great Respect Sir, Your most obedient Faithful Humble Servant. John Sullivan.

Karidal 10 Sept. 2: p.m.

To Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote K. B: Commander in Chief &ca &ca &ca

Karical, 10th September 8 P.M.

Sir

I did myself the Honor of writing to you this Morning. I have since received a Letter of the 8th from Colonel Nixon, of which the following are Extracts. "The Enemy have made great Progress in cutting " the Woods and have approached within a Mile of the " Barrier." "I entreat that you may send me a single months " pay for the People I am collecting, that we may relieve " our Party, and save the Tericore Country." "Three Letters " from Lieutenant M.c Kennon are this Instant arrived two " of them of the 7th all well." I give you the Trouble of those Extracts, as Colonel Nixon's Letters may not reach you, and the Situation of the Detachment is certainly critical. I have sent to Tranquebar to negotiate if possible for Bills on Madras; I cannot hope to get any particular sums, and I fear it will require at least ten thousand

(Pagodas

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16. Pagodas to comply with Colonel Wilkins Wishes. I will not presume to offer an Opinion upon the present Strength or the Situation of the Southern Detachment and the Reinforcements that can possibly be collected from the Garrisons on this Side the Colleroon, a short Time ago we were not thought to be in force to oppose Tippoo Saib, and no Addition has since been made to our Numbers, Whenever that can be made I am satisfied it will be done, in the mean Time I beg to be favored with your Orders upon the Subject of Money, without which it will be impossible to support the Parties now out. I have the Honor to be, with great Respect Sir Your most obedient and faithful Humble Servant John Sullivan

Karical 10 Sep. 8 p.m.

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

Sir. Negapatam 11th September 8 P.M.

I have the Honor to send you with this the Duplicate of my Letter of last Night— I have no later Intelligence relative to the Detachment in Service a Letter of the 3rd Instant from Mr. Light at Tuticorin informs me that a Ship has been for some Days cruizing about the Gulph of Manapar, accompanied by a Snow, and that the Ship anchored off Manapar on the

16th the 3rd a Letter of the next Day from Palamcotah mentions
" that 5 Companies of Sepoys had just been ordered in
" readiness to march " whether any Troops had been landed
at Manapar, or for what purpose this Detachment
was ordered I have not heard, but Circumstances incline
me to think that the Arrival of this Ship off Manapar
had caused an Alarm. - I have not been successful
in my endeavours to get money for Bills, but I still
have hope the Governor of Tranquebar has intelligence
that Colonel Humberston marched the 17th for
Paliachery, the Governor formerly travelled from
Calicut across the Peninsula by that Route and
his Information agrees with the Accounts I have had
the Honor to send you. An intercepted Letter of the 8th
from the Commissary at Cuddalore to Monsieur De Suffren
mentions the Arrival of a Detachment from your Army
at Pondicherry the 6th, and represents the Conduct of
our Officers in the most flattering Terms, saying that
private Property has been particularly respected, and that
a high Price is paid for every kind of Supply; this
Letter calls our Army 18,000 strong, and the Garrison
of Cuddalore 1500 Europeans and near 9000 Natives,
differently armed; it recites a Letter from Hyder's Camp
near Arnee, dated the 5th and intimates that his
Army and Tippoo Saib's Detachment would be
employed to interrupt your Progress against Cuddalore,
Provisions and Stores have been transported from
Chittumbrum to that Place, and some Additions
have been made to the Works. ——

I

2893 Fort St. George, September 1782.

I have the Honor to be
with great Respect,
Sir, Your most obedient,
and faithful humble Servant.
John Sulivan.

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

Sir. Negapatam 13th September 1782.

From Mr. Sulivan to Sir Eyre Coote, enclosing Copy of a Letter from Palamcotah giving Intelligence that the Dutch have Designs on Tuticorin; suggests the Necessity of sending a Reinforcement to the Southward with a Detail of the probable Advantages that a powerful Army acting in that Quarter may be of in contributing to the general Success of the War.

I am extremely concerned to acquaint you that Letters of the 11th received this Day from Trichinopoly represent the Detachment at Terriore to be in great Danger. The inclosed Copy of a Letter from Palamcotah will inform you, that we have other Dangers to alarm us, and that we are threatened with an Invasion in the South, by our European Enemies at the very Moment, when the Force of our southern Army is surrounded by Tippoo Saib, when the Troops in this Garrison, in Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madura, and Palamcotah are four Months in Arrears, and when with a reduced Stock of Provisions, we are under the Necessity of subsisting the Sepoys from the public Store, without a Hope of being able to replace it. From all these Considerations I am induced to hope, that you will pardon me the Liberty of suggesting that a Reinforcement should be sent to the Southward as speedily as possible and that you will either authorize me to conclude with the Mysore Agents, or remit a Lack of Pagodas for the Service of the Field. If these Supplies can be spared to us, we may not only avert the Blow, with which we are

now.

16 now menaced, but essential Benefit may be derived
from this Division of our Enemy's Force, Tippoo Saib
would retreat upon the Approach of a European &
Detachment, strengthened by three Battalions of Sepoys
which might be collected before its arrival at Trichinopoly
and the Troops in Tervore joined to such a Detachment,
would form a respectable Army: the Appearance
of such a Force would deter the Poligars in the &
Tinnevelly Province from giving any Assistance to
our Enemies, who without their Aid could neither advance
into the Country, nor subsist on the Coast, their
only Safety would therefore be in their Ships, and their
Flight would enable us to march direct to Dendegul,
which would soon surrender — we might then form
a Junction with Colonel Humberston and enter Mysore
or if you should think it more adviseable, the &
southern Army might reduce the Forts of Caroor and
Ramut, while the Calicut Troops should be employed
against Coembatoor and in securing the Pass into
Mysore. — Perhaps a Diversion of this kind might
prove favorable to your Operations against the principal
Force of the Enemy at Cuddalore; the Possession of which
Place, now garrisoned by so large a Part of the French Troops
could not fail to produce the most happy Effects, and
enable you to transfer the Seat of War into Hyder's
Country.

We are now near the middle of
September, and the Navigation upon the Malabar Coast
is free from every kind of danger, we may therefore hope
that the Expedition against Mangalore will soon take
Place

16th place, or at least that it is only delayed from the
Want of Shipping. The Arrival of Sir Richard Bickerton
and the Troops from England, not only offer the Means
of removing this Want, but give us so decided a Superiority
in Ships and Men, that the Attack may be made
with a certainty of Success, and an Army of great force
may be put in Movement from that Quarter towards
Seringapatam, while the Calicut and Southern Troops
are approaching it from the South, and this at a Time
when the Monsoon will make it impossible for an Army
to act in the Carnatic or invade Tanjore, and when the
French the in Possession of Trincamalé, can neither receive
Succors or Supplies, but such as the Dutch can collect
for them on the Island of Ceylon. The Distances
from Calicut and Mangalore to Seringapatam are
nearly equal, and both within less than 150 Miles by
the Roads which Hyder Ali has cut, those Roads are
practicable for heavy Cannon, and once opened can
easily be secured, an Invasion from that Side, will therefore
be free from every Disadvantage that was experienced
in the last War, when we directed our Attack through
the Carnatic. Stores and Provisions can easily be
transported. Magazines may be formed, desertion
from the Enemy will be favored, friends will be
encouraged to declare for us, and such a Force in the
Neighbourhood of the Marattas will make them deaf
to the importunities of Hyder, and favorable to the
Re-establishment of the ancient Family of Mysore.
if that Measure should be approved of by you, and I am
favored with your Orders to conclude with the Agents,

nor

9

2896 Fort St. George. September 1782

16. I will engage that our military Operations shall meet no Delay from the Want of Money or Provisions, and we shall be in too great Force to suffer it from any other Cause. But if the Friends of that Family who are now so far involved with us, and whose offers have been so liberal, should be disregarded, or if by the Loss of our Detachment and the Southern Invasion, we should be confined to our Garrisons without Provisions, while Hyder is busy in opening every Avenue to gain Friends at Poonah, we may upon the Return of fair Weather in December, have a powerful European Enemy to cope with in the Carnatic, and be reduced by that Means, and by the Operations of Hyder's Army at Poonah, to accede to such Terms as the Maratta State may think proper to prescribe to us. The Apprehension of this, however distant, will I am persuaded excuse the Freedom with which I have expressed my Sentiments, and obtain me your Pardon for taking up so much of your Time.

I have the Honor to be,
with great Respect —
Sir. Your most obedient
& faithful humble Servant
/signed/ John Sulivan

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Proctorate Tinnevelly, dated the 6th. September, to Mr. Sulivan at Tanjore.

2897 Fort St. George. September 1782

No. 16

Sir

Enclosed I send you a Letter for the Governor, it is to advise his Lordship that four Dutch Ships or Vessels are arrived off Manapaar. It is thought they have brought Troops to land on the Coast in this Part, but of which no certain Information has been received, or of their design — Adjutant Butler with five Companies of the Light Infantry marched yesterday afternoon, to the Coast where the Dutch Ships are seen, to watch their Motions, and prevent the landing of any Troops if possible.

I am Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
signed George Proctor.

From Captain Bilcliffe enclosing Lieutenant Wheeler's Answer to the Charges preferred against the Captors of Tutecorin.

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K.B.
President & Governor &c.a
Fort St. George

My Lord

I am honored with your Letter of the 16th June, informing me that Complaints have been preferred against the Captures of Tutocoryn, for seizing the Property of the Native Inhabitants, as well as that of the Dutch, and that for the Redemption of it, and to obtain the Liberty of returning to settle under the Company's Protection, considerable pecuniary & Gratifications have been exacted from them. I beg leave to lay before your Lordship Lieutenant Wheeler's Answer to the above Charges. I have also inquired of the

2898 Fort St George, September 1782.

the other Gentlemen concerned, and they declare the same as Lieutenant Wheeler; I had relieved him from his Command prior to the Receipt of your Lordships &c. Letter, at his own Request. The Inhabitants I am informed are contented and happy. ——

I have the Honor to be
My Lord. Your most obedient
and most humble Servant
/signed/ Joseph Bidulph

Palamcotah
15th August 1782.

To Captain Joseph Bidulph
commanding at
Palamcotah

Sir.

I have maturely considered every Circumstance respecting the Letter you received from the Right Honble the President of Fort St George, wherein there has been a Complaint made against the Captors of Putekoria, for plundering the Inhabitants as well as the Dutch, and taking several pecuniary Gratifications for Rowle. As being commanding Officer who took Putekoria, I look upon the Affair touching me solely, altho' it is mentioned in General Terms, as there could not be any Thing of that Nature done without my Knowledge, I therefore solemnly declare that I never took a Cash directly or indirectly from any Inhabitant of Putekoria for Cowle, neither did I allow any of them to be plundered

(who

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took Howle in ten Days after my taking Possession of the Place. - The only Person belonging to Sutteborin who had any Thing taken from him was the head Man who transacted all the Dutch Business, he was likewise + offered Howle with the Rest, but refused to come in; I found on Enquiry the Reason of his not taking Howle was he expected the Dutch back again, and that they with the Assistance of Catabona Naik, would make me abandon it. I of Course treated him as an Enemy, there could be no Excuse for his not knowing that Cowle was offered to every Body, as immediately on my Arrival I sent the Tom Tom round all the Villages, and had it continued for three Days; I likewise sent the Tom Tom threatening all Persons with immediate Punishment who should be found plundering or making any disturbance in the Villages. - I must own I am a little surprized that any Man in the Character of a Gentleman should make such a false and malicious Report to the Residency, without acquainting me he had done so, but it is of a Piece with Mr. Proctor's Behaviour, as far as I have seen, since I came to this Part of the Country;

I am,
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant.
H: Wheller.

[signed]

Palamcotah
27th July 1782.

2906 Fort St. George, September 1782.

11/16

Dispatched Duplicate of the Letter of Yesterday to Sir Eyre Coote, with Postscript acquainting him of the Declaration of the Admiral in Committee, relative to supporting his Operations with as great a Force as Mr. Sufften could send to oppose them; sent him also Copies of the above Letters from Colonel Pixon and Mr. Sulivan.

11/17.

Received the following Dispatch from the Southward with the several Inclosures mentioned therein, as entered in Miscellany Book.

From Mr. Light, on the Subject of Captain Edingtown's Overcharge for the feeding of Bullocks

To the Secretary to the Select Committee

Sir

I have been honored with your Letter of the 14th of May two Days since, I have heretofore in my Letters to you, pointed out as far as I then thought was necessary, the Line I had followed respecting not serving Captain Edingtown with Bullocks, but as at this Time my Letters may have miscarried, I am to request your Indulgence, while I inform you the Part I have taken in this Matter.

On the 1st of [illegible] January 1781. I was informed by Captain Edingtown, he expects to take the Field, and to proceed through the Dindigul Pass into the Coembatore Country, and that either the two

Fort St. George September 1782.

17. two 18 Pounders or the two 24 Pounders were to be taken with him, I then pointed out to him the Difficulty there would be, in procuring such a number of draught Bullocks, as would be wanted, and proposed immediately taking two of the strongest Bullocks, (which belonged to the Lubbays and others for the Purpose of carrying Merchandize,) and to begin to break them into the Limbars, he told me no, it was unnecessary to put the Company to so much Expence, he would inform me in Time. — On the 11th January 1781, I received the accompanying Order No 1, I went to him and requested a few Sepoys as was usual to bring in the Bullocks, and to procure Straw, his Answer was, "no by God, Company's Sepoys were wanted for other "Purposes, the Circar People was the proper Channel to "procure those Articles." tho' I had little Hopes of Success I desired the Renter to send out his Sepoys, and try what could be done, he did so, but the Bullocks they brought in were all small, and from the Paddy Fields — I found I was only injuring the Country, and was doing but little Service to the Company, I told Captain Edingtown so, he answered me he wished I would tell I could not get them, which I did without Hesitation; Captain Edingtown then sent three Companies of Sepoys with Ensign Borrett to Callacaude to seize them, and got some from Chevellyputtore, where Lieutenant Halcott was with some Companies of Sepoys; the Committee with also observe, the only trouble Captain Edingtown could have had, was in giving Orders, as the Company were at the Expence of Batta &c.; on their being brought in, it

(is

17th. is true, I refused to take charge of them; because I could not feed them without Captain Edingtoun's Assistance, but surely because I could not take charge of them, it could be no Reason why Captain Edingtoun should charge so enormously, when my Accounts for the Months of January and February will shew how much the Feeding and drivers came to, the Remainder I have no Hesitation in saying, was paying well for any Bullock Captain Edingtoun would run, either by Loss or Death of Bullocks, the Select Committee are the best Judges how far Captain Edingtoun's Plea is good, thus much I am to say, I never intended he should be his own Pay master, without he went out of the Tinnevelly District, and it was at the Time he told me he expected to go beyond Dindegul, I told him he would be so - I must likewise inform you, I should not have paid him any Money on Account of Bullocks, had he not most solemnly promised me, on my telling him he had over charged, and that I knew the Pay master of Pondicherry by drawing agreeable to the Regulations, had been obliged to return a large Sum on the same Account, he would return what was over charged, should it be found he had done so. I am likewise to inform you I have employed upon the same Mastry Bullock Man, at the Company's Allowance, and was it not extraordinary that Captain Edingtoun should be the only Officer not capable of procuring Bullocks, at the Price allowed by Government when in my Accounts for the Months of January and February, and Lieutenant Walcott, and Ensign Colin Campbell for

2903 Fort St George September 1782

17th for some Months when on Detachment at Shavelly pottore charged no more than was the usual Price — With Regard to the Trevancore Sepoys, I was never applied to serve them with Paddy 'till after the Arrival of Mr Proctor, when they had been served for 6 Months before by Captain Edingtoun without any Application, and the Commandant in Mr Proctor's Presence told me, I must wait for the Payment 'till the Money came from Trevancore, or they would carry the Grain to Tinnevelly and sell it, and then pay me; I of Course refused to do it, and should still continue to do so, had they not found Means to raise Cash sufficient for the Payment.

The Horses I can know nothing of, only that the seizing of them gave great Discontent; the Board are the best Judges what right he had to pay for them, if any Orders had been sent I imagine they would have been sent to me, or how the paying himself, when Troops were on the Eve of a Mutiny, agrees with that public Spirit he has so boasted of to the Committee, the very unfair and uncandid Manner which Captain Edingtoun has stated Matters, has obliged me to give you a long Narrative; when I addressed the Board on the Subject of Captain Edingtouns over Charge, it was a Point of Duty, as an Explanation of this Part of my Account was absolutely necessary. I am

2902. Fort St. George, September 1782.

H.
17.

I am
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
William Light.

Palamcotah
10th July 1782.

/signed/

Triplicate.

Captain Edingtown to conform to the latest Regulations.

Agreed that Captain Edingtown be acquainted, that he must conform to the latest Regulations, and Account to Mr. Light for the difference which he has overcharged. —

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K. B.
President and Governor &c.a &c.a Select Committee of
Fort St George.

From Mr. Light with a List of Prisoners and their Crimes, with reduce the Expences of the Province and attend to other Matters recommended to him. ——

My Lord & Gentlemen

I have been honored with your Letter of the 9th of May, addressed to Mr. Proctor and myself, & your Lordship &c.a may depend (as far as lays with me) on every Exertion in my Power to reduce the Expences of this Province as well as that of Madura. I have the Honor of forwarding you a List of the Prisoners with their Crimes.

I have likewise received your Lordship's and the Honble Committee's Orders of the 3rd of June, respecting the Repairs of Tanks &c.a and the measuring of Paddy. I have surveyed the Anicuts of Maddoe and Chuttamulley, an estimate of the Repairs necessary &

2905 Fort St. George September 1782.

17 I shall have the Honor of forwarding in a few Days. I am to inform your Lordship &c.a that none but temporary Repairs can be made 'till the Month of January — all Paddy which may in future be sent into the Garrison, I shall measure agreeable to the Custom of the Coicar, at 21 Mercalls Per Cobra, and give Receipts agreeable to your Lordship's &c.a orders, keeping notwithstanding a Servant of the Renter's that should there be any Overplus, it may be carried to the proper Account.

I am with due Respect

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your very obedient,

humble Servant,

Palamcotah
12th July 1782.

[signed] William Light.

Duplicate.

From Capt.n Gibbings has formed four independent Companies from the Nabob's Sepoys.

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney

K: B: President and Governor &c.a Select Committee of

Fort St George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

On the 10th Instant I was honored with your Letter, under Date Fort St George 20th May 1782 by which I understand you sent me prior Orders on the Subject of entertaining the Nabob's Sepoys

Cir

2906 Fort St. George, September 1782

17th in the Company's Service, which Orders I have not received — but on Receipt of your last Orders, I immediately formed (from the Nabob's Sepoys) four Companies of independent Sepoys, on the Plan which you have recommended, which Plan (in my Opinion) will answer very well. I purpose forming one or two more Companies more, as soon as the Sepoys return from the Country Service. It will be difficult to get Drummers and Fifers, and Arms and Accoutrements are very much wanted.

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

Madura
17th July 1782.

/signed/

From Mr Proctor complaining of Captain Biluliffe, and protesting against him.

Read Letter from Mr. Proctor as entered in Miscellany Book, N° 6 dated 22nd July complaining of Captain Biluliffe's Interference in the Revenue Business, of his putting the Sibbendy under the Orders of the Renter, withdrawing the Company's Troops from the District of Shivmandary, and not affording him the necessary Assistance in the Execution of his Employ — Endosing Copies of Letters to Captain Biluliffe on these Subjects, and protesting against his Conduct.

Read Letter from Mr Proctor as

2907 Fort St. George, September 1782.

17th ~ as entered in Miscellany Book, No. 13 dated 28th August

From Mr. Proctor complaining of Mr. Light, the Renter, and Captain Bilcliffe

stating that Mr. Light has received from the Renter considerable Sums of the Revenues of the Country, & complaining of the Renter refusing to pay him the Sum of 50,000 Pagodas, and offering only 15,000 Chuckrums in Lieu of it; — enclosing Letter to Captain Bilcliffe recommending to him, to compel the Renter to pay the ready Money in his Possession, and accusing Captain Bilcliffe of having deprived him of his Authority and Influence. — —

Received the following Letter from

Colonel Nixon.

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K. B.
President and Governor &ca the Select Committee of
Fort St. George.

From Colonel Nixon, Tippoo Saib is on his way to the Terriore Country — The Aspect of Famine begins to make its appearance.

My Lord and Gentlemen

I had the Honor to address &
several Letters to you, under Date the 13th 21st ~ 22nd ~ and
26th ~ June, the 7th ~ 15th ~ and 22nd ~ July, and the 3rd ~ and
11th Instant. — I am quite at a Loss to know if you have
received any of them — we are assured from various Accounts
that Tippoo is on his Way to the Terriore Country and is resolved
to have it. The Exchange is rather an indifferent one for that
of Tanjore which he has certainly evacuated. — I received

a

2908 Fort St George, September 1782

11th a Letter from Colonel Humberston dated the 2nd Instant, informing me it was his firm Resolution to take the Field, I have since heard that on the 7th Instant his principal Magazine of Powder which was lodged in a Fort called Chetwa, owing to some Accident was blown up, above one half of the Fort was destroyed, and thirty five People killed, three of whom were Europeans, this I am afraid will retard his Intentions for some Time — We have been and still are very much distressed for Money here, in short there is no Coin whatever current but bad Trichinopoly Fanams, which occasion a Number of Disputes and Complaints, there are neither Pagodas or silver Fanams to be had — It gives me the deepest Concern to inform you this Country is beginning to wear the direful Aspect of Famine, several poor Creatures are daily found dead in the Streets for want of Subsistence, and it will take two Months before we can hope for an Alleviation from this dreadful Prospect, as the Crop now on the Ground will not be ripe before that Time; the only Step that was supposed to bring Relief has been taken, by remitting the Customs on all Grain, but the good Effects of this Measure have not yet been felt. — The Pious Polygar who was expelled his Country and has been here some Time, is very urgent for Assistance, and to be in Action, he might be of great Use to the common Cause, he cannot be otherwise than faithful to his Engagement with us, as this is the only Prospect or Hope left him — A Dubash and a Peon of Mr Norris's who had been

(confined

2909 Fort St. George, September 1782.

To confined here a long Time for Crimes they had committed and having no other Method of bringing them to Punishment but by a general Court Martial, they were accordingly tried, the Crimes and Sentences with my Remarks thereon I take the Liberty to send herewith.

I have the Honor to be
with great Respect,
My Lord and Gentlemen,
Your most faithful,
and obedient Servant.
Eccles Nixon.

Trichinopoly
29th August 1782.

/signed/

Received the following Letter from Captain Edmonds.

From Captain Edmonds desiring to have Instructions relating to Provisions in the Fort of Timry Cottah, given to his Phoudars to Dispose of.

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Governor &ca of
Fort St. George.

My Lord

I have the Honor to write your Lordship in Consequence of a Letter I have just received from Lieutenant Boisdaum, the Officer commanding in the Palinaud, acquainting me that the Nabob has sent Orders to his Phoudar at that Place, to dispose of the Provisions laid in by him in the Fort of Timry Cottah, and that the Phoudar had applied to him for leave to take them out for Sale, which he refused 'till he should receive my Orders

(For

17th for so doing — I have also received a Letter from the + Phousdar to the same Purport, giving a State of the the greater part of Provisions, which he says has been there three Years, and is much decayed, the Grain is buried in the Ground, + according to the Custom of the Country, the Straw put for its protection is rotten, and the Vermin are destroying it fast — I have desired it may remain 'till I may receive your Lordship's Instruction concerning it, it will be so impossible to ascertain the Quantity remaining without taking it out of the Ground, which will render it unfit for any Thing but immediate Use, and from the great Scarcity of Grain at present in that and the neighbouring Countries, I fear Difficulty may be found in replacing it — The Provisions in this Garrison which I did myself the Honor to write your Lordship concerning some Time ago are in a similar Situation, many of the principal Articles being unfit for use, they still continue under Charge of the Rat-a-Killedar, who is not very attentive to their Safety. —

Two People belonging to the + Calastry Family, but in different Interest have been making a Noise in this Neighbourhood. I understand the Dispute is who shall continue in Possession of the Fort and District of Pamore, belonging to the Calastry Rajah, they have + been soliciting the Assistance of the Killedar belonging to the Vincategary Rajah, with what Success I have not yet learnt; Report also says that one of them brought a Letter from the Rabob to Rum Chunder Rauze requesting this

2911 Fort St. George, September 1782.

17th his Assistance, which he has refused.

I have the Honor to be
with the greatest Respect
My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient
humble Servant
Edward Edmondt.
Captain Commandant.

Pagode
8th September 1782. /Signed/

322

Proceedings of the Committee of Revenue

Receives Letter and Proceedings from the Committee of assigned Revenue, enclosing Letters from the Trichinopoly Renter and from Bomrauz as lodged in the Office, the former complaining in strong Terms against Colonel Nixon for suffering his Troops to plunder the Coicar Country and seize the Bullocks belonging to the Inhabitants indiscriminately with those of the Enemy, giving him great Opposition and Embarrassment; — the latter complaining of the Commanding Officer at Tripassore for supporting Narsengrauze in Opposition to his Pushear Muckrauze.

171

Dispatched the following Letters.

To Captain George Campbell
commanding at
Nellore.

To Nellore — the Sea Coolies proceed to the Northward for the Protection of the Trade.

Sir.

9

2912 Fort St George 17th September 1782.

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to acquaint you, that the San Carlos proceeds to Northward, in order to protect the Trade from thence to the Presidency, that you may advise the People of Mirtnapatam, that they may send their Grain Vessels with Safety.

I am
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
John Hudleston, Secretary

Fort St George
17th September 1782.

[signed]

To James Daniell Esqr
Chief & Council
Masulipatam

To Masulipatam
advising the same

Gentlemen

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to acquaint you, that the Admiral has ordered the San Carlos to proceed to the Northward, in Order to protect the Trade from thence to the Presidency.

I have the Honor to be
Gentlemen
Your most obedient
humble Servant
John Hudleston, Secretary.

Fort St George
17th September
1782.

[signed]

The same to Vizagapatam, Ganjam, Ingeram, and Masepottam.

2913 Fort St George September 1782.

18th

Received Letter from Mr Proctor with Account of outstanding Ballance in the Tinnevelly Country amounting to Chuckrums 207620. ordered to be sent to the Committee of assigned Revenue.

Received the following Letter from Captain Gibbings.

From Captain Gibbings, acknowledging Receipt of the Orders sent him. —

To John Hudleston Esqr.
Military Secretary at
Fort St. George.

Sir

I beg to acquaint you that I have received the Orders of the Honble President and Select Committee, under Date Fort St George 9th of May and the 20th May 1782. also Duplicates of them from you; I have wrote in Answer to them of the 20th which were the first I received, and will reply to them of the 9th as soon as my Health will permit, I have received the General Orders of the 4th April.

I am,
with great Respect
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
Robert Gibbings.

Madura
8th August 1782.

[signed]

Wednesday 18th September 1782

At a Select Committee present

The Right Honble George Lord Macartney President

Sir Edward Hughes K.B.

Anthony Sadlier Alexander Davidson Esqrs

Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote, absent on Service

Major General Sir Hector Munro indisposed

John Holland Esqr Resident at Hydrabad

Minutes of last Committee read and approved.

Read the following Letters just received by Hircarrahs

From General Stuart Last taken the Command of the Army, during the Indisposition of Sir Eyre Coote, no Appearance of the Medea and Provision Vessels.

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.

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

Fort St George

My Lord & Gentlemen

The Indisposition of the Commander in Chief still continues, but by every Symptom seems to lessen — I have his Permission to take charge of Affairs during this unfortunate Crisis. — Since my last we have had a Note from Captain Gower dated Saturday Evening, three Miles South of Sadras, wherein the

Fort St George, 18th September 1782—

he mentions for certainty the Diligence would be at Alamparvey
as next Day, we have sent by Land and Sea in quadruplicate
all that can be communicated to Captain Gower, or to any
and every Vessel of his Convoy for their Conduct and our
Relief: besides the present Indisposition of the Commander
in Chief, it has been an Addition of publick Misfortune
that since the Time the General took Possession of this
advantageous Position for the Army, there has not blown
for one Minute a Sea Wind, and these are the Causes of
our present Uneasiness— We have not hitherto had any
Account in the Return from Alamparva, on the contrary,
those we sent by Land have reported that no Ships were
there in Sight, this Day a Ship was seen to the
Southward, and as she passed, the Vessel we supposed to
be the Yarmouth without a Mainmast spoke with her,
and afterwards proceeded to the Northward without making
any Signals for a Boat, the dismasted Vessel followed her,
from every Circumstance I conclude that she is a French
Frigate, and think that by the Intelligence communicated
by the late Yarmouth, she is gone in Quest of the
provision Vessels, ignorant of the Medea being with them,
however that may be, it serves to increase our Uneasiness.—
In this State we are to serve out two Days Rice to the
fighting Men to morrow, all that remains will be five Days
and that perhaps scanty from Measure, with which five
Days this Army must of Necessity return towards the
Presidency, in case the Rice Vessels do not arrive.— Accounts
have been received of the Arrival of the Company's Ship
Cat—

2916 Fort St. George 18th September 1782.

at Madras, and where she parted from Sir Richard Bickerton
would to Heaven the Medea and her Convoy may arrive
here to morrow or even next Day, and Sir Richard Bickerton
soon afterwards — a final Blow might then be given to
french Projects by Land at least, even tho' the french
Report of Trincomalé should prove true — Every corroborating
Intelligence confirms us in the belief that the French
in Cuddalore fit for Service exceed one thousand exclusive
of three hundred Coffries, three thousand french Sepoys,
two thousand of Hyder's, and seven hundred dutch
Sepoys — We know for certain that the Tanjore
Country is cleared, and the Commander in Chief with
his usual Precaution gave warning to provide every thing
there
could be wanted during this Respite.

All Accounts agree that Hyder is
moving towards Cuddalore, his Progress is slow as we suppose
he waits to hear of our next Movement. I have nothing to
add further, only to repeat the most earnest Wish for
Exertion in sending Rice to Coringlepat and Carangoly

I have the Honor to be
My Lord & Gentlemen of the Select Committee
Your most obedient
and most devoted humble Servant
[signed] James Stuart.

Camp Red Hills
near Pondicherry
10th September 1782.

P.S.

An Officer has been sent in the only Boat
that could be found here, who most undoubtedly will
Convey

convey every Intelligence requisite — Some People here imagine it is the Coventry Frigate that passed here this Day, but from the manœuvring, I am of a different Opinion.

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Governor &c.a Select Committee of
Fort St. George

My Lord & Gentlemen

A very severe bilious Fever which attacked me on the 8th Instant at Pondicherry, has totally incapacitated me from addressing you my self since that Period. The Circumstance of my Illness as well as the critical Situation of our Affairs, you have by my Orders been acquainted with of by Major General Stuart to whom on my Indisposition growing very severe I committed the Charge of the Army. I am at present somewhat better, but my Fever tho' lowered continues, and I am reduced to a very weak State by my late Attack — Seven Days Rice Yesterday inclusive was our whole Stock, which Circumstance added to the Intelligence yesterday received of our Fleet having returned to Madras, and the Impossibility, in Consequence of the Medea with our Rice and other Store Ships not proceeding to our Relief is to be lamented, and could not be otherwise parried, but by falling back towards Madras for our immediate and future Support. Had our Vessels with Provisions arrived, and it had been possible to cover them by Sea, off Pondicherry, I should have

(had

from Sir Eyre Coote the Army on the March, in with to Madras, the Medea and Store Ships having arrived, great Dejection and Scarcity of Provisions in Hyder's Army. —

had the fairest Field for attempting the Annihilation of the present french Land Force on this Coast — also of acting advantageously against Hyder — That Opportunity for the present is lost, and is to be feared so favorable a Chance of pushing Matters decisively will not again soon occur — the French Troops were for certain distressed at Cuddalore very little dependance could by them be placed on their new raised Sepoys — Hyder Ali's Army has also of late been greatly straitened for Provisions near Arnee and Doley Gurr, and this apparently was not the Season for his aiding the French so powerfully as they either required or expected — Defection also seemed to be gaining Ground amongest his Troops, for Yesterday Morning the Advance of one of his Corps of Cavalry, consisting of 76 Men, under a Person of some Consequence, by Name Lolle Caun came in to our grand Guard on receiving Cowle from me — Under these favorable Circumstances every Thing was to have been expected, and my Mortification is extreme, that the attacking the French at Cuddalore could not be attempted, previous to the expected French Reinforcements arriving, and Hyder's Army being recruited which from every Intelligence it seems at this Time to stand in need of — Our Existance to the Southward depended upon our Provisions being convey'd by our Fleet, as that is for the present impracticable, we must wait with Patience for better Times, I trust they are near at Hand, and that the safe Arrival of our expected Reinforcements with Sir Richard Bickerton, will soon give us a decided Superiority — The Confirmation of the Fall of Trincomale, and that Sir Edward Hughes has sailed for Madras, since the Action of

2919 Fort St. George 18th September 1782.

of the 3rd, reached us from Captain Gower Yesterday at 11 O Clock, and there being no Alternative or Option left + consistently with the Safety and very Existance of the Army but its Return - General Stuart gave the necessary Order for its immediate March. We reached Vellanoor late last Night - came this Day to our present Encampment, and shall proceed towards Chingleput to Morrow, where I trust I shall find that your Exertions since the Army marched to the Southward, have secured us such Supplies as we shall stand in need of - General Stuart has wrote fully both to Tanjore and Negapatam, since our Intelligence of Yesterday, and returned Answer to Captain Gower recommending his Return with the Five Vessels immediately to Madras Road.

I have real Pleasure in assuring you, that in this very critical Situation of our Affairs, I have received every Assistance from the General's Exertions, which have been uniformly exhibited much to his Honor, and entirely to my Satisfaction.

I have the Honor to be
My Lord and Gentlemen
Your most obedient,
humble Servant
Eyre Coote

Head Quarters
Vinsevanam 12.
September 1782.

[Signed]

Triplicate.

P. S. I enclose for your Information, Copy of Captain Gower's Letter, dated Monday the 9th September.

2920 Fort St. George 18th September 1782.

From General Stuart, Sir Eyre Coote a little recovered — The Commander in Chief anxious that the Army be put in a Condition to move again with all Expedition —

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Governor &c.a Select Committee of
Fort St. George

My Lord and Gentlemen.

It is with infinite Satisfaction that I have the Honor of acquainting you, that excepting Weakness, the Consequence of Medicine every Symptom of Fever or Illness has entirely left the Commander in Chief — I judge it from the long Conversation I had with him to Day, immediately after coming to this Ground, and altho' I think he will from to Morrow communicate his own Ideas to you, yet they seem of such pubtic Moment as in my Opinion to admit of no Delay — In few Words I think the General is of Opinion that no Time should be lost in putting this Army in every Respect in Condition to march in any Direction with Provisions of every Sort, the same as when it last marched to the Southward, and for this plain Reason, that when the Enemy shall see that we are in a Condition to move with Supplies, they will attempt nothing to hurt the Provinces South of the Coleroon, at least before the Monsoon, and this seems to be (all things now considered) a very great Object to be guarded against — The General in this View was very anxious indeed, to continue every Exertion to forward the Rice to Chinglepett, and desired me to mention to Mr. Henworthy and the Agent what concerned their Departments for Arrack and other Things — I am myself unacquainted

(with

Fort St. George, 18th September 1782.

with the Detail of these Matters in the way they have been conducted or what part properly belongs to the Company's Agent at Madras for Carriage, draught, or slaughter Bullocks All I mean to convey to your Honor &c. is, that this Army instead of the Appearance of retiring from Service may be furnished with the Means of forwarding it. Nothing worth while has occurred during the last March and the next Move will be either to Maddrantegon for the Sake of Forage or a cross the River to Caringoly — Our latest Inteligence is that Hyder has halted at Villepooram, as I suppose on hearing of the Route we have taken. — Eleven large Vessels were seen with their heads to the Northward under Sail between Cuddalore and Pondicherry just as the Rear of the Army were quitting the Red Hills — If they are of Sir Richard Bickerton's Convoy or Squadron your Honor &c. must know it before this can reach you — Every Precaution has been taken to inform the Masters of Vessels belonging to the Medea's Convoy, as well as the Snow Hastings of our Movements Northward.

I have the Honor to be
My Lord & Gentlemen
Your most obedient,
and devoted humble Servant,
(signed) James Stuart.

Camp at Acherewauke 13th September 1782. —

Duplicate

From General Stuart the Commander in Chief applauds the Exertions of Government in having thrown so much Grain into Chinglepet.

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Governor &c. Select Committee of
Fort St. George.

2922 Fort St. George 18th. September 1782.

My Lord and Gentlemen

I am happy to inform you that the Commander in Chief's Health is in the fairest way of being thoroughly re established — He rested well last Night, and the Fever has entirely left him — it was a violent bilious Disorder, and that being now removed the Gentlemen of the Faculty say, he is likely to have continuing good Health, he is however so much reduced as to be unable to hold the Pen himself, and therefore desires me to acquaint you, that the Army came to the Ground South of the Palar this Forenoon, without any thing material occurring on this or Yesterday's March, excepting a Man or two wounded by a small Party, who hung upon the Rear, in the March to Carangoly — The Rice sent from hence to Carangoly has not been touched upon, the Nature of that Port is such, that the General thinks it proper to leave as much in Store advanced there, as can be conveniently sent, in case the Army passes by that Route — The General is happy to find that the Exertions of Government had forwarded to this Place from the Presidency since the Time the Army passed to the Southward, such a Quantity, as would in Case of Emergency have been of the utmost Consequence to the Service, in Event of Accident or Failure having occurred to us in our March — Returns are already received of the daily Consumption for this Garrison,

and

and Carangoly, and of the total Quantity in Store, and from these Returns the Commander in Chief will at all Times know nearly what may be depended upon — Orders are likewise this Day given to ascertain the Quantity delivered to the Army from this Garrison in Presence of the Company's Agents Servants. The Army Lalls to Morrow, the next March will be to Chinesperma coil, and on Thursday we shall take up our Ground, so as to make it easy next Day to receive the Rice from the Mount, which the General thinks should be considered as the grand Magazine from whence to supply the Army with the utmost Expedition — The Carriage of the Army will also be sent to Madras, and every Means used to complete us, as far as the Means of Carriage will go, equal at least to the Quantity the Army marched with on the late Occasion — Accounts are just now received from Vandewash that Defour is properly Hyder's Head up Quarters, but from the Want of Forage it is supposed he cannot long remain there — Nothing new has reached us from Cuddalore and no Ships had passed there excepting the Coventry the Day before we left the Red Hills — some of Captain Pringle's People say they saw a Snow and another Vessel who had nearly reached Pondicherry Road, put about again to the Northwards — we suppose the Snow Hastings — The General has desired Lieutenant Colonel Davis to apply to the Agent at Madras by Insant for six Weeks Gram for the Cavalry which he wishes may be complied with, or the Report that there is not any to be had for Purchase and that there is not two Days Gram with the Army —

egrain

2924 Fort St. George 18th September 1782.

The Commander in Chief desires me to request that the Money for the Army may be ready to be sent to Camp on Thursday if possible. —

I have the Honor to be
My Lord & Gentlemen
Your most obedient
and devoted humble Servant.
[signed] James Stuart.

Chingleput
15th September
1782.

from General Stuart,
Large Bodies of the Enemy
about Wandewash, a few
Patans come over. The
General urgent in his
Demands for Supplies to
enable the Army to move
again.

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Governor &c.a, Select Committee &
Fort St. George

My Lord & Gentlemen

Our Intelligence of this Day from Vandewash is that the Enemy are in large Bodies hovering round that Place — Captain Flint's letter is dated the 14th. We hear also that the Body of the Enemy's Horse now under Ganzzee Caun, which usually attends the Movements of this Army, is at or near Salleywanke — One or two of that Party have come in half starved, there are also a few more of the Patans come over. The General wishes to be able to satisfy these People in buying their Horses at a moderate Rate, so as to be immediately of Service to mount our Troopers, and to find some Vessel to carry them to Masulipatam — Every Time the General

(sends

Fort St George, 18th September 1782.

sends for me, he begs I would repeat his most earnest Wish to use the utmost Exertion by sending Rice and every other Article wanted, with the greatest Dispatch possible to the Mount, so as we may be able to move at the shortest Notice; he continues to get better — The Army will be refreshed by this Day's Halt, they needed it much. —

I have the Honor to be
My Lord & Gentlemen,
Your most obedient,
and devoted humble Servant.
James Stuart

/signed/

Chingleput
18th September
1782. —

From General Stuart — the Commander in Chief has sent Orders to the King's Troops here, to — embark on board the Fleet intended to — co-operate with the Army. The Army in want of Grain for the Cavalry.

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Governor &c.a Select Committee of
Fort St George.

My Lord & Gentlemen

The Commander in Chief desires me to acquaint you, that upon the March from Chingleput he received Mr. Secretary Huddleston's Notes dated the 15th and the Duplicate with the Postscript of the 16th — This Postscript gives him great Satisfaction in finding that the Admiral gives it as his Opinion that he can support the Operations of the Army, to protect them against any Detachment from Mr. Suffren — In this way his Excellency thinks that we cannot fail of Success — The Movement of this Army (bodily

bodily to a proper Ground near the Mount, wherefore it undoubtedly expedite the Service, more than by receiving the Supplies by Detachment — The Articles immediately wanted to enable us to march with the utmost Expedition, he thinks may be brought to the Mount one way or another in the Course of the present week, while the King's Troops now at the Presidency will receive his Orders this Day to hold themselves in readiness to embark on board the Fleet on the shortest Notice, and he desires me to request you will overlook any possible Want of Form on his Part, and join your Exertions with his, for this most important conjuncture military Operation at this Crisis — The Quantity of Rice carried with us on the late Occasion, may be ascertained by the Company's Agent, what Quantity will be wanted, for neither the public or private Followers of this Army have one Day's Provision left, and you know well that this Army cannot move without them — I have with the General's Permission ascertained with Precision the Number of Days Rice for the fighting Men of this Army, now in Store in Chingleput, after leaving Thirty Days for the Garrison of Ca as it now stands — A certain Quantity of Arrack is also left there which Captain Patterson is desired on no Account to touch upon. The Provisions now there for the fighting Men of the Army I should advise to be untouched and reserved for very possible

Accidents which may be foreseen, as the Season advances — The Cavalry are without Gram, it will therefore be necessary to have in readiness the whole or a large Proportion of the Quarter Master General's Indent, Gram will also be wanted for the Draught Bullocks, a few Days rest with this Gram will put them again in Heart, otherwise the worst is to be apprehended — The Commander in Chief wishes to have the Money landed for the use of the Army, so as it may be issued on Thursday next, when we come down Ground. — The General with a proper Escort will proceed from thence to Choultry Plain, and I have his Orders to do all in my Power to get the Army in readiness to march, the Instant the Supplies are received. — His Excellency is of Opinion to embark on board his Majesty's co-operating Squadron, all the Europeans whose bodily Strength has not been found to keep pace with their Spirit, or desire to serve, they with the other of the King's Troops will form a very considerable Body ready for landing near the Scene of Action. — The Intelligence you mention of the Bellona being at Pondicherry the 15th, so near the Time when the Medea was in that Quarter, and the consequent Risk of her valuable Convoy, is, in the Generals Opinion, a Proof of the Necessity that the Squadron sent as the Admiral thinks of giving, should sail at the same Time with the Provision Ships, and it perhaps will be found that the necessary Preparations of this Army will not in fact

(Detain

2928 Fort St. George, 18th September 1782.

detain the Squadron.

I have the Honor to be,
My Lord & Gentlemen
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,
James Stuart.

Camp at
Chennepermacoil
Tuesday the 17th
September 1782.

/signed/

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Governor &ca of
Fort St. George

From General Coote refers the Committee to Colonel Owen for the Communication of his Sentiments, expects a Supply of Money and Carriage Bullocks

My Lord

I have to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Secretary Hudleston's Letters of Date the 15th and 16th Instant. — My State of Health is yet so indifferent that I found it necessary to desire Major General Stuart would answer them as conformable to instructions given him by me; and I am clear that every Nerve of Government will to the utmost be exerted to enforce Expedition from the different Departments, that what the Army stands in need of, may be ready for us without Delay. Our March to the Southward will take place, the Instant the specified wants are complied with. — I hope you can afford us a Supply of Carriage Cattle, and that your Treasury will be able to assist the pressing Calls of the Army, to a greater Extent, than the Sums embarked on the Ships can yield. — I have dispatched Lieutenant Colonel Owen to the Presidency, who will have the Honor of delivering your Lordship this Letter, he is fully acquainted with my Sentiments on the present critical Situation of our Affairs, and is directed to communicate them to your Lordship. — I have the Honor to be, with great Truth

Camp Head Quarters
Chennepermacoil
17th September 1782.

My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient Servant
/signed/ Eyre Coote.

2929 Fort St. George, 18th. September 1782.—

Minute on the above

The Committee having attentively perused the foregoing Letters, and considered the present critical Situation of Affairs and what Measures it may be most adviseable to pursue, are of Opinion that it would be of essential Benefit to the public Service, that Sir Eyre Coote should assist their Deliberations with his Advice, at this most interesting Period — Agreed therefore that a Letter be immediately written to him, requesting his Presence in Committee, at the earliest Period that can consist with his Convenience, and proposing, if his Indisposition should make it inconvenient to him to come abroad, to hold a Meeting at his Quarters, on Choultry Plain, or in the Fort. —

The General's attendance requested in Committee. —

The Admiral being asked whether in case it should be resolved to renew the Enterprize against Cuddalore, he would hoist his Flag on board the Sultan, and proceed himself to protect the Operations, readily answers in the Affirmative

The Admiral agrees to proceed himself with the Squadron to assist the operations of the Army. —

Agreed that the Sum of 1500 Pagodas be remitted to the Resident at Tanjore, for the Disbursements of that Garrison, and that the Military Paymaster be directed to carry the same to Account.

Pagodas 1500, to be remitted to Tanjore, for the Disbursements of that Garrison —

2931 Fort St George September 1782.

15th Dispatched the following Letter to Sir Eyre Coote

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

Sir

We have had the honor to receive General Stuarts Letters of the 15th 16th and 17th Instant and yours of the 17th to the President, and are most sincerely rejoiced to find that you are getting the better of your indisposition — Having met this day to take those Letters into consideration, and with them, the present critical situation of affairs, and the measures most advisable to be pursued, we were unanimously of opinion that it would be of the most essential benefit to the Public Service, that you should assist our deliberations with your advice at this most interesting period — We do therefore earnestly request that you will meet us in Committee, at the earliest period, that can be consistent with your convenience, and if your indisposition should make it, at all inconvenient to you to come abroad, we shall most readily hold our meeting at your Quarters at Choultry Plain or in the Fort — We have the honor to be

Sir

Your Most Obedient
Humble Servants

[Signed] Macartney
&c &c Select Committee

To Sir Eyre Coote requesting his attendance at Committee

Fort St George
15th Sept. 1782.

2932 Fort St. George — September 1702

Lieut. requests pay.t for a Bond granted to him at Tellicherry

19th Received Letter from Lieutenant Muirhead
as entered in the Miscellany Book. 833
requesting to be paid the Amount of a Bond for
400 Rupees granted to him by the Chief and Factors
of Tellicherry —

Dispatched the following Letter to Captain Scouler

Captain Scouler
Commanding at Tellicherry

Sir

To Capt.n Scouler, not to interfere in the appt. of Bommanger Peishcar

A Complaint being made by the Vakeel of
Bommanze that you have sent Sepoys into his Country
to support Narrumranze in the Office of Peishcar in
direct opposition to the Rajahs Inclination and
remembrances

demonstrances

I am directed by the Right Honble the
President and Select Committee to inform you that
they have resolved not to interfere with respect
to the appointment of a peishcar or Dewan
to Bommanze but to consider as such Nuckeranze
whom the Rajah has appointed to that station
— the Select Committee desire therefore that
you will immediately withdraw the Sepoys and
not interfere in any respect whatsoever in
future unless by their Orders.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your Most Obt. Humble
Servant
J. Hurdistone

Fort St George
19th Septr 1702.

2933 Fort St George September 1792

19th Received the following Letter from Captain Johnston

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K. B.
Governor & President &c &c

My Lord

From Capt. Johnston on detach. from Tritchinopoly surrendered by Lippo Saib — Mr. Sullivan notices to Negapatam & retires awaiting on him as Resident

I have the honor to forward by this conveyance letters from Lieut. Colonel Knox by which your Lordship will be informed of the unfortunate situation of the Detachment from Tritchinopoly — by letters from thence this day as late as the 10th we are informed Lippo Saib with his Army still continues to surround them

Mr. John Sullivan arrived here about eight days ago, and believe he intends soon to enquire into the grievances Complained of in my letter some time since — Mr. Sullivan will no doubt have informed your Lordship that he expected should on his Arrival in Negapatam have Officially awaited upon him as Resident of Negapatam, which he considers himself as well as of Tanjore

This demand I never even was unexpected nor did I think I could with any degree of propriety comply with it —

This difference in opinion between Mr. Sullivan and myself in this matter will I am convinced be no impediment to public business —

I have the honor to be with

The

2931 Fort St George September 1782

19th The greatest Respect

My Lord

Your Lordships Most

Obedient & Most Humble Servt

Sam.l Johnston

Negapatnam

12th Sept.r 1782.

20th Received the following Letter from the Governor General

and Council

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K. B.

President &c.a &c.a Select Committee at Fort St George

My Lord & Gentlemen

We have received Your Letters of the 3d.

Ultimo & 6th Instant with the several inclosures which

they contained —

Being struck with the indorsement

on the Cover of our Letter to General Sir Eyre Coote

which you have taken Notice of, We enquired where

it was written & beg leave to inform you that it

was not Official but merely the act of the Post

master through whose hands it past to derive the

safest Route —

As it will prevent confusion & trouble

in Reference to them Your Bills are presented

to us for Acceptance, We request that you will

Order all Your Drafts upon this Government

in future to be Numbered, as the Credit &

Method of distinguishing them from each

other. We are with Esteem

My Lord & Gentlemen

your Most Obedient

humble Servants

Fort St Cath.s

26th Augst 1782.

[Signed]

Edward Wheler

Your Bengal Drafts should be numbered —

2935 Fort St George September 1782

20th Dispatched the following Letter to the Committee
of Assigned Revenue

To Charles Oakeley Esqr
for Members of the Committee
of Assigned Revenue

Gentlemen

to Comm.rs of ass.d Revenue
conservable Bullocks
to be restored—enquiry
to be made about the
Rice plundered by the
Trespassers Sepoys
and the Renters
complaint against
Col. Nixon—Buck-
ram to be confirmed
as Purchaser—also for
Grain sent to Pongata-
ghery remitted

I am directed by the Right Honorable the President and Select Committee to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 16th Instant with extracts of your Minutes of the 9th and 16th and the other enclosures mentioned therein

Agreeably to your recommendation Limit Dor will be directed to restore to the Inhabitants such of their Bullocks as are not wanted for the use of the Army a copy also of the Account of Grain &c. said to be plundered by the Sepoys from Trespassers will be sent to the Commanding Officer there with orders to make the strictest enquiry into the truth of the complaint and to make full reparation to the Inhabitants — also to apply in future to the Amildar for Bullocks & if necessitated to make use of force on all such occasions to send a prudent European Officer to prevent any Bullocks from being taken but such as are absolutely necessary for the service of the Army, and to secure the Inhabitants from being plundered by the Sepoys.

The Select Committee will not fail to cause full enquiry to be made into the truth of the complaint preferred against Colonel Nixon

as

30th Sworn by Venkata Sankaih and to obtain for him more effectual support than he appeared to have hitherto received.

Captain Scoular will be ordered to withdraw the assistance he has given to Narsimmanaze and a Khaudat will be sent to Vencheramze to acknowledge him as the Rajahs Peishear.

The Select Committee on work to the request of the Rajah of Vinnakoyerry of a remission of the Duties on Grain & other articles going through the Pulliah District to his Country, and agreeably to your recommendations they desire that the Board of Pulliahs may keep an Account of all the Articles that may pass free of duties in consequence of that remission

I have the honor to be with greatest respect

Your most Obt Hble Servant
P. Huddleston
Sec.

Fort St George
20th Sept 1792.

Received the following Letter

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney &c. &c.
President and Governor &c. Select Committee
of Fort St George

My Lord & Gentlemen

Agreeably to your Orders of the 23d Ultimo we have now the honor to

From the Pay Master General of the Army — with Acct of Pay & Batta due the Coast Troops

inclose

2937 Fort St George September 1, 782.

I enclose you an exact and particular Statement of the Pay Batta and allowances due to all the Officers with the Army belonging to the Coast Troops —

We have the honor to remain
Sir Lord and Gentlemen
With the greatest Respect
Your most obed.t Servt
[Signed] JS Gaetton Comm.rs
A Welch Pay.r

Camp. 14th Sept.r 1782.

Friday 20th September 1782.

Payn.r

At a Select Committee present
The Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.
Governor & President Vice admiral Sir Edward Hughes K.B. Anthony Sadlier Esq.r
Alexander Davidson Esq.r
Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote — indisposed
Major General Sir Hector Munro — Absent
John Holland Esq.r —— Absent

Minutes of last Committee read and approved —

The President informs the Committee that having paid a visit to Sir Eyre Coote and finding him too much indisposed to attend at present at their deliberations his Lordship directed the Secretary to desire the Attendance of Major General Stuart accordingly to the resolution of yesterday

Gen.l Stuart at the Com.tee in the absence of Gen.l Coote indisp.d

— General Stuart accordingly attends the Committee

Read the following Letter from Sir Eyre Coote —

To the Right Honble Geo. Lord Macartney K.B.
Pres.t & Gov.r &c. Select Committee
Fort St George

2938 Fort St George 20th September 1702.

Fort St George

My Lord & Gentlemen

Your Letter of the 18th Instant
I have this Moment had the honor to receive.

It is with the utmost regret that
on an Occasion when you are so Unanimously
of Opinion that it would be of such essential
benefit to the publick Service my assistance
at your Deliberations I should be obliged to
inform you my Indisposition still continues
to severe as to render me altogether unequal
to the Task, — The Zeal I have hitherto
manifested for the publick service in my own
particular Line thro' the most distressing
difficulties will I trust readily satisfy you
that did my State of health in any shape
admit of my Accommodating myself to
your wishes, I would most readily do it.

So far as relates to the wants
of the Army Major General Stuart who by
my Orders has that charge of it ever since my
illness can give you the fullest information;
he has just now been with me and knows my
Sentiments, on the Preparations necessary
for its immediate equipment &c. &c. If
you chuse to call on him relative to the
Subject he is ready to attend your Orders.

I have the honor to be,
My Lord & Gentlemen
your most Obt Hble Servt
Signd Eyre Coote

from Genl Coote too much
indisposed to attend the
Counc. - refers to Genl
Stuart for every
information in relation
to the army.

ing

Choultry
Plain 19th Sept.
1702.

2939 Fort St George 20th September 1782

Statement of Resources Squadron Garrison &c

The President lays before the Committee the following papers as comprizing the exact state of our resources, the state of the Squadron, and of the Garrison of Fort St George and the Black Town.

Fort St George 18th September 1782.

	Bags
Rice in Garrison Store	14632
Rice afloat in the Roads Viz t	
On the Snow Mary ...	2240
On the Triumph ...	1730
On the Roop Vencatachellum	1466
On the Bunch	400 5836
	20,468 Bags

Signed J. St Brodie
Cyr Storekr.

Note, 19,039 Bags of Rice on Board the Medias convoy returned from the Southward ... 20468
19,039
39,507 Total

The Agent being called upon to give an Account of the Demands made upon his Office from the Army, makes the following Report—

The Agent has received Indents from the Army for

80 Pairs of Carracks
380 Marcalls of Salt
100 Carts —
100 Bags of Biscuit, all of which can be immediately supplied, excepting the Carts. —

The Commissioner has likewise presented to him

for

NB. This to be read after letter from Mr. Will. Cossa of 10th Sept. —

2940 Fort St George 20th September 1702

For 20 Gurrs of Horse Gram, ten Gurrs of which will be immediately wanted, and must be purchased, as there is none now in Store. — 10 Gurrs of Grass at the price fixed by the Grain Committee will amount to Pagodas 1,330. — exclusive of the expence of Gunny Bags, and of sending it to Camps. —

The Agent presumes that the demand for Rice will be as follows. —

For the consumption of the fighting Men during 6 days they may remain at the Mount 1500

Five days Rice which they are accustomed to carry along with them 1000

The Carriage of the Army exclusive of Coolys may be computed at ..... 3,305.

Carriage by Coolys may likewise be computed at 2000

7,505.-

26 Days Rice which the Justlick followers have been accustomed to carry along with them may be computed at 6,000

And should the privates & Followers be served now as they were the last time the Army was here, there will be an increase of about 3,000

Total Bags 16,505

of the above quantity there are 2,500 Bags now at the Mount, so that it will be necessary to deliver and send from hence about 14,005 — exclusive of the deficiency upon the delivery

2941 Fort St George 28th September 1802

at the Mount.

As the Bullocks now with the Army are probably very much reduced by the late march, it may be necessary to employ Cooleys in carrying the Rice wanted for the fighting Men to the Mount. — This and the pay of the Cooleys hired to attend the Army will amount to 3,500 Pagodas, all of which must be paid by the Agent together with all other contingent expences. —

The Agent having received no returns for the Bills granted to him upon Bengal, and having likewise entrusted his private Credit to support the expences of his Office, in so much that he cannot any where raise one thousand Pagodas, requests the assistance of the Board to enable him to pay for the Grain to be purchased, and the expence of Cooley hire, without which he is sorry to declare that it will be impossible for him to supply the wants of the Army, or discharge that Duty which he is required now to perform. —

Signed / William Ross
Agent. —

My Lord,

From information which I received since I had the honor of seeing your Lordship, I find that the Carriage of the Army will be about 3,305 Bags, which are carried in the following manner. —

NB. This Letter to be read before the preceding account from the Agent

340

By the Grain Bullocks — — Bags 1,377

By

2942 Fort St George 20th September 1782.

By the Deputy Agent 3,750

—— Marcalls or ..... Bags 625

By the Commissary of Stores ..... 500.

Upon Guns and Timbrill 300

Bags 3,325

which is an increase of 805 Bags beyond what I originally, independent of the Assistancy & upon the delivery at the Mounts —

I hope your Lordship did not misunderstand me that 2000 Bags would be sufficient including the price of the Gyroon — if I expressed myself to that effect, I have committed a mistake, as I only meant that, exclusive of the price of the Gyroon, I could endeavour, with the assistance of five thousand Pagodas, to procure what is more especially of my own. I hope your Lordship will believe that this offer proceeded from my earnest desire / unacquainted with Instances or selfishness / to comply with every Article of Service to the your Lordships wishes, and to accommodate myself to the exigencys under which I served my Office. —

I have the honor to be with

the greatest Respect

My Lord,

Your Lordships

Most Obedient &

Most humble Sr.

Signed Hall Wm Ross

Fort St George

18th September 1782.

2943 Fort St George 20th September 1792.

Balance in the Cash and Treasury in Sunt and Current Pagodas ... } Pag 13,000

Cash received from the Mint on account Gold ... } 120,000

Deduct Cash remitted to the Army ... } 100,000

Cash paid Messrs Saunders & Douglas ... } 10,533 110,533

Cash in hand ... 9,467

Balance in the Mint estimated at 18,000

Estimated Balance of the Gold from Bengal remaining in hand Pags 27,467

43 Monthly Receipts from the Farms belonging to the Presidency ... Pags 6,001

Fort St George 19th Septr 1792

(Signed) Chas Stevenson

Pay

Abstract

29[illegible] Fort St George 20th September 1762

Abstract of the Troops Composing the Garrison of Fort St George and Black Towns. 19th September 1762.

				Fit for Duty	Sick	Total	
Artillery	Effective			63	15	52	165
	Invalids			17	17	1	
Infantry	Fit for Duty	56					
	Effective at Drill	28		84	—	49	
	Invalids			46	13	36	
	Supernumeraries employed at the Arsenal &c			19	—	7	252
			Total	207	65	140	417
Natives Cavalry	Horses Serviceable						
	Unserviceable		25				
	Troopers			48	6		54
Artillery	Malays			75	—	4	190
	Natives			65	43	4	
Sepoys	Effective			294	754	177	2302
	Invalids				281	16	
			Total	1,124	1293	207	2626

Estimate of Troops &c. Necessary for the Defence of Madras.

			Last Estimate
Artillery	Europeans	400	300
	Natives	200	150
	Lascars	1000	800
	Sepoys	200	150
	Pioneers	1500	1200
Infantry	Europeans	1400	1200
	Sepoys	4000	3200
	Total	9000	6000

Barrels

Established Stock of Powder — 15,000
Present in Store for the Garrison — 3473
The first Demand 2,501,100 lb Barrels or — 4986
Remaining 5306

Required for the defence of the Garrison besides the Grenades — 15000
Musquet Ammunition now made up — Deficient 9,694
1/2 lb Barrels made Monthly at present, 300 Can be made Monthly during a Siege

Shot, Shells & Lead — sufficient quantity of Canon and Plumb ironing for Quarterdeck Platforms &c.

[illegible] Construction

2945 Fort St George 20th September 1762.

State of the Squadrons

c... Combustion fire Ship - Bengal for Powder.

c... Active ..... 32 Troyars Hoder inside for Bijapatam
c... St Carlos ..... 64 to the Northd. protect. Grain
c..... Sceptre ..... 64 Negapatam, and to the South.
c... Coventry ..... 28 Supply: that Govt. and Cruize
c..... Sultan 74
c Ceres 50
c... Medea 28
c... Seahorse 24
c... Monmouth ... 64
c... Magnanime .. 64
c... Hero 74
c... Monarca 68
W.. Superb 74
W.. Newford 70
W Eagle 64
W Worcester ... 64
W Exeter 64

c... L'Hero 74
W L'Orient 74
W Hannibal 74
c .. Elliston 74
c... St Michel ... 64
W Ajax 64
W Severn 64
W Bizarre 64
W Brilliant ... 64
c Vengeur ... 64
c Sphinx ... 64
c Artesien ... 64

c... C Hannibal

Ditto when ready

Refitting fast as possible

In the Road for Cuddalore

Fincorn[illegible]

2946 Fort St. George 20th September 1782

c ... l Hannibal 52
W ... Hamond 50
W Elizabeth 50
c Lachesis 36
c Bellona 36
c Chaser 18
c Sybille 29

} Trincomalee

State of the European & Native artillery and European Infantry at Tanjore, Nagapatam, Anjengo, Tellicherry &c taken from the latest Returns Fort St. George 13th September 1782

	Artillery		Infantry	
	Europeans Effective	Natives Invalids	Effective	Invalids
Tanjore	13	23	94	57
Nagapatam	32	12	6	
Tellicherry	1	7	54	6
Southern army			114 220	
Total	46	42	264 274	57 6

The Native Artillery returned as Command at Tanjore are not included therein

Secretary

Account of the Rice Ships expected from Bengal before Monsoon —

Names	No of Bags on Board
Packet	10,000 —
Prince William	6,000 —
Ships Stores	5,000 —
Governor Drysdale	3,000 —
Pardar	7,000 —
Resolution	9,000
Alfred	6,000 —
Asia	3,700 —
Alexander	4,600
Sloop Emmy	1,200
Rumbold	5,000
Courjeyny	17,000
	72,500

Captured in the Bengal Convoy

Names	No of Bags on Board
Buddaley	9,000 —
A Portuguese Prize taken by the Pitt and Glory	6,000
Cocrebent	1,000
Porpoise	
Hastings Lately Lauriston	13,000
Tom Bridon	5,000
Montrose	3,500
Britannia	5,000
Blake	3,000
Player	
Pitt and Glory	2,300
Adventure	3,000
Success	4,000
	57,800

Captured on the Coromandel Coast 1782

Several small Vessels may be expected from Calcutta and Ballasore say 17,000
72.500
57.800
147.300

2948 Fort St George 24th September 1782.

September 14th 1782.

	Bags
Rice in the Garrison Store	14,632
Rice on the Bench, to be landed	5,836
Rice on Board the Medial Convoy returned from the Southward	19039
	39,507 Bags Total of Rice

Note 39,507 Bags of Rice to provide for the consumption of the Garrison of Fort St George, of 3 Pagodas & Pulicat, none of which last have more than a Months' provision in Store for their consumption, besides Carriage by Chinglepet, also the demand of Sir Eyre Coote's Army —

It appears from Mr Ross's paper that to equip Army with Rice to proceed as it did at its' last departure for the Southward, about three weeks since, will take 16,505 Bags, of which there are already at the Mount 2500 Bags, so that the quantity to be provided at Madras is 14,005 Bags —

16,505 Bags to be provided at Madras —

19,039 Do — on board the Medial Convoy

Total 33,044 exclusive of deficiencies, which at only 5 ℔ ℔ will reduce it considerably —

Total Stock 39,507 at Madras —

33,044 wanted to equip Army

6,463 Total Stock for Madras to depend

Several Ships from Bengal are expected with Rice, but we have no efficient Accounts of the quantity intended for the Government, it will however probably be very considerable, but we might

possibly be entirely disappointed of it, the only chance
of its arrival is, that there should be no French Cruizers
or Privateers to the Northward; if the Bengal Vessels
do not come very soon, and the Squadron should not
remain, the French being now in possession of
Trincomalay Bengal River will be blocked up, and
all the Coromandel Coast navigation entirely at their
mercy — if there be no danger of an Enemy on the Coast,
we shall probably receive from 20 to 25,000 Bags of
Rice from the Circars.

Money in the Treasury and Mint 60,467 Pags
Note 40,467 Pags to answer demands of Sir Eyre Coote
Army, the Military Paymasters indents for Rations,
about 25,000 Pagodas P Month — Civil Paymaster
about 5,000 Pagodas P Month, the Garrisons of
Chingleput, Carangoly, Vellore, Trichinopoly, Coromandel
Pulicat and Gratuities to Officers, Hospital, Agents
and Variety of contigent Articles &c. and lastly
the Troops just arrived and arriving from England,
who are to be paid by the Company, and whose Pay-
Master declares he has no credit from the Agent
at home — Note — of 40,467. as stated above
5,000 have been since paid to the Agent —
3,000 to Col. Adams Regiment 101

Very little money can be expected for some time
Our resources consist of what is received from the
Circars, being the Surplus after paying their
Charges, of the Farms there, which amounts
to about 6,000 Pagodas P Month — of the sale
of

2950 Fort St. George 20th. September 1782.

of Company's goods, Lead, Copper, for the remittance
in Money from Bengal, which in 15 Months since
my arrival here to this day, amount to 824095 Pags-
also the Rents of the assigned Countries, the
Collections of which are not expected sooner than
Christmas — There is another resource to be
hoped for, from the Establishment of a remittance
to Madras of 5 or 6 Lacks of Rupees p. Month,
which the Govt. of Bengal has been endeavouring
to settle to the means of Gopal Doss's house at
Benares, but it has not yet taken place, altho
we have been informed of the design a
considerable time —

The President asks General Stuarts opinion how many days the
army would be going to Cuddalore?

The President asks in what time the army can march to Cuddalore

+ The General answers that he computes 16 marching days from the Mount to the Redhills — 2 days to halt — 2 days for

Genl Stuart's reply

* the Redhills to Cuddalore 6 days to land the Stores — the Army may march from hence in 6 days, which he supposes it may require to furnish the provisions, but that depends on the exertions here — That respecting the sole object of taking Cuddalore, it may require 25 days from this time till the army is before that place — this at farthest in the common course of things — There is a possibility of doing it in 5 days less — fair Weather may enable the Army to March in 11 days less from the Mount to the Redhills — the apprehension of the Squadron may effect the landing

of

of the Stores in 2 days less — the Army may March in 1 day less from hence, and 1 day less from the Redhills to Cuddalore and they may halt 1 Day less. —

In the actual state of things the General proceeds with the permission of the Committee and gives it as the opinion of Sir Eyre Coote, and in which he himself intirely concurs, that as this Army ought not to be disbanded, but kept ready for service in any direction, they will eat the same quantity of Rice, and expend the same money whether here, or any where else — That the direction for the Army at this time should be to the southward — in which case Cuddalore is the object, and chiefly because it is supposed the French Troops and French Stores are there — that it may possibly happen that there may be a much larger number of French Troops, and greater preparations made than what by the last Intelligence was known to us — it may so happen that the part of the Squadron conveying the ten Vessels may from necessity, and in prudence, be obliged to return with their Convoy to Madras — in that case General Stuart supposed the Commander in Chief will judge whether or not it is proper to proceed to Cuddalore — but the great, and principal object which he has Authority from the Commander in Chief to prosecute the Committee, is by the movement of this Army towards the Enemy, and to the south? in a conjunct expidition at this time with such part of the Squadron as can be fitted

and

2952 Fort St George 20th September 1782.

and sufficient in all probability to cope with any Detachment the Suffren can send — according to what the Admiral observed after the action of the 3d Instant, to draw the Enemy from the Southern provinces to this side the Coleroon, and to remove every apprehension for Negapatam till the season for action is over, and to give the means of sending a Reinforcement of Europeans to Negapatam, and perhaps from thence to Tanjore, when the Country is clear. — in the Calculation of the probable time stated for the March to the Southward, there is very great chance of Sir Richard Bickerton's arriving on the Coast, and this chance would remove almost every doubt of success. — There is certainly an hazard I own in his opinion it is the greatest that is to be apprehended from the swelling of the Rivers and Nullahs on the Return of the Army — to provide against which in some Measure there are now about 4000 Bullocks at Chingleput to remove such an emergency, and of which I may be take encreasing the Dolar to the Southward — but it is his firm opinion that there is no Enemy in the field, save the French, and Hyder to join with all the Europeans in Condition for Field service, that can cope with this Army and the Train of Corps Artillery with it which is only to be used in the field —

The President asks General Stuart what advantages

The President asks the advantages of moving to the Southward

are

exe. to be expected from this movement to the Southward —

Genl Stuarts Reply

The General answers that the Army going in any other direction would endanger the Southern Provinces —

The President asks if Cuddalore should be taken, how it will be subsisted?

The Pondichery Army in addition is to be provisioned —

General Stuart in answer gives it as his own private opinion / being ignorant of what may be the opinion of Sir Eyre Coote in this question / that it should be destroyed together with all the Stores in it that could not be removed.

Genl Stuarts Reply

The President asks General Stuarts opinion what Hyder will do if we take Cuddalore — the General answers that the taking of Cuddalore with the French in it would be the most certain Stroke towards bringing on a peace.

The President asks what effect the taking of Cuddalore will have on Hyder. —

Genl Stuarts reply

The President observes that if the Admiral goes off the Coast with the Squadron, this Settlement will be in the greatest danger of falling into the hands of the Enemy before his Return, and the Admiral still intimating that he shall leave the Coast with all the Squadron by the 15th October, and including the Ships with Sir Richard Bickerton if they arrive, the Committee think it their Duty to require of the Admiral that he will remain on this side of India during the Season, or that he will not convey his Majesty's Ships to Bombay. — To which the

The President observation on the Squadron leaving the Coast.

admiral

29.5th Fort St George 28th September 1782.

The Admiral reply

Admiral Answers that the state of the Squadron is such that he cannot, and will not stay on this side — he may not perhaps keep exactly to the day —

The Pres.t asks if it be advisable to move to the So.

The President asks an consideration of all the circumstances attending our situation, the declaration just made by Sir Edward Hughes, the actual State of our Resources in Provisions, and Money, the uncertainty of Supplies from Bengal, and the State of Numbers of this Garrison, is it advisable to move the Army now to Cuddalore, or to the Northward?

Genl Stuarts Reply

General Stuart answers that after hearing every thing that has been said, and taking all circumstances for and against, he thinks the Army should move to the Southward — Unless as before, it would draw the Enemy from the Southern Countries, and the General observes that as he is confident the Army can move so as to cover whatever Provisions or Stores it carries with it from the Presidency, the only risk of loss of Provisions or Stores on this occasion is, for that part on the Ships under Convoy, he has confidence that the Admiral will provide for their safety —

Genl Stuart proposes that 300 Europeans to sent to Negapatam

General Stuart desires to observe in addition to what he has said above that, regarding the State of this Garrison, he thinks that with the recovered Men from the Hospital there will be 1000 Europeans for this Garrison

and

Fort St George 26th September 1782

and for the Black Town, he thinks also that in all events / whether the Army goes or not / 300 Europeans should be sent to Negapatam for that Place and Tanjore; — he means from those now on board the Squadron; — the President and Committee highly approve of this; — they are clearly of the same opinion, and would have sent Europeans to the Southern Army, and Negapatam long ago if they had had it in their power. —

now

General Stuart requests that the opinion delivered by him may be sent to Sir Eyre Coote to be corrected by him as he / General Stuart / may possibly have mistaken his Ideas — The Committee also resolve to send to Sir Eyre Coote all the papers that the President has laid before them, together with those Minuted and that a Letter be written requesting that he will favor the Committee with his Sentiments upon the whole.

The Minutes of this day to be sent to Sir Eyre Coote & his opinion to be requested thereon.

mistaken

And it is agreed to adjourn the Committee till Sir Eyre Coote's answer shall be received.

Committee adjourned

2956 Fort St. George September 1782

21st

Sent the following Letter to Sir Eyre Coote with the proceedings of the Committee of yesterday and other papers therein mentioned —

To Lieut. General Sir Eyre Coote K. B.

&c &c &c

Sir,

To Sir Eyre Coote, with copy of the Minute of the 20th — his opinion requested thereon — Detachment arrived safe at Trichinopoly —

I have the honor to send you by the Orders of the Right Honble the President and Select Committee the enclosed Copy of their Minute of the 20th Instant together with the several papers therein mentioned, and to request that you will favor the Select Committee with your Sentiments upon the whole. — I also enclose extract of a Letter to the President received yesterday from the Resident of Tanjore, and Copy of a private Letter from Mr. Simpson, which papers will give you the pleasure of knowing that the Tanjore detachment is safely arrived at Trichinopoly.

I have the honor to be with great respect

Sir

Your most Obdt humble Servt

Fort St. George
21st Septbr 1782

Signed John Hudleston Secy

Received the following Letter from the Resident of Tanjore

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney
President &c Select Committee

Gentlemen,

From Mr. Sullivan with Copy of Letter to Sir Eyre Coote — Tanjore & Trichinopoly will be destroyed for provision of the detachment at Tanjore sent off. —

I had the honor of addressing you

21st upon the 12th instant— The Accounts which have since been received from Trichinopoly & Palamcotah represent the situation of our Affairs in that side the Coliroon to be so Critically circumstanced, that I have thought it my Duty to write to Sir Eyre Coote upon the subject. — The Copy of my Letter accompanies this, and I hope will not be disapproved of by the Committee. I lament extremely that the necessities of our situation should oblige me to repeat to your Lordship &c. in this separate address, that if we should have the Misfortune to lose the Detachment in Tanjore, & the Enemy should disperse small bodies of Cavalry over the Countries of Trichinopoly & Tanjore, we shall lose the only prospect that has been left us, even of a trifling relief, and that those important Forts must be evacuated, unless provisions can be sent to them from the Presidency, or a force is sent that will enable us to seek for Subsistence in the Country of the Enemy.

If there possible to procure relief by any other means, I would not add to the difficulties your Lordship &c. labor under at this time, but in the event of a Misfortune to our detachment, every resource will be cut off, and the provisions in this Garrison, at Tanjore & Trichinopoly are now reduced so low that unless we are relieved before

The

2958 Fort St George September 1782.

21. The Monsoon setting, we must inevitably be reduced to absolute want.

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect,

Gentlemen

Your most Obt & most
Humble Servant
(Signd) John Sullivan

Negapatam 14th
Sept. 1782.

Received the following Letter from Sir Eyre Coote

To the Right Honble Geo: Lord Macartney K B.
President & Govr &c. Select Committee
Fort St George

From Gen. Coote with
Letter from Mr. Sullivan,
recommending sending
to Bengal & Bombay
an Account of it—

My Lord & Gentlemen,

I have not a Moment in sending for your perusal a letter which I have this instant received from Mr Sullivan the Resident of Tanjore, whereby it gives me pain to observe that the Detachment which we were so lately informed had been Victorious against the Enemy should be in a situation so critically dangerous.

I am not at present Competent to writing on a Subject which involves Circumstances of such importance and Weighty concern as are set forth in Mr. Sullivans Letter, all I can pretend at present to say is, that the Annihilation of the Troops at Cuddalore seems to be the first Object of immediate Consideration, And against which to ensure Success, our utmost Care and

Efforts

2959 Fort St George September 1782.

21.st Efforts ought to be Exerted — The Accomplish=
=ment of that Service affords the only and in my
Opinion fairest prospect of effectually supporting
ing the Southern Countries, and of Opening a
View to engage in distant Operations. — The
Weak State of both my Body & Mind will not
admit of my entering more minutely into
the Subject of Mr. Sullivans Letter, — I shall
be happy however if in any deliberating
thereon, you can perceive any of those Objects
he points out practicable, as it will be
highly proper you immediately communicate
your Ideas thereon to the Bombay Govt,
under whose Orders Lt Colonel Humberston
is directed to Act, and to the Governor General
& Council, whom it particularly concerns as
to the political questions it involves, to whom,
in case you deem such Reference eligible, it
will be further necessary that you furnish
them with every Paper which can give insight
into Mr. Sullivans negociations with the
Mysore Agents.

I have the honor to be
My Lord and Gentlemen,
Your Most Obt
humble Servt,
Eyre Coote

Choultry
Plain 20th Sept.r
1782.

Sd

2960 Fort St. George September 27. 1782.

To John Huddleston Esqr.
21st

Secy to the Honble Select Committee
Fort St George

Sir

From Mr. Sweeny — with copy of a letter from Negapatam.

The Commander in Chief having just received a Letter from the Commanding Officer at Negapatam, His Excellency has directed me to transmit to you the inclosed Copy of it for the further information of the Honble Select Committee

I have the honor to be,
Sir, Your Most obedt.
humble Servt.
(Signed) Wm. Sweeny Secy

Plain Chantry Pain
the 20th Septr 1782.

To His Excellency Sir Eyre Coote K. B.
Commander in Chief of India &c &c

Sir

By this conveyance I have the honor to forward your Excellency letters from Lieutenant Colonel Nixon, which will inform you of the unhealthy situation of the Detachment from thence — The latest letters from Trichinopoly are of the 10th Instant when they still continued to be surrounded by a very powerful force under Tippoo Saib —

Mr. John Sullivan, the Resident of Tanjore, on his Arrival there lately — expected I should officially wait upon him on his arrival

in

2961 Fort St George September 1782.

21. in the place and required such Military honors as are paid him at Tanjore, which I find are those given a Lieutenant-General — this I have declined, as I know not by what Authority I could do it — Any difference in Opinion between Mr Sullivan and myself in this will not, I am convinced, be any hindrance to Publick business, nor should I trouble your Excellency on the subject, but that I hope to be honored with your Commands that I may know how to act in this case in future. —

I have the honor to be with, greatest respect

Sir

Your Most Obt and Most Humble Sr

Negapatam 12th Sept 1782.

Signd James Johnston

A true Copy

Signd Wm Turner Secy

To the Right Honble Gen. Lord Macartney K. B.

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

Fort St George

My Lord & Gentlemen,

From Genl Coote intends to go on board the Hotspur Gun Vessel to Coast the army on the march to the S. he will proceed by sea —

Since Yesterday the Symptoms of a Return of my fever having appeared very strongly upon me, & the Gentlemen of the Faculty Judging it absolutely necessary that I should try the effect of the Sea Air, as the only good chance I have of speedily reestablishing my Health, I beg leave to acquaint you with my intention

2962 Fort St George September 1782.

21st intention to go on board the Hatford Indiaman early tomorrow Morning.

If when the Army is equipped with the requisites for the proposed Operations to the Southward, I should not have regained strength sufficient to March with it from hence myself, it will then be conducted thither by Major General Stuart, who, you are already apprized, has had charge since I was taken ill: — And in that case I shall proceed with the Troops Embarked on the Squadron, in the hope of being well enough by the time I may get the length of Pondicherry to join the Army there or at Cuddalore.

I have the honor to be
My Lord & Gentlemen,
Your Most Obedt
humble Servant
Signd/ Eyre Coote

Chunkery
Plain the 21st Sept.
1782.

Recd the following Letter from Mr Jackson enclosing Letter from Doctor Davis, and various papers relating to Surgeons Charges as Lodged in the Office —

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney &c &c
President & Governor &c Select Committee
at
Fort St George

My Lord & Gentlemen,

I beg permission to recommend to your Lordships &c the perusal of the enclosed Letter which I lately received from the Surgeon Major respecting Hospital (illegible) ment in Camp,

at

From Mr Jackson
regarding the determination
of the Board on
letter from Doctor
Davis.

2963 Fort St George September 1782

21. as well as in Field Hospitals; I humbly pray your Lordship &c. be pleased to come to any Determination thereon, I request an early Communication of the same, that I may make the Surgeons in Camp acquainted therewith.

I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect.

My Lord & Gentlemen

Your most obed.t

humble Servant

(Signed) W. Jackson Comy

Camp.

21.st Sept.r 1782.

Received the following Letter from Mess.rs Light Proctor and Bidduff

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney

President and Governor &c.a Select Committee

at Fort St George,

My Lord & Gentlemen,

We have transmitted in Triplicate Our Report to Your Lordship &c.a dated the 2.d May last respecting Captain Codrington, but as We have received no Order from Your Lordship &c.a in consequence, We are apprehensive lest the same may have miscarried, and as Mr. Pott is extremely anxious to Know Your Lordships &c.a Resolution respecting the Paddy he delivered into the Port of Palamcotah, which constituted the Second Article of Our Enquiry, We send your Lordship &c.a enclosed Extract from Our Report of what is written thereon —

We are

My L.d

from Mess.rs Light & Proctor & Bidduff — with report on the dispute between Capt. Codrington & Mr. Pott.

2964 Fort St. George, Sept.r 17th 1792.

21.st

My Lord & Gentlemen

Palamcotah
8th September 1792.

Your Most Obed.t Hble Servts
Willm Light
George Proctor
Wm Bellairs

[Signed]

2.nd Charge.

Extract Report

It sufficiently appears to us from the Evidence produced on this Charge, that the Paddy did belong to Mr. Dott before it was laid up in the Fort of Palamcotah, and that he never parted with the Possession thereof, but kept the Paddy either with the view of selling it in the Fort on his own Account or till he might obtain some adequate Compensation for it, but as Mr Dott does not appear to have received any equivalent or Compensation for the Paddy — As Dubrey Moodelier the Tahsildar Annuldar of the Tinnevelly Country upon being asked by the Committee if he had any Claim to the Paddy on Account of the Tahsil, answered that he had none, and as no Evidence was produced disproving the Paddy being Mr Dotts, We are of Opinion that the said Paddy sent into the Fort by Mr Dott is his property, and recommend to Your Lordship &c.a that the same may accordingly be ordered to be delivered to him —

The Committee cannot at present consider the proceedings of Mr.s Light Proctor and Bellairs on the Subject of Mr Dotts Complaint against Capt.n Edmingtoun, but as they are of Opinion, and it is recommended also

Presidency Chowry

21st also appear evidently from those proceedings, that the Paddy in question is his property, resolved that Orders be sent to cause the said Paddy to be restored to Mr Dott

Bill on Bengal granted to Major Douglas of 42d Regt

Ordered that Bills on Bengal be granted in favor of Major Douglas of the 42d Regiment and made payable to Mr Robert Henderson to the Amount of £27.-2s.-7d. being his Arrears of Gratuity

Bill on Bengal granted to Mr Wm Augs Dibbyn

Ordered that Bill on Bengal be granted in favor of Mr William Augustus Dibbyn to the amount of 1,400 Pagodas, being in part of what is due to him on the employ of Agent

Bill on Bengal granted to Lieut Miller and Ensn Stuart 98th Regt

Ordered that Bills of Bills on Bengal be granted in favor of Lieut John Miller of the 98th Regiment for Pagodas 126-2-35. Lieutenant and Adjutant P. Smith of the 98th Regt for Pagodas 126-28-30 and Ensign John Stuart of the 98th Regiment for Pagodas 5-15-62 being the Amount of their Arrears of their Gratuity and Allowance.

Bills on Bengal granted to Mr Urquart Surgeon.

Ordered that Bills on Bengal be granted in favor of Mr Walter Urquart to the Amount of 390 Pagodas, being for Victualling the Company's Troops while on board the Worcester and Eagle

Bills on Bengal granted to Lt Ludlam of 98th Regt

Ordered that a Bill of Bills on Bengal be granted in favor of Lieutenant Mr Ludlam of the 98th Regiment to the Amount of Pagodas 80-5-20 being his arrears of Pay & Gratuity.

Ordered

2966 Fort St George September 18 1782.

21

Bills on Bengal granted to Capt. Mackenzie of 78th Regt

Ordered that Bills on Bengal be granted in favor of Captain Kenneth Mackenzie of the 78th Regiment to the Amount of Pagodas 383 — 14 — 21 being his arrears of Pay and Gratuity

Bill on Bengal granted to Major Chas Pattenson Engr Yearly £

Agreed that Bills on Bengal be granted in favor of Major Charles Pattenson to the amount of Pagodas 112 — 29 — 60 — and to Ensign Peter Young Pagodas 108 — 5 — 00 being their arrears of Gratuity —

Bill on Bengal granted to Sir Colby Lucas

Ordered that Bill on Bengal be granted in favor of Mr Colby Lucas to the amount of 649 Pagodas, and payable to Mr Henry Crawford being in part of his Hospital Charges —

Bill on Bengal granted to Mr Baillie Surgeon

Ordered that Bills on Bengal be granted in favor of Mr James Baillie to the Amount of 193 Pagodas being for attending the Sick of the Army Sent into Trincopoly in February last —

Saturday Evening 22d Septr 1782

At a Select Committee present The Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hughes — Anthony Sadlier Esqr Alexander Davidson Esqr Major Gordt Stuart attends the Committee. General Coote indisposed.

The President desiring the Secretary to Read the Minutes of the 11th Instant, the Letter to General Coote of the 15th with postscript of the 16th to the duplicate; the Minutes of the 20th; and the Letter to General Coote of the 21st —

which

Fort St George 22d September 1782.

which papers are read accordingly — the Admiral delivers in the following minute to explain more fully the answer given by him to the request of the Committee the 20th Instant.

given

Sir Edwd Hughes assigns his reasons for proceeding to the Other Coast.

The Admiral being solicited by the President & Select Committee to remain with the Squadron on the Coast of Coromandel in the present critical situation of Affairs, Answers, after having maturely considered the present State of Public Affairs in general, & of the Squadron in particular, that the disabled condition of all the Ships, most of which have suffered severely in four Engagements in their Masts & Hulls, which cannot be repaired on this Coast, & the almost sinking condition & foulness of the bottoms of the five Ships not Coppered, renders it impossible for the Squadron to remain with any prospect of safety or refit, on the Coromandel Coast in the approaching Stormy Season of the year; he therefore intends to quit the Coast about the middle of next Month, & proceed to Bombay to give the Ships the necessary repairs, & put them in a Condition to act against the Enemy, as early in the coming year as possible.

Signd/ Edwd Hughes —

Fort St George
the 20th Septemr
1782

Read the following Letter from Sir Eyre Coote

To the Right Honble Geo. Lord Macartney &c.
President & Govr &c Select Committee
Fort St George

Sir

2968 Fort St George 22d September 1792

From Genl Cockerell's Observations on the Minutes of the 20th

My Lord & Gentlemen,

I have rec'd a Letter from your Secretary of this date, enclosing, by your Orders, the Proceedings of your Committee of yesterday for my Information, and requesting that I would favor you with my Opinion upon the Whole—

The Sentiments which Major General Stuart has expressed to your Committee regarding the intended Movement against Cuddalore entirely correspond with my own. The only observation, which it at present occurs to me, as necessary to make in addition thereto, is That the cooperation of the Squadron being the ground point upon which every thing hinges, and wherever the late Retreat of the army from Gate of Cuddalore exhibits a very striking proof: I take it for granted, that the Admiral, having once embarked the Assistance of the Fleet towards the Accomplishment of the Object in View, will not, unless in case of the most imminent Danger, withdraw from the Service, until our Joint Efforts shall have come to an Issue, and that he will in every Event whilst the Weather, as well as other Circumstances and the State of the Squadron render it in any shape practicable, and it may be necessary, Countenance the Movements of the Army during its continuation on the Sea Coast at a distance from the Presidency.

I have

2969 Fort St. George 22nd September 1782.

I have the Honor to be

My Lord & Gentlemen

Your most Obed.t

Humble Servant

Sign'd/ Eyre Coote

Choultry Plain
21st Sept.r 1782.

The President acquaints the Committee that he has summoned them in order to lay before them the foregoing Letter from Sir Eyre Coote with his own sentiments on the important subject now under consideration, and which are as follows, —

Minute on the Situation of Affairs

From the failure of the expidition against Cuddalore by the Return of the Army, the Capture of Trincomalee by the Enemy, the exhausted State of our resources, and some other circumstances attending this Government not necessary now to mention, the President is of opinion that the affairs of the Company were never in more critical situation than they are at this moment — difficulties present themselves on every side, and we can take no step that will not be attended with infinite hazard — the President hopes however that by an active exertion of the means we still possess, those difficulties may yet be surmounted, and his Lordship is clearly of opinion that that measure should be adopted, which is most likely to impress the Enemy with the highest Idea of our resources, and of our energy and spirit, and as nothing so effectual can be done if the Army be kept together [and the disbanding

it

it is a measure only to be adopted in the very last
necessity / the President is of opinion that the
interprize against Cuddalore should be pursued,
notwithstanding the risk if it can be pursued
with the smallest prospect of success — the Presid.
having already given it as his opinion that the
Squadron ought to remain on this side of the Penins.
during the Monsoon at all hazards, and that if it
meet with any great misfortune during its absence
it will be entirely owing, and must be attributed
to that absence, his Lordship of course agrees in
opinion with Sir Eyre Coote, that the Squadron
should remain, and cooperate with the Army at
least to the very last possible Minute in the
Reduction of Cuddalore, or in any other interprize
that may be undertaken on the Coast —

The Committee entirely concur in
opinion with the President —

The Admiral repeats the reasons he
before urged against staying on this side of India
during the Monsoon, and declares it to be
impossible —

The Committee then observe that
the other object still remains, and they require
the Admiral to cooperate with the Army for the
Reduction of Cuddalore —

The Admiral answers that it
is too late in the Season — that the Ships
cannot go to Cuddalore and return in time to do

what

what is necessary to be done before the Squadron goes
to Bombay.

The President asks General Stuarts
opinion, supposing the Squadron to convoy the Vessels
to Cuddalore, and to protect them till the Troops
& Stores are landed, would the departure of our
Squadron, and the arrival of French Ships after
the landing of the provisions and Stores prevent
the Success of the interprize —

The General answers he thinks not
that if Sir Edward Hughes will stay at Cuddalore
till the landing of the provisions and Stores shall
be effected, the Army can take care of itself afterwards —

The Admiral says that so much time
has been lost, that it would be imprudent to go
but in force, and he cannot be ready to with the
Squadron till it is time to go to Bombay —

The President declares he has nothing
more to say, but that he wishes to have it clearly
understood, that he has meant to recommend the
enterprize against Cuddalore in the strongest
terms the language affords, and to urge, advise and
require the Admiral to cooperate at least with the
Army in the Reduction of that place —

The Admiral having absolutely declared
that he would not keep the Squadron on this
side of India during the Monsoon, and as to
Cuddalore, that the Season was so far spent that
he would not cooperate with the Army for the

reduction

The Presidt. orders Genl Stuart, if the arrival of the French after the Stores are landed, would effect the enterprize against Cuddalore

Genl Stuarts reply

The Admirals observations thereon

The Presidt. repeats his desire for the Admiral's having against Cuddalore

language

Expedition against Cuddalore given up

2972 Fort St George 21st September 1782.

reduction of Cuddalore, and the Commander
in Chief having declared that every things hinged
hinges on that Corporation, and Major General
Stuart being of the same opinion, the undersigned
against Cuddalore is, of necessity, given up—

The Boat to attend on the expedition to be afforded by the Squadron

The President observed that the main
object is to obtain of the Admiral the assistance
of his Frigates, to afford some chance of protecting
part of the Supplies that may arrive from
Bengal during the ensuing the absence of the
Squadron, and also a Ship to convey the Troops
and Stores that are to be sent to Negapatam—

The Admiral readily consents to leave the
San Carlos, Active, Medea, and Coventry, and to assist with
a ship or two to convey the Troops and Stores to Negapatam

Requisition to be made to the Commanding Chief to send 300 Kings Troops to Negapatam

The Committee having resolved the 20th
Instant that it was necessary to send at least 300 Europeans
to Negapatam, and at this number exclusive of the Sailors
from the Company's Troops now with the Army;
it is agreed that the Commander in Chief be requested
to send the other 300 of the Kings Troops— Agreed also

Field Pieces and Stores for Tanjore & Luckwaddy to be sent to Negapatam

that as many field pieces as can possibly be spared
be sent with the Troops to Negapatam, and the Stores
indented for from Tanjore and Vaichinopoly — also 20
Lascars if Artificers more—

The President informs the Committee that he mentioned to the Commander
in Chief the propriety of sending an Officer to
Command in the Southward in the room of

Colonel

2973 Fort S.t George 22.d September 1782.

Col. Lang appd to
Command the Southern
Army
—

Colonel Horne, and that Sir Eyre Coote concurred with
him that Colonel Lang was an Officer very fit for
that trust — Agreed in consequence that Colonel
Lang be appointed to the Command of Tanjore &
of all the Troops stationed to the South of the
Coleroon.

Undecision on the
disposal of the Army
to be deferred

Ask is not improbable that events may
occur in a few days which may influence our
determination relative to the disposal of the Army,
it is agreed to defer for the present the consideration
of that subject —

The Presidt's application
relative to Wandewash

Gen.l Stuart to reply

The President asks General Stuarts
opinion relative to Wandewash, whether advisable
to keep it for the present or destroy it — General
Stuarts answer that in his opinion it is not
advisable to destroy it now —

Letters to be written
the S.d Polygars to
assist our Troops —

Agreed that Letters be written to all
the Southern Poligars to desire them to assist our
Troops with Provisions and to defend their Fellows
against our Enemies, and promising the most
ample protection to those who manifest their
Attachment and fidelity to the Company —

2974 Fort St George September 1782.

To the Honble 32 Brigadier General Stibbert &
Gov.r & Council of Tranquebar

Dispatched by following Letter

Gentlemen

To grant Abbreviation the Prohibition of importing Grain from Bengal to Tranquebar

We have had the honor to receive your Letter of the 31st Ultimo, and are concerned to find that your Settlement shares so considerably in the general distress occasioned by Hyder Ally's unprovoked Invasion of the Carnatic.—

The Placard you mentioned to have been issued at Calcutta was founded on an Application made from one of the Council having been supplied at Tranquebar with Grain that had been imported there from Bengal and you cannot be surprized at any measure that may be taken to prevent such a Consignment.— We have wrote to the Governor General and Council on the Subject and forwarded them a Copy of your Letter, and we shall be happy if any means can be fallen upon to secure a supplies of Grain to your Settlement, and at the same time to prevent any part of that supplies from falling into the Hands of our Enemies.

We have the honor to be
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
humble Servants
(Signed) Macartney
for Select Comm.e

Fort St George
22d Sept.r 1782

Messrs. Light, Proctor, & Billiers,
Gentlemen,

I am directed by the Right Honble the President & Select Committee to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 2d Inst.t and in consequence to signify to

2975 Fort St. George September 1782

22d

To Mess.rs Light & Sweeten & Bedcliff. The Paddy claimed by Mr. Dott to be delivd to him on his consents to appropriate it to the use of Pr troops, & a Receipt to be granted him.

To you their orders that the Paddy claimed by Mr. Dott, and which you are of opinion is his property, be accordingly delivered to him, provided he consent to its being appropriated to the use of the Troops at Palamcotah, if it shall be wanted for that purpose, in which case a receipt must be given to Mr. Dott by the Storekeeper for the exact quantity and specifying the current price at the time it was delivered

I have the honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most obedt hble Sh
Signed John Hudleston Secy.

Fort St. George
22nd Sept.r 1782.

23d Received Letter from the Chief & Council of Vizagapatam with return of their Troops for the month of August

— Received the following Letter —

The Right Honble George Lord Macartney &c &c
President &c.

My Lord

From Mr. Robbins requesting that Mr. Scotney be directed to deliver an Eighteen Pounder for the use of the Squadron

Having made an application to Mr. Scotney, a Military Storekeeper, for an Eighteen Pounder Iron Ordnance to be supplied to His Majesty's Ship Magnanime, I have received for answer that he has none belonging to this Garrison that will answer the purpose, but that he has some Eighteen Pounders belonging to Bombay, which he cannot part with without your Lordships approbation — I am to request your

2976 Fort St George — 23d September 1782.

23d Sept. 1782.

I request your Lordship will please to give
permission to Lt. Col. Kennedy to employ two
Eighteen Pounder abovementioned, Pieces
Honor to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordships most
Obed. humble Sr.

Signed/ Tho. Robbins
Ordnance Storekeeper.

To The Right Honble George Lord Macartney &c.
Presidt &c. Select Committee of Fort St George.

From Gent. Quartermaster
Letter from Lt. Col. Kennedy
& Major Mackay —
& recommending Promotions

My Lord & Gentlemen,

I am instructed by the Commander in
Chief to lay before the Select Committee the inclosed
letters from Lieut. Col. Kennedy and Major Mackay,
of which he approves

Lieut. Charles Lenark having
been ordered by the Commander in Chief to act
as Quarter Master to the 2d Batn. 1st Regiment in
the room of Lieut. Fotheringhame resigned, they
leave to recommend that he be appointed Quarter
Master of that Corps,

They leave also to recommend that
the following Cadets for this Establishment arrived
in the Nottingham transport be appointed
Ensigns as the list is at present greatly deficient
in Officers of that rank, their rank to be settled
on the Arrival of the list from the Court of
Directors, viz. Messrs. John Stott, Charles Wright,
& James Leith.

Yours

2977 Fort St George September 1782.

23d.

I have the honor to inclose for the Approbation of the Lieut Committee the accompanying Certificates & recommendation for the promotion of Native Officers in the 1st Circar Battn and the 26th & 27th Carnatic Battns of Sepoys.

I have the honor to be,

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Your Most Obt Servt

Signd James Stuart —

Fort St George
22d Septemr 1782 —

To Lieut Colonel Malcolm

Adjutant General

Sir

Inclosed I send you Captain Lieutenant Carlisle's resignation of the office of Adjutant of Artillery — & they have to recommend Lieut Robert Bell to the Commander in Chief to succeed to the Appointment.

I am

Sir

26th August 1782

Your Obed: humble Sr

Signd John Kennedy

Agreed that the 13 pounder Iron Ordnance requested by his Majestys Naval Storekeeper be supplied from those belonging to Bombay — and that the promotions recommended by General Stuart do take place accordingly —

Received Letter as inclosed in Miscellany Book from Doctor Anderson requesting a supply of 100 Bags of Rice for his Majestys Naval

entered

the 13 Pounder to be supplied to the Squadron.

Genl Stuarts Recommendations to take place.

2978 Fort St George 23d September 1782

23d Naval Hospital

100 Bags of Rice to be supplied this day by Naval Hospital —

Ordered that the Rice requested for his Majesty's Naval Hospital be issued accordingly —

Lieut the following Letter

To Lieut General Sir Eyre Coote K.B.

Commander in Chief &c &c &c

Sir

We have had the honor to receive your Letter of the 21st Instant, which we have taken into consideration yesterday Evening, and We now send you Copy of our Minutes upon the occasion, by which you will perceive that We have entirely concurred in your opinion of the Importance of the enterprize against Cuddalore, and that no efforts have been wanting on our part to forward on the Admiral to cooperate with you for its accomplishment — We sincerely lament that those efforts have been ineffectual, and with the highest sense of that prudent Zeal which in the midst of severe Indisposition still continues to animate your conduct, We have the Honor to remain,

Sir

Your most obedt Hble Servt

Signed Macartney

Wm Sutherland

To Lieut Colonel Ross,

&c &c &c Member of the Committee of Stores.

Gentlemen,

I am directed by the Right Honble the President & Select Committee to desire you will

Fort St George

23d Sept 1782

To the Committee of Stores to prepare as many Lists & Invoices as may be found to be sent to Negapatam —

To Sir Eyre Coote; concurring with him in opinion of the Importance of our Enterprize against Cuddalore & giving assurance to endeavour to forward on the Admiral to cooperate with him —

2979 Fort St. George 22 September 1782.

23d will examine the Contents for Stores from Tanjore & Trichinopoly, & prepare without delay as many field Pieces as can possibly be spared to be sent to Negapatam, with the other articles intended for.

I have the honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most obt. Servt.
John Hudleston Dep.

Fort St. George
22. Sept. 1782.

23d.

24th Received a Letter from Captain Ward, as entered in Miscellany Book No 9 representing his ill state of health, and requesting leave to go to Vizagapatam; which is granted accordingly.

Vizagapatam

Capt Ward permitted to go to Vizagapatam for the Recovery of his health.

Received the following Letter from Captain Clark of the Ship Earl of Hertford —

From Capt. Clarke requesting the Com.tee that almost all the Crew of his Ship has been Prest, & requesting that some measures may be taken for his Relief —

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney
President and Governor &c. Council of
Fort St. George.

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Some officers of His Majesty's Squadron under the Command of Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hughes have Prest almost every Man from my Ship — My Ships Company at Present consists of two or three Midshipmen, and about twenty Lascars, and not one amongst them can go to the Head, or Wheel, or Clap on a Tripper — such a Crew My Lord & Gentlemen, is unequal to the daily Offices of the Ship. were she Riding in an Harbour safe from all Weathers; in our present situation we cannot guard against, much less remedy, the most trivial accident; The Cargo of the Honble Company, The Property of my Owners, and my own also are at an immediate and very

2980 Fort St George 2 September 1782

24th very dangerous ride,

I think it therefore my Duty to address your Lordships &c on this urgent occasion, and to hope that you will be pleased to take some measure for my relief as soon as possible, for I have to dread the ill consequences of the least delay —

I am with all due respect,

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Your most obt. humble Servt.

(Signed) Dand. Barbe

Ship Earl of Hertford,
in Madras Roads,
the 24th. Septr. 1782

Agreed that Copy of the foregoing Letter be sent to the Admiral

Copy Capt. Barbe's Letter to be sent to the admiral.

Sent the following Letter to Lieutenant Orr —

To Lieutenant Orr.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to inform you that it has been represented to them, that of the number of Cattle seized and sent down for the use of the Army, 295 only were Bullocks, and therefore Cows, Buffaloes, &c — the Select Committee do therefore desire that you will make very minute Enquiry into this matter without delay, and report to the Board such of the Cattle as were not really wanted for the use of the army.

I am, Sir

Your Most obt. Servt.

John Huddleston Secy

To Lieutenant Orr ordering him to restore to the Owners such Cattle seized by him as were not properly wanted for the use of the Army

Fort St George
24th Septr 1782.

Received

2981 Fort St George — 2 September 1792.

25th Recvd the following Letter from Captain Johnston with the Account thereon mentioned —

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney, K. B.
President & Govr &c &c &c Select Committee
My Lord & Gentlemen,

From Capt Johnston transmitting an Acct of Cash recd & expended on Fortifications —

I have herewith the honor to forward an Acct of the Cash Recvd and expended on the Fortifications of this place in the Months of April, May, June, and July — viz.am

with the greatest Respect
My Lord & Gentlemen
Your most Obedt Humble
(Signed) Jamt Johnston

Negapatnam
12th Septr 1792.

Agreed that the Account be referred to Mr Sullivan the Resident at Tanjore.

Ordered that the Account be transmitted to Mr Sullivan the Resident at Tanjore — accordingly

Sent the following Letter to Sir Eyre Coote

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

1

To Sir Eyre Coote, reminding him of a Part of the Proceedings of the Committee sent him in last Letter relative to his ordering 300 of the King's Troops to Negapatnam

We had the honor in our Letter of the 20th Instant to send you the Minutes of our Proceedings of the preceding day — We now beg leave to remind you particularly of that part of them which runs as follows, "The Committee having "resolved the 20th Instant that it was necessary "to send at least 300 Europeans to Negapatnam, "as that Number can't be taken from the "Company's Troops now with the army; It is agreed "that the Commander in Chief be requested to

send

2982 Fort St George — September 1782

25th and further 300 of the King's Troops.

We are therefore to desire that you will be so good as to give orders accordingly — The Admiral having agreed to furnish a King's Ship for that purpose — We have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obt Hble Servts

Macartney

&c Select Committee

Fort St George
25th Sept. 1782

At a Select Committee on Military Affairs present

Wednesday 25th Sept. 1782 — at 11 A.M.

The Right Honble Lord Macartney & 3 Council[lors]
Sir Edward Hughes, Anthony Sadlier Esqr
Major General Stuart & Alexander Davidson Esqr
John Holland Esqr absent

Minutes of last Committee read & approved

Read letter from the Right of Honble
[as entered in Country Correspondence Vol A 1782]
complaining again on the subject of the Vessels
belonging to his subjects captured by the Squadron
that the Company's people have seized several Vessels
belonging to his country and when the Admiral have
applied to them to restore them they instead of complying
having sold the Vessels and kept the proceeds — he
therefore requests of the President to inform himself
of the Admiral respecting the said Vessels and in
what manner they have been disposed of that he
[the Admiral] may give an order to restore each
proprietor

The Royal Highness complains of the Vessels of his subjects having been seized by the Squadron & demands Restoration

have

person his property by which means they would be
encouraged to carry on their Trade in future.—

The former Letter from the Rajah on
the same subject was sent to the Admiral who now
informs the Committee that having at that time a
much other business on hand it quite escaped her
Memory and he requests the Committee will
order a copy of the Letter now read to be sent to him
which is agreed to accordingly and the President
is requested to write in the most friendly Terms to
the Rajah of Travancore and to assure him that
if the matter should not be settled very soon to his
satisfaction the whole amount shall be discharged
out of the Companys Money.—

Copy of the Rajahs Letter to be sent to the Admiral.

The Rajah to be written to on the Subject with assurances of the fullest Redress

The President lays before the Committee
the following Letter which he received from Sir
Eyre Coote before the Army marched.—

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K. B. Governor
&c &c &c

My Lord,

Before the Army moved last to the Relief
of Vellore, I paid into the hands of Mr. Welch the
Paymaster. One Lack of Pagodas which I borrowed
from Sir Edward Hughes, on my own Bond, &
under a promise to have it paid off on the arrival
of the first Supplies from Bengal. it being a
Government Money. — I am therefore now to
request that Your Lordship will give the
Directors Orders for the Repayment of the same
to me, to the end that I may duly discharge
my

From Sir Eyre Coote acquainting the Comtee that he borrows from the Admiral one Lack of Pagodas & requesting that the Money may be paid to him in order to retire his Bond.

2984 Fort St. George 25th September 1782.

Ory Bond to the Admiral.

Have the honour to be

My Lord

Your Lordships Most

Obed. humble Servant

(Signed) Eyre Coote

Country plain
the 25th Augt 1782.

The Gent. consent to take a Bond of Indemnification if the Money cannot be paid

The Generals Secretary attending the Committee informs them that if the Money cannot be now discharged, he thinks the General would be satisfied with a Bond of Indemnification from the Company for the Amount, and deliver up the Paymasters receipt. — Resolved accordingly that a Bond for 100,000 Pagodas be granted to Sir Eyre Coote in lieu of the Paymasters receipt to him for that Sum.

Granted

Read the following Letter from Sir Eyre Coote. —

To the Right Honble Geo: Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Govr. &c. &c. &c. Select Committee
Fort St George

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Sir Eyre Coote desires the Governor General & Council will order two Companies of the 98th Regt to hold themselves in readiness to proceed to Bengal, until the Number of 500 men shall be completed from the Regt. when it arrives.

Recommends Col. Lang to be promoted to the Rank of Brigadier Genl by Brevet.

I have the honour to inclose to your Lordship & Council my Letters addressed both to your Lordship & to Myself in the Month of March last set forth the many and great distresses which they had subjected themselves to by their Exertions for the service of the War on this Coast, & their inability, from the deficient State of their European Strength in Bengal to give an effectual check

to

2985 Fort St. George 25th September 1782.

To, and obviate the future progress of the Danger, which in consequence threatened the Public Interest— This latter consideration added to the knowledge they had of Our Reinforcements coming from Europe, induced them to request that 500 should be sent round to them— The European force we then had here no proportion to the Service to be performed, and would not therefore admit of being lessened— The Kings Corps which have arrived since that period, or in the course of this year excepting the few lately come on the two Indiamen belonging to Sir Richard Bickertons Fleet, have been most all of them, employed on board Sir Edward Hughes's Squadron— It does not appear, therefore that there was a probability until now, of complying with the wishes of the Governor General & Council or of contributing in any manner, that aid to the support and protection of the Company's Valuable possessions in Bengal, as from their known & importance to the British Nation, they so well deserve— However, as the Arrival of the very Respectable Body of Troops with Sir Richard Bickertons Fleet, daily expected, must increase the European force on this Coast to such an Extent, as can well admit of affording the necessary assistance to Bengal, I have judged it expedient to give orders for the two Companies of his Majesty's 101st Regiment lately arrived on the Major Indiaman to

hold

2986 Fort St. George 25th September 1792

hold themselves in readiness to embarke for
Bengal on the first Conveyance, & which I am
in hopes, as the Voyage will be very short, may
with the consent of Sir Edward Hughes, be
found in the Medea Frigate, which he has
been so obliging as to say should attend my Convoy.
The Number wanted to complete the requisition
of the Governor General and Council, I have
ordered to be furnished from 101st Regiment on
its arrival here, and do propose to Bengal by
the first safe Opportunity that may offer.
I must request your Committee will give what
assistance may be in your power towards
expediting this Service.

In the present Critical situation
of Affairs, I consider it as a matter of real
consequence to their support and Security, that
your most considerable Military Commands
should fall under the Charge of Men whose
Knowledge of the Country as well as of their
Manners and Customs of the Natives, has been
matured by Experience, and with a View in some
measure to obviate the Clamour, of so experienced
an Officer as Colonel Lang being Commanded by
Men unacquainted with the Nature of Service
in that Country, I beg leave to recommend, that
he be appointed a Brigadier General by Brevet
until the pleasure of the Court of Directors
shall be known.

As

2987 Fort St George 25th September 1782.

As my ill state of health will put it
out of my power to be so explicit as I could wish
in my Dispatches to Europe — Allow me to
most particularly to entreat that the
Correspondence relative to the Movements of the
Army since it last Marched from the Mount,
to the day of its return, as well as my subsequent
Letter to your Committee be sent in Number in
Your first Packet to the Honble the Court
of Directors —

I have the honor to be
My Lord & Gentlemen,
Your most Obdt
Humble Servant
[Signed] Eyre Coote

Earl of Hertford
Indiaman Bradus
Road 23d Sept. 1782.

The Committee upon a perusal of the
foregoing Letter, are convinced the General must
have entirely forgotten the contents of the Letter
from the Governor General and Council of the
9th May, in which they requested that we would
inform the Commander in Chief that they did
not think it in any degree necessary nor proper
that he should send them any Body of his
Majesty's forces, nor any Europeans but the
Recruits that might be destined for Bengal nor
even those if he judged their services indispensably
necessary to his Operations" — Agreed that
a Letter be immediately written to Sir Eyre
Coote, reminding him of the foregoing paragraph
and

a Letter to be written to the General reminding him of the Paragraph of the Gov. Gen. & Counc.ls Letter relative to the sending of Europeans to Bengal.

The Comd.r dissents to the measure —

Fort St. George 25th September 1782

and stating to him also the various other considerations which render it dangerous and impolitic to part with any of our European force at this juncture, and which make it impossible for the Committee to consent to the measure or to be in any respect aiding or assisting towards it

I send the following Letter from the Commander of the Ship Blandford

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney, K.B
President &c. Council of
Fort St. George.

My Lord & Gentlemen

From Capt. Pigou inclosing a Letter from the 2d Mate informing him of him & all the Crew of his Ship having been preserved & supplied with Victuals

Copies of the above to be sent to Madras

The accompanied Letter came from W. G. Lathwell 2d Mate of the Blandford, and to whom was Commanding Officer, when the Men were taken.

"My situation is truely distressing in every respect the property of my Owners and my own also, as well as the Honble Company's is now at the Mercy of the Waves, nor have I within my any means of relief.

To you therefore, My Lord & Gentlemen I apply for such assistance or Relief as my Situation calls for, and as you may conceive necessary for preventing the impending Loss to the Honble Company, my Owners and myself. And I hope your Lordship &c will be pleased to consider that no time should be lost in so

proceeding

2989 Fort St. George 25th September 1782.

Respecting an Emergency.

I have the Honor to be

My Lord & Gentlemen

Your most obedient

& faithful Servants

Peter Pigou

Fort St. George
Septr 24th 1782

To Capt. Pigou

Sir

I am sorry to inform you that this Morning the Men of War have taken all our Men out, both Seamen and Mechanicks Upon Orders for Unmooring the Ship and running her nearer in, Came too late, as I have not a man left, either to clap a Stopper on, Heave a Cat of the Land, or Steer the Ship, Indeed I cannot answer for the Consequence should it come on to blow or any Accident happen to us with the Men we have on board, I assure you we are now in a very distressed situation, And cannot think of doing any thing with the Ship untile we get some People On Board,

I am Sir

Your most obt

Humble Servant

Ship Blandford

Monday Septr 23d - 1782.

Signd G. Saltwell

Agreed that a Copy of the foregoing Letter be sent to the Admiral -

The Comtee adjourned till 8 Clock.

Agreed that the Committee be adjourned till 8 Clock this Evening - in the mean while the following Letter is sent to Sir Eyre Coote

&c &c

2992 Fort St. George 25th September 1792

from the 9th of May 1792.

I have the Honor to be

My Lord & Gentlemen

Your most Obed.t

humble Servant

Sigd Cuyler Boote

On Board the

Hertford Indiaman

25th Sept.r 1792.

To Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hughes, &c. &c.

Sir,

I have received from the Select Committee, their Proceedings of the 22d Inst. and remark with the utmost Regret, you have, per the proceedings of said Date, stated that His Majesty's Squadron is in such want of Repair, that it is indispensibly necessary, you should proceed to Bombay before the S.W. Monsoon sets in, for the purpose of refitting, also, that the Extremity of the Season hinders your Ships affording any Cooperation with the Army, for carrying on the Enterprize, the Confederate Expedition against the French Force at Cuddalore which Service is obliged in Consequence to be layd aside. The Select Committee have made an Application this Day, that three more of the Kings Troops should be ordered by me to Negapatam for the purpose of giving a certain Degree of Security to our Southern Countries. I agree with their Requisition, Have no Mode of Affording that Assistance to the Service South of the

Coleroon

2993 Fort St. George 25th September 1782.

Coleroon, but by Requiring that Lieut. Colonel Sullivan's Corps, and such Number of the 78th Regiment now on board the Squadron, as with form a Detachment of three hundred Effective Rank & File, should proceed to Negapatam, and request you will be pleased to order such Ship of War, as you may deem necessary for the Service to convey them to that Garrison. The pressing requisition of the Supreme Board of Bengal for European Reinforcements being sent to that Presidency, Obliged me to Order the Detachment of the 101st Regiment on that Service, and the Necessity during the absence of the Squadron from this Coast, of putting those Garrisons of Negapatam and Tanjore in the most respectable State for Defence, are Reasons that Operate Strongly for the three hundred Europeans alluded to being forwarded as Required.

Permit me to Assure you that the same Line of Cooperation, which has hitherto actuated me to afford every Assistance in my power, towards Manning the Fleet Effectually, will always be Adopted when it can be pursued Consistently with our very Existence and Defence on Shore

I have the honor of Assuring you, that

I am Sir

Your most Obt

Humble Servant

Signed Eyre Coote

On Board the
Hartford Indiaman,
25th Sept. — 1782.

Copy
The other Enclosure Lodged in the Office

2994 Fort St George 25th September 1782.

To the Right Honble Geo. Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Govr &c. &c. &c. Select Committee
Fort St George

My Lord, & Gentlemen,

from Sir Eyre Coote is obliged to forward to Europe
on account of his Health.
acknowledging the Letters
of the Committee.

I have the honor to receive your
Letter of the 23d Instant, inclosing the Minutes
of your Committee of the 22d.

I have observed with infinite
satisfaction, the earnest manner in which you
have exerted yourselves towards carrying into
execution, that Object which I had so much
at Heart — the destruction of the French force
on this Coast — Impressed as I am, with a strong
Conviction of the great, and many beneficial Effects
which would have accrued to your Interests
in general, by its successful Accomplishment;
and feeling on the other hand, as I do, the evil
Consequences to be apprehended from the
Existence of that Force on this Coast, under the
Countenance of so powerful a Native Ally
as Hyder Ally Cawn — I most sincerely lament
with you, the ill success that attended your
Efforts, and the Cause which produced the
Necessity of relinquishing the Expedition —

My health mends so slowly,
and I continue in so weak a State, that the
Faculty have recommended to me a Sea Voyage,
and change of Air, I have therefore come to
the Resolution of proceeding to Bengal,
and shall tomorrow or next day embark

on

2995 Fort St. George 25th September 1782.

on Board the Medea Frigate, which Sir Edward Hughes has been so obliging as to give me for that purpose.

As the best Chance we yet have of rising superior to our Enemies, I must recommend, the preservation, & support of the Army, to your most particular attention, and that you allow no consideration whatever, to influence you to the measure of disbanding it - On the contrary, that you use your utmost Endeavors to keep it ready for immediate Service —

As the Efforts of your Natural & Enemies the French are at present directed in force against this side of India, it is my firm Opinion, that every Man now here should be employed for the Support and protection of our Possessions here, and in Bengal — The Chief Strength to be reserved on the Coast, and Coast, the small Detachment, we have upon the application of the Governor General & Council, Ordered to proceed to Bengal, will for the present, be sufficient to secure the Tranquility of those Countries till the Reinforcements expected may enable us to furnish a more considerable force for their Security. As upon them alone we have to depend for our chief Resources. — You may rest assured, that nothing shall be left untried towards assisting you both in Money, and Provisions from Bengal, and that should my Health be so reestablished as to enable me again to endure the fatigues of Field Service, I shall upon it being intimated

to

2996 Fort St. George 25th. September 1782.

to me, that my presence can be of any use to your affairs here, embrace the first opportunity of returning.—

I entertain a just sense of obligation for the very honorable Terms in which you are pleased to Notice my Zeal for the Public Cause, which it is with the deepest regret, I am from extreme Indisposition obliged to withdraw from, whilst the great Object of my wish, and Ambition / when I undertook the Service on this Coast / the restoration of Peace to the Carnatic, remains unaccomplished.—

Your perseverance towards over coming the many Dangers which impend your affairs on this Coast, will reflect the highest honor on your Administration, and will in the Event of Success, which I earnestly pray for, be amply Repaid you in the greatest applause of your King, Country & Employers.—

I have the honor to be,

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Your most Obt. Hble Servt

Signed Eyre Coote

On Board the Earl of Hertford Indiaman, 25th Sept. 1782.

The Committee met agreeable to Adjournment — present as before

8 o'clock P. M.

The following Letter to Genl. Coote having been prepared since the Adjournment of the Committee in the Morning, is now read

and

2997 Fort St George 25th September 1782.

approved, and ordered to be copied fair and dispatched to Sir Eyre Coote —

To Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote Kb.
Commander in Chief &c &c

Sir

To Sir Eyre Coote wishing to know the Reasons why the Com[mander] cannot negotiate in his Desire to send 500 Kings Troops to Bengal —

I had the honor last night to receive your Letter of the 23d Instant and have this moment received that of the 25th —

We are most sincerely concerned for the necessity which obliged you to return to Bengal, and for the cause which has produced it, and most ardently wish that the restablishment of your health may enable you to continue those services to the public which have rendered your name so distinguished in the World. —

We entreat your candid attention to what our duty calls upon us to offer in answer to your Letter of the 23d Instant, and that you will believe that no motive less urgent should prevail on us to trouble you at a time when your Indisposition must render Business irksome to you. —

When you were going to Bengal in December last, before the arrival of a French fleet and considerable Body of land forces had increased the dangers of our situation, you intimated your Intention of taking with you only a Subaltern and 30 of the Kings Regiment for your Guard as Kings Commander in Chief, and in our answer we

told

2998 Fort St George 25th September 1782.

told you that although I signified an Intimation from
your two Years before which was considered as a
requisition had been refused on motives to which
our State of Warfare gave additional weight, yet
neither the examples of our Predecessors nor their
exigency of our situation should prevent us from
meeting your wishes, and giving you every Mark
of our attention on that and every other Instance
in our power.—

18th Dist

Some Months afterwards, when
we sent you the Letter from the supreme Council
requesting that 500 effective Men, including their
own Recruits might be immediately sent to them,
you thought the affording that assistance at that
period impracticable, and that nothing but the
very last stage of difficulty at Bengal could
authorize at that juncture the weakening our
European force on the Coast — altho' the
occasion of that requisition was the most urgent
that could possibly exist, being the actual
meeting of one Regiment of Sepoys and Sepoy Artillery
of the same licentious spirit in the rest, amounting in
number to 4,000, and quartered in the Neighbourhood
of the Presidency, yet the Governor General
and Council in the midst of the anxiety, and
apprehension inseparable from such a situation
were so considerate, and attentive to our exigencies,
as to declare that "pressing as the occasion was
which urged them to the demand, they should

25th March

not

not make it if they had the slightest suspicion that it would add to our embarrassments—

We sent however to Bengal an immediate supply of Europeans, and as many have since been added as make the number amount to 1500—

Your sense of the situation of our affairs, and of the Insufficiency of the European force with your Army, have since induced you to refuse your compliance with a requisition made by the Bombay Government for a very inconsiderable part of the Reinforcement expected with Sir Richard Bickerton, to join their forces in an expedition against the most valuable of Hyder Ally's Possessions—

You have also represented to us in a late Letter the absolute necessity of making every preparation and exertion, the same as if the worst was to be apprehended, and you are not ignorant how extremely inadequate the present Garrison of Fort St. George is to its defence—

We know that Adl. Leslie has been joined by a Reinforcement of 2 Ships of the Line, and We have reason to conclude that some Transports with Land forces accompanied them, as immediately after that Junction he attacked and captured Trincomallee, in which there was a Garrison of nearly 1000 men taken from this establishment.— We know also

that

3000 Fort St. George 25th. September 1782.

that he is in daily expectation of further and very considerable reinforcements, if they have not already joined him — it is generally believed that that his next object will be Negapatam, and if he succeed against that place, the loss of the Southern Countries will in all probability be the immediate consequence —

Upon this Idea Major General Stuart has recommended and you have concurred in the recommendation that 300 Europeans should be immediately sent to Negapatam — We not only concur in that opinion, but are sensible of the danger to which the Southern Countries are exposed, and are convinced that they will soon be the seat of War, that we should be glad to send thither a much larger force in European if General Stuart had not declared that not one could possibly be spared from the main army

We are persuaded that on a reconsidering all the circumstances of our situation and the prospect before us, — that the utmost efforts of our numerous Enemies are directed to this Coast, while the provinces of Bengal are in perfect tranquility, you will join with us in opinion, that no part of our European force can with safety or a presence either now, or after the arrival of Sir Richard Bickerton be sent to Bengal from the defence of these possessions —

From

3001 Fort St. George 25th September 1782.

From your urging the late application of the Governor General and Council as a ground for sending 500 of the Kings Troops to Bengal, We are morally certain the contents of their Letter of the 9th May must have entirely escaped your remembrance, as in that Letter [of which We now enclose a Copy] they say we now request that you will inform the Commander in Chief that we do not think it, in any degree necessary nor proper that he should send us any Body of His Majesty's forces, nor any Europeans, but the Recruits that may be destined for this Place, nor even those if he judges their Services indispensably necessary to his Operations."

"We should be very unhappy if the Service in the Carnatic, and particularly that of the Squadron, and that upon the Malabar Coast should be interrupted from any Idea of reinforcing this Establishment."

"Any Germans that may desert from the Enemy, or who would inlist from among your Dutch Prisoners might be sent hither, and would serve as a good Recruit to our first European Regiment, that has been so much weakened by the Detachments sent from it to the Coast."

"We repeat the Words of our last Letter," We should not have made the demand in it, "if we had the least suspicion that it would add "to your Embarrassments" in the same sentiment we have written this Letter."

From

3002 Fort St George 25th September 1782.

From these Sentiments expressed by the Gentlemen at Bengal, when our situation was less Critical & our Danger less imminent than at present, We can, and do take upon Ourselves to answer on their behalf that they cannot & will not be desirous of withdrawing from this Coast any part of the K. Troops, or Company's Troops or of any other measure that tends to add to our difficulties —

We have been thus explicit, because there is nothing can give us greater concern than the having any difference of Opinion with you, or being under the necessity of not acquiescing in your wishes, but deeply impressed as we are with a sense of the fatal consequences to which the measure is liable, We are under the necessity of declaring most clearly, and decidedly that We cannot consent to any part of the Kings Troops being taken from the defence of this Coast at this Juncture, nor be in any respect aiding or assisting towards it, excepting such a small detachment of 30 Men as you were in December last, if may now be desirous of having with you as a Guard to your Person —

We have the honor to be,
Sir
Your Most Obed.t
humble Servants
Macartney
&c. &c. &c. Select Committee

Fort St George
25th Sept.r 1782.

Sir Edward Hughes having informed the Committee that he had received a Letter from Sir Eyre Coote requesting him that the Committee would make

Sir E. Hughes cannot part with the Troops on board the Fleet to go on any the Service.

3003 Fort St. George 25th September 1782.

on Application that three Hundred of the Kings Troops should be ordered to Negapatam for the purpose of giving a certain Degree of Security to the Southern Countries, Sir Eyre Coote agrees in the propriety of the Requisition, & had no mode of affording that Assistance to the Service South of Coleroon but by requiring that Col. Fullarton's Corps, & such number of the 73 Regiment now on board the Squadron, as would form a Detachment of 300 Effective men, Rank & File, & therefore requested the Admiral to order a Ship of War for the purpose of Conveying them to that Garrison, Sir Edward acquaints the Committee that he had ordered a Ship to be ready to proceed to Negapatam capable of transporting 300 Men & the Field Train & Stores belonging to it, On Friday Morning; but that he cannot possibly consent to part with the 98th Col. Fullarton's Corps, deeming them absolutely necessary for the Service of the Fleet that they should remain on Board, for reasons which he should lay before the Committee, & communicate to Sir Eyre Coote in his Answer, which he proposed to write this Night,

The Committee therefore agree to communicate the above to Sir Eyre Coote for his consideration, and that he be requested in all events to give orders that the Number of Troops required to be sent to Negapatam,

Meanth Thereon

&c

3004 Fort St George 25th September 1792.

be supplied from such other Corps, as he may judge
best for this important Service

Sent

3005 Fort St. George September 1782.

25th Sent the following Letter to Sir Eyre Coote with Extract of the Minutes of this date

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

Sir,

To Lt. Coote with copy of the Minutes of this date.

Since the Letters were written which now wait on you, the Select Committee have met, and they have directed me to send you the inclosed Extract of their Minutes, to which they request your early attention.

I have the honor to be with great respect,

Sir,

Your Most Obdt
humble Servant
(Signed) John Hudleston
Sec.

Fort St. George
25th Sept. 1782.
10, A. M.

26th Received the following Letter from the Adjutant General, inclosing Letters from Lieutenants Pennecuik and Doveton, as entered in Miscellany Book, the former inclosing Surgeon General's Certificate of his ill health and requesting leave to proceed to England for his recovery, the latter requesting permission to proceed to Bengal.

Lieut Pennecuik requests permission to proceed to Europe—

Lieut Doveton requests permission to proceed to Bengal.

To John Hudleston Esqr
Secry of the Select Committee

Sir,

I am directed by the Commander in Chief to enclose to You in order to be laid before the Right Honble the President and Select Committee, Applications for leave of Absence by Lieutenants Pennecuik and Doveton, the former

From the Adjt Genl with letters from the above and recommendation for appointments.

to

3006 Fort St George September 1782.

26th to Europe and the latter to Bengal; he approves of both, and begs leave to recommend that the request of Lieut Pennicuik may (if) be complied with, and signified to the Court of Directors by the present Dispatch.

I am also directed to signify his recommendation that Lieut Herbert Lloyd be appointed Adjt to the 18th Batt of Sepoys and Ensign Thomas Murchad Adjt to the 25th Batt of Sepoys vacant by the removal of Lieut Brown and Close; that Lieut Joseph Little be appointed to Command the 1st Batt of Sepoys Sibindy until further Orders, Lieut Coke being prisoner with the Enemy, and that Ensign Thomas Riddle be appointed Adjutant to the 18th Batt of Sepoys, vacant by the removal of Lieut Little—

I have the honor to inclose a Certificate for the promotion of a Native Officer in the 18th Batt of Sepoys.

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your most obed! Servt.

(Signd) Henry Malcolm
adjt Genl

Fort St George
26th Sept 1782

Minute thereon.

Agreed that the appointments recommended in the foregoing Letter be made accordingly, and that Lieut Pennicuik be permitted to proceed to Europe for his recovery, and Lieut Doveton

to

3067 Fort St George September 1782.

Recd to Bengal.—

Received the following Letter from Vellore—

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K.B.
&c &c &c

My Lord,

From Vellore, surprys a small party of the Enemys horse.— Many recd safe at Bangalore.— undisturbed by the Enemy.

Having intelligence that there was a small camp of about 200 Horse & some foot at Hussinabad, I detached a party on the 14th to beat them up, but by a mistake of the guide who led them through the Village, & their meeting with some obstructions, the Camp got the alarm & we only got 14 horses tolerable good. on which I have mounted Sepoys (old troopers) & hope to make them very useful after the rains in protecting the Inhabitants to cultivate the ground. Since the Army left this there have 4 horse-Men with their Horses deserted to me from the Enemy. A few days ago I had a Letter from Bangalore acknowledging the receipt of 100 Pags from me, at different times I have remitted to them 350, & hope soon to have an opportunity of sending the remainder of the 500 your Lordship sent me for that purpose, they were in great distress for want of every necessary, but are now quiet & happy with so ample a relief. We are going on very well with the repairs of the Hill Fort, & hope by the latter end of the Month to have the breaches finished. For these many years past there has not been so dry a Season as the present,

3006 Fort St George September 1782.

26th to Europe and the latter to Bengal; he approves of both, and begs leave to recommend that the request of Lieut Pennicuik may now be complied with, and signified to the Court of Directors by the present Dispatch.

I am also directed to signify his recommendation that Lieut Herbert Lloyd be appointed Adjt to the 18th Batt of Sepoys and Ensign Thomas Muirhead Adjt to the 20th Batt of Sepoys vacant by the removal of Lieut Brown and Close; that Lieut Joseph Little be appointed to Command the 1st Batt of Pyons Sibundy until further Orders, Lieut Coke being previous with the Enemy, and that Ensign Thomas Riddle be appointed Adjutant to the 11th Batt of Sepoys, vacant by the removal of Lieut Little—

I have the honor to enclose a Certificate for the promotion of a Native Officer in the 16th Batt of Sepoys.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obed! Servt.

(Signed) Henry Malcolm
Adjt Genl

Fort St George
26th Sept 1782

Minute thereon

Agreed that the appointments recommended in the foregoing Letter be made accordingly, and that Lieut Pennicuik be permitted to proceed to Europe for his recovery, and Lieut Doveton

to

3067 Fort St George September 1782.

26th to Bengal.—

Received the following Letter from Vellore—

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K.B.

&c &c &c

My Lord,

From Vellore, surprize a small party of the Enemys horse.— Many rich Sepoys sent Bangalore: undisturbed by the Enemy.

Having intelligence that Hoss was a small camp of about 200 Horse & some Foot at Hussenabad, I detached a party on the 14th to beat them up, but by a mistake of the guide who led them through the Village, & their meeting with some obstructions, the Camp got the alarm & we only got 14 horses tolerable good. On which I have mounted Sepoys (old troopers) & hope to make them very useful after the rains in protecting the Inhabitants to cultivate the ground. Since the Army left this there have 4 horse-men with their Horses deserted to me from the Enemy. A few days ago I had a Letter from Bangalore acknowledging the receipt of 100 Pags from me, at different times I have remitted to them 350 & I hope soon to have an opportunity of sending the remainder of the 500 your Lordship sent me for that purpose, they were in great distress for want of every necessary, but are now quiet & happy with so ample a relief. We are going on very well with the repairs of the Hill Fort, & hope by the latter end of the Month to have the Breaches finished. For these many years past there has not been so dry a Season as the present,

3008 Fort St. George September 1782.

2d. present, we have already lost one Crop of Cholum, & if there is not rain soon, we shall lose another of Sabbanee, the whole would have been full three Months Provision for the Garrison, Jam employ repairing the Banks, which the Enemy cut against the Monsoon; & if we are not molested shall have a very large & plentiful Crop of Cholum next year. Hyder Ghaut at Present, & for the some time past we have been remarkable quiet—

I have the honor to be my Lord,

Your Lordships most

Obedt. Humble Servt.

John Lumsden.

Villore 17th Sept. 1782.

Received the following Letter from Sir Eyre Coote

To the Right Honble Gen. Lord Macartney K.B.

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

from Genl Coote declining taking any European with him to Bengal recommends Capt Bisset to command the Sepoys Sebundies—

My Lord & Gentlemen,

I have received your Letter of the 25th. inclosing Copy of one from the Governor General and Council, the expressions of which, during I should be acquainted that they neither thought it in any degree necessary nor proper that any of His Majesty's Forces nor any Europeans else &c. should be sent had totally escaped my memory — Had nothing in View but the Public Service and complying with a Requisition of the Governor General & Council which I conceived still to

3009 Fort St George September 1782.

26th to exist in its original force, My wish is rather to add to than to diminish your Military Strength here, and in that Idea, as my motive of going now to Bengal is merely with a View to the reestablishment of my Health, and with an intention, in case of its perfect recovery, to return, I shall not think of carrying a single man with me — even as a Guard —

I have agreeable to your request given fresh Orders for forming the Detachment to go to the Southward, which Major General Stuart will see carried into execution, and I trust they will be in readiness to depart within the time Sir Edward Hughes has prescribed for the Sailing of the Ships on which they are to be conveyed —

Permit me to recommend that Captn Bishop be appointed to the Command of the Tanjore Detachment — Our Situation to the Southward and the State of the native Troops there Require the exertions of the most active Officers — and Captain Bishop has during the Course of the War on that Coast conducted himself in a truly Military manner on very critical & trying Occasions of Service.

I have the honor to be
My Lord &c &c

Your most obt
humble Servant
(Signd) Eyre Coote

Agreed

On Board the
Hertford Indiaman
26th Sept. 1782.

3010 Fort St George September 1782.

Minute Thereon

26th Agreed that Captain Bishop be appointed to the Command of the Tanjore Lobbendy Corps—

Received the following Letter from the Majesty's Ordnance Storekeeper

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.
President & Governor and Select Committee of Fort St George

My Lord & Gentlemen,

From Mr Robbins, requesting a supply of Gun Powder for his Squadron

His Majesty's Squadron under the Command of Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hughes being in want of 1454 Whole Barrels of Gun Powder to complete their Sea Store—

I am to request you will please to give Mr Scaltony the Military Storekeeper permission to supply me with the quantity of Powder abovementioned—

I have the honor to be
My Lord & Gentlemen
Your most obed.t and
most hum.ble Servant
Signed Thos Robbins
Ordnance Storekeeper

Fort St Georgo
the 26th Sept.r 1782.

Agreed that the foregoing Letter be referred

Minute Thereon.

to the Committee of Stores—

Received the following Letter from the Surgeon General—

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney
President and Governor &c. Select Committee

My

3011 Fort St. George September 1782.

26th.

My Lord & Gentlemen

from Surgeon Lynt recommending Surgeons for the Southward.

The Countrys to the Southward of the Coleroon being supplyed with only one Surgeon in each Garrison, excepting Tanjore, where you have been pleased to appoint Mr. Mein, induced me to Recommend that Mr. Joseph Gillespie may have the Appointment of Surgeon for the Field Service, and Mr Robert Simpson being Dead, that Mr. Edward Stewart Assistant Surgeon, be appointed in his Room to the Corps of Sibindy Sepoys, and a Passage ordered to enable them to proceed by the first Opportunity —

I have the honor to be with due respect,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most Obt.
Humble Servant,
(Signed) Sam.l Anderson.
Surgeon Lynt

N.B. no date, rec.d 26th Sept. 1782.

Agreed that Mr. J. Gillespie be appointed Surgeon for the field Service to the Southward and Mr. Edward Stewart in his room to the Corps of Sepoys Sibbindy —

Minute thereon

Received Letter from Captain Kenneth Mackenzie of his Majesty's 78th Regiment requesting a passage to Bengal on board any of the Ships now in the Road, in order to proceed from thence to Europe for his health — Agreed that Captain Mackenzie be permitted to proceed in the Ship Major —

Capt.n Mackenzie of the 78th to proceed to Bengal on the Major —

Sent

3012 Fort St George September 1782

26th Sent the following Letter to Sir Edward Hughes with Copy of the Letter from the Board of Treasurer as resolved in Committee the 25th Instant

Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hughes K.B.

&c &c &c

to Sir Edwd Hughes with copy of letter from the Board of Treasurer

Sir

I am directed by the Right honorable the President and Select Committee to furnish you with the inclosed Papers agreeably to your desire signified yesterday in Committee.

I am Sir

Your most Obed.t hble Servt

Signed J Foper Hastelletor

Fort St George 26th Sept.r 1782.

Recd the following Letter from the Chief and Council of Gunjam

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B. President & Gov.r &c. Member of the Select Comm.tee Fort St George.

My Lord & Gentlemen,

from Gunjam with Return of Indent for Stores — Ignorant what kind from Vizagapatam respecting Gun Carriages may be sent them — inclose an Estimate of what I would recommend to be erected for the Stores

I embrace your Lordship &c with pleasure to receive Returns of the Military Stores in the Fort this Garrison & Aska for the Month of July, as also an Indent for Military Stores wanted for the Use of this Garrison —

With the Letter from the Select Committee to this Settlement under date the 15th April 1782 was transmitted

3013 Fort St George September 1782

26th a List of Military Stores ordered from Vizagapatam for the use of this Garrison — The Gentlemen at that place in their Letter of the 5th of May advised that they had represented to the Select Committee that the Guns ordered from thence could not be spared without leaving that Settlement entirely defenceless, and which were therefore never sent —

As your Lordship &c will perceive by the Return of Stores now transmitted, how much we are distressed for Guns & Carriages for the Works of this Place, we therefore earnestly request that the Indent may be complied with as soon as possible — If Carriages cannot be spared to be sent with the Guns from Madras, they may be made up at this Place at a very moderate Expence, as Country Timber fit for the purpose can easily be procured —

The great Damages done to the Gun & Transport Carriages, Limbers, Cordage &c most of the latter being rendered unfit for Service & other Stores by being constantly exposed to the Weather for want of a proper Shed to keep them under, induces us to recommend that a Shed for that Purpose be erected along the West Curtain, an Estimate of the Expence of which enclosed, which appears to us very inconsiderable compared with the Loss which has arisen, & which must otherwise arise should the Stores remain uncovered, and as by means of a dwarf Wall & Palisadoe

Fort St. George September 1782.

26th Palisades from the Corner of the Factory House to the Ramp of the South West Bastion, which will be about 200 feet in length, all the Stores may be kept compact & in order, & which will at the same time enclose the Magazine & Grain Granary, & likewise the Shed proposed to be erected, we have taken the Liberty to order it to be set about, before the heavy Rains begin, which we hope Your Lordship &c will approve —

We have the honor to transmit a Return of the Troops in this District for the Month of August.

We have the honor to be very respectfully —

My Lord & Gentlemen,
Your most Obed.
& most Humble Sts.

Gunjam 7th Sept. 1782.

(Signed) S. M. Stone
R. D. Mennes
Dan. Rayfield.

27th Received the following Letter

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K. B.
President and Governor &c. Select Committee
of Fort St George

From Sir Edwd Vaughan will satisfy the Rajah of Travancore for the Capture of his boats on imposing Obedience from the Indiamen

My Lord & Gentlemen

I have the honor to receive the Copy of the Letter from the Rajah of Travancore to your President dated the 1st of August last.

and —

3015 Fort St. George September 1782.

2d. and in answer to that part of it relating to the Capture of the two Boats, which the Rajah claims as the property of His Subjects. They leave to inform You, that the Boats in question, sailed from Porca a Dutch Settlement not far distant from Cochin, and may be in the Rajah of Travancore's Country, the Boats carried Dutch Colours, which were taken in them, and produced a pass from the Company's Chief at Anjengo. The Term of the pass however was elapsed, and from all that the Agent for the Captures made by the Squadron, and other Officers could make out from the Men in the Boats, and the Cadjan Writings, they appeared to be the property of persons residing under the Protection of the Dutch Flag, and bound to Negapatam. It might be difficult my Lord and Gentlemen, for You or me to explain to the Satisfaction of the Rajah the great extent that was given by His Majesty's Proclamation, to the War against the Dutch, and the present being no Time to give cause of Offence even to the meanest Power on the Peninsula, it is therefore my intention to restore to the Rajah the Amount of the Bottom of the two Boats and their Cargoes at my own Expence, as their Amount of sale has been divided amongst the Captors some Months ago, and for this purpose I shall commission Mr. Hutchinson the at Anjengo, to accomodate the matter

with

3016 Fort St George September 27 1782.

27th with the Rajah or his Minister

I have also been favored with Copies
of Letters from the Commander of the Company's
Ship Blandford, and his 2nd Mate, to the
President and Council in the Subject of Men
impressed for the Service of the Squadron from
that Ship.

Permit me to assure you my
Lord and Gentlemen, once for all, that I am
truly sorry, that the very reduced State of the
Complements of all the Ships of the Squadron
makes it an absolute Duty in me to impress
so many Men from the Company's Ships, I feel
most sensibly for the situation of their Commanders,
but the Squadron must be manned by every
exertion in my Power, and the Company's Ships
may as well be navigated by Lascar Seamen, as
His Majesty's, that have now some hundred
of Lascars on board them, in lieu of English
Seamen —

I have the honor to be
My Lord & Gentlemen,
Your most Obt and
most humble Servant,
(Signed) Edwd Hughes.

Supra in Madras
Read the 27th Sept 1782.

John Huddleston Esqr —

Copy to the Right Honble the Select Comtee
Fort St George

Sir

3017 Fort St. George, September 1782.

27th. Sir

Pursuant to the Honble Boards verbal request to me, when I attended it the 25th Instant, I now do myself the pleasure to inclose upon a Receipt signed by Mr. Thomas Welch Paymaster to the army for Star Pagodas 100,000. lent for the payment of the Troops by Sir Eyre Coote, who having borrowed the same from Sir Edward Hughes on his own private Bond, as stated in his Letter to the Right Honble President, wishes to have with him to Bengal the Bond of Indemnification which the Honble Committee was pleased to promise should be granted in lieu of the accompanying Receit—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedt
humble Servant
Eyre Wm Kirnay

Fort St. George,
27th Septr 1782.

To the Right Honble Gen. Lord Macartney &c &c.
President & Governor &c. Select Committee
Fort St. George

From Mr. Kirnay requesting a bond of indemnification for Money borrowed by Sir Eyre Coote for the Army. —

My Lord & Gentlemen

As I shall have occasion for Mr George Tyler, a civil Servant belonging to your Establishment, and who has acted since my arrival on this Coast in the capacity of my assistant Secretary, I request your permission

From Genl Coote requesting Mr. Tyler may proceed to Bengal with him.

3018 Fort St. George September 1782

27th permission for his accompanying me to Bengal

I have the honor to be

My Lord & Gentlemen,

Your most obt humble Servt

(Signed) Eyre Coote

On Board the
Hartford Indiaman
27th Septr 1782.

The Sceptre arrived from Negapatam

Arrived from Negapatam his Majestys Ship Sceptre with the following dispatches from the Southward —

To John Hudleston Esqr

Military Secretary

Sir,

From Major Abercrombie, advising of the Death of Capt Harding, Lt Rowden Capt Simpson and Lt Stewart —

I have to inform you that on the 6th Instant Captain Hugh Dicken Harding departed this Life in this Garrison, — I before have advised you of the Deaths of Lieutenant Savage Wounded of the 10th Battn and of Mr Robert Simpson Surgeons Assistant, I have received very certain information, that Ensign Stewart of the 13th Battn was killed in the Action of the 27th of August with Colonel Braithwaite on the 16th of February last —

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedt humble Servt

Hugh Abercrombie.

Major Comg.

Tanjore 10th Septr 1782

(Signed)

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney &c

Governor President and Select Committee

Mad.

3019 Fort St. George September 5th 1782.

27th. My Lord & Gentlemen,

I had the honor of addressing you
the 16th instant, acquainting you with the Retreat
of our Party from the Sarrivre Country, and the
great Necessity there was for a Body of Europeans
to be sent to that Country, without which I shall
never be able to save Tippoo Saib, who after
having settled the District of Sarrivre, marched
to Shadelim taking that Fort, together with
Palore and Sotoor in the neighbourhood of
which Places he is now encamped, preparing
to cross the River, which he will certainly
do Tomorrow or next Day; intending to
besiege Podocotah and Darbadam: some Reports
mention, of resuming Command, true it is, that
he has wrote to the different Polygars, who
refuse to hear any thing further from me,
and have stopped all Payments and Settlements
and positively agreed to. It will plainly
appear to you that except there is a sufficient
Force in the field to oppose that under Tippoo,
there will be an end to all Revenue. Colonel
Humberston, in a Letter I had from him dated
the 30th August says, that being left to act at
his own Discretion till he should receive Orders
from the Governor and Council of Bombay,
he had formed a Design of laying Seige to
Dolicatchirry, and intended being before that
Place in sixteen days from the date of

his

from Col Nixon - in want of Europeans to enable him to face the Enemy - and on the State of affairs to the South.

3020 Fort St George 6 September 1782.

2 of his writing with the View of collecting some Troops,
and with Expectations, perhaps a little too Sanguine
I then ordered the Light Infantry to March from
Palamcotah and join me at this place. Captain
Balliffe protested against parting with any Troops,
and declared that unless the Light Infantry be
sent back immediately, the Company must be
losers of several Lacks, which in one respect baulks
my Views, at the same time the whole force
I could bring into the field would amount, exclusive
of the Light Infantry, as follows 2400, which
is very inadequate to the Army now in our
Neighbourhood. I have so frequently represented
the Situation of our Troops in this part of the
World to you and to the Government, and I have in
vain solicited the Renter to lay up a Store
of Grain in this Fort, and raise Money for
this Payment; Regarding which I am so fairly
tired out with Complaints, that I am with the
Distress they feel. I beg my Lord and Gentlemen,
you will observe this Representation
of some Notice, and assist the Renter
plainly as it cannot be found in
Country. With respect to myself
inform you that I received neither
Batta from the Company since the month
of March 1781. The Young Officers in general
suffer very much, and to their honor I speak
it, without murmuring. I beg Pardon for
troubling

3021 Fort St. George September 5th 82.

25th. troubling with so long and disagreable an account,
but hope You will excuse it, as I judge it a point
of Duty not to leave you Ignorant of any
Circumstance

I have the honor to be with respect,
My Lord & Gentlemen,
Your faithful and
most Obdt Servant.
(Signed) Eccles Nixon.

Trichinopoly
22d Septr 1782

To Mr Secretary Hudleston

Sir,

I have been favored with your
Duplicate Letter dated 3rd September, inform-
ing me of the Snow General Abbotts having
Rice for the Army which having delivered
She will proceed to Tranquebar and carry the
Madeira Wine on freight if the Coast should
be clear of the Enemies Cruizers — I have not
transcribed your Letter exactly, some inaccuracies
having rendered the Cyphers a little obscure

You will do me the favour
to inform the Right Honble the President
and Select Committee that I shall immediately
prepare the Wine and shall follow their
instructions when the Snow arrives.

You will further inform
them that by orders from Mr Sulivan
I freighted fifty Pipes of the above Wine

on

from Mr Digby
with exchange
sending the Wine to
Pondicherry

3022 Fort St George September 1782.

c 1

25th on board a Dogy that sailed some days ago,
and have others ready to Sixty Pagos be ordered
to this Place

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
(Signd) Thomas

Negapatam
23d Sept. 1782.

To Mr Thomas Kingsmote
Deputy Military Secretary

Sir

Last Night I was honoured with your Letter of the 16th Instant by Capt of the Ship the Scipio inclosing a Return of the Garrison for the Garrisons of Negapatam Palamcottah and Madura — they are now landing; and as Captain Graves will sail immediately on delivery of the Last Book, I shall not have it in my Power to send you a Return by this Conveyance of what is received — but as whatever Troops be sent for Palamcottah and Madura Garrisons shall be immediately forwarded —

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obed Servt
(Signd) Basil Cochrane

Negapatam
23d Sept. 1782.

To

from Mr Cochrane,
Stores for the Sr
Garrisons arrive on the
Scipio.

3023 Fort St. George September 1782.

To the Right Hon.ble Lord Macartney K. B.
President and Gov.r for the Select Committee
Fort St. George

My Lord & Gentlemen

I have the honor to acquaint
you that the Sceptre and Coventry arrived
here yesterday afternoon with the Officers &
the Southward 500 Bags of Rice 100 Bags
Barrells of Gun Powder for this Garrison
together with Arms and other Stores for those
of Pallamcottah and Madura
From Positive Orders from
Lieut.t Colonel Nixon I had Shipt 50 Barrells
of Gun Powder on Board the Chalenger for
Dannadapuram to be forwarded from thence
to Madura with 1500 Stand of Dutch firelocks
which that Garrison was greatly in want of
As Captain Graves informed
me he had instructions to assist me with more
Gun powder if Required I have requested
him to spare me 100 Barrells from his Ship
and by this Supply we shall nearly have
a proportion of Gun powder to the Shot and
Shells we have in Garrison
I most humbly beg leave to
observe that our supply of Rice is very
inadequate to our wants, and in order to
preserve the Garrison it will be absolutely
necessary

From Capt. Johnston the Sceptre & Coventry arriving at this Port with Officers & Stores — requesting supply of Gun Powder from Capt. Graves — in consequence of Rice being short

3024 Fort St. George September 1782.

2nd Vr necessary to send such supply before the Monsoon as will enable us to hold out till another can again be sent by sea — Nothing is to be expected from the Country about us, and I am sorry to observe, I fear their wants at Tanjore are becoming serious — In a letter I have this moment from Lt Colonel Braon, dated Cuchonopoly 28th September 82 are these Words "We are in a deplorable situation here, without Money, or Bazar, or the common necessary of life. Nothing but the Terror of the late executions here could keep the Troops here within the least Bounds"

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect

My Lord and Gentlemen

Your most Obed.t and most humble Servant

(Signd) Jno Johnstone

Negapatam
23d Sept.r 1782.

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney K. B.
President &c. Select Committee

Gentlemen

I have the honor to transmit you a paper of Intelligence which came with the accompanying Letter from Mr Sullivan, under my address — I have the honor to be with great Respect

Gentlemen

Your most Obed.t and most humble Servt

Signd John Sullivan

Tanjore 22d Sept.r 1782

From Mr Sullivan, with Papers of Intelligence

Pd

3625 Fort St George September 1792.

27th. The following Instructions having been drawn up for Colonel Ross Lang are now read & approved and ordered to be sent to him

To Colonel Ross Lang

Sir.

To Col. Ross Lang with instructions for his Conduct to the S.

Having appointed you to the Command of the Garrison of Tanjore, and of all the Troops stationed to the South of the River Coleroon We now proceed to give you some Instructions for your Guidance to which we desire your strict & constant attention.

We have united in your Command all the Southern Countries that you may employ the Troops wherever the Public Service shall call for them, without considering any part as particularly entitled to your care except from its actual importance, and we derive the firmest hope of success to this arrangement from our Knowledge of your long experience, vigilance and activity, qualities of which the number and strength of our Enemies render the utmost exertion necessary.

We think it probable that both the French and Dutch meditate an attack upon the Southern Countries and that their first and immediate object will be to possess themselves of Tegapatam - to enable you the more effectually to guard against such a design, and to give an additional

&

3026 Fort St George September 1782.

2/Copy of European force and of Artillery to the Body of Troops in the Field, 300 of the Kings Troops are now sent to Negapatam with ten Field Pieces and the Stores belonging to them.—

Upon which you will dispose of this Reinforcement as in your own judgement and from the intelligence you may receive shall appear most advisable— The Enemy must be superior to you in the field before they can venture to attack Negapatam and wher that happens you will regulate your conduct accordingly, always having in remembrance that Negapatam is of the greatest importance, it being a Key to the Southern Countries and the only means of prospect of keeping open a communication with them and of conveying Troops and Stores to Tanjore and Trichinopoly.

Our President has written Letters to all the Southern Polygars desiring them to assist our People with provisions and to join with them against the common Enemy, and we recommend to you to use your utmost endeavours to conciliate them to our Interest.

We have given Orders for your being furnished with a copy of our Instructions to Mr. Sullivan the Resident

at

3027 Fort St. George September 1782.

27th at Tanjore on his appointment to that Station, in which a precise Line is drawn between the Duties and Authorities annexed to your restive Stations - it is proper also to inform You that the Revenue Branch of the Company's affairs at Negapatam and at Trichinopoly is under the entire and exclusive management of Mr. Sullivan. We most earnestly desire and recommend as an object of great importance that you cultivate the most entire harmony and good understanding with Mr. Sullivan, and cordially unite and Cooperate with him for the advancement of the public Service.

We are fully persuaded both of his and your good disposition in this respect and have therefore the best ground to hope for Success to your respective exertions.

We recommend as an Object to which the extended State of your Resources absolutely requires your attention as well as that of the Resident the strictest Economy in the public expences both in the Field and Garrison, and that no Charge whatsoever be made or admitted that is not authorized by the established Regulations or by the most urgent necessity.

You will not fail to be punctual in your Correspondence with this Committee and in advising us of every thing material

3028 Fort St George September 1792

[illegible] material that shall come to your Knowledge
relating to the Public Service
Sincerely wishing you Success
We remain.
Sir

Your most Obdt Hble Servts
Signed J. Macartney & Wm Scott

Fort St George
26th September 1792.

Sent also to Colonel Lang the following
Dispatches for the Southward together with
Letters to the Rajahs of Warriorpolliam &c &c
entered in Country Correspondence N.o A.

To Captain Johnston
Commanding at
Sir

Negapatam

To Capt.n Johnston - on his
dispute with Mr Sullivan,
his Acct for the works
of Negapatam referred to
Mr Swinton

We have received your Letter of the
7th Inst. and Sir Eyre Coote has laid before us
your Letter to him of the 12th Instant.
We observe in the Principal subject
of these Letters a disagreeable Instance of that
jealous Spirit which has of late years
occasioned so many differences between the
Civil and Military Servants of the
Company, and been attended with so
much prejudice to their affairs —
We imagine you could scarcely
be ignorant that with regard to any
Military honors, or public distinctions
paid to Mr Sullivan at Tanjore the
Commanding

29th Commanding Officer of that Garrison must have received Instructions from this Government, nor can it be unknown to you that Col. Sullivan is charged with the care of the Company's Interests at Nagapatam as well as at Tanjore, and of course intitled at both places to the same respect as Representative of the Company — the difference however which appears from your Letters to have arisen between you on this point would only excite our concern on account of the public Service which we know is always liable to suffer in such cases but we must inform you that your referring a subject of this nature, and actually applying for orders regarding it to another authority, We consider as highly disrespectful to this Government — We trust this Intimation will be sufficient to prevent your falling into a similar error in future, and shall therefore only add that the Military honors to be paid to Mr Sullivan are to be exactly the same as those usually paid to the Chief of Subordinate Settlements agreeably to the Orders and Instructions sent to the Resident at Tanjore when that appointment took place, and of which Copies were transmitted to the Commanding Officer.

We are

Sir

3030 Fort St George September 1792

27th

Fort St George
23d Sept.r 1792

Sir

Your most Obed.t Servant
Signed J. Macanamy for Sel.t Com.tee

I.t Your accounts of Money expended on the Fortifications of Seringapatam are now sent to Mr. Sulivan as it is impossible for me to judge of there at this distance without knowing what has been done — they ought to have been sent to him at the beginning of every month by the person who has acted as Paymaster — Mr. Sulivan will regulate this matter in future according to the rules of the Service —

We observe that you will State by us what has been done, and what you think yet necessary to be done to the Fortifications

To John Sulivan Esq.r
Resident at Tanjore

Sir I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to send you the inclosed Rect.s which they have received from the Commanding Officer at Negapatnam, and to inform you that it never was their intention that Captain Johnston should act in the Capacity of Paymaster as well as Commanding Officer and Engineer, but that at every thing which relates to the Civil Branch of the Company's affairs at Negapatnam is put under your Charge, they suppose that you will of course appoint one of your Assistants to act

To Mr. Sulivan &c
act, for the Warden
Negap.m regard to how
to appoint an Assist.t to
him.

rect

3031 Fort St George September 1782.

27th Packet Paymaster and receive from him regularly
the Accounts of that Garrison to be included in your
own General Account of Receipts and Disbursements.
The Select Committee desire that you
will observe this regulation in future and in the mean
while examine the Accounts herewith sent to you
and not allow of any Charge that is not properly
Vouched and authenticated.
I have the honor to be
Sir
your most Obed.t Servt
[Signed] John Hudleston
Secy

Fort St George
26th Septr 1782

To Lieut.d Colo.l Ross Lang
and John Sullivan Esqr.
Gentlemen

to Col. Lang – with the complaints of the Renter against Col. Nixon.

I am directed by the Right Honble
the President and Select Committee to furnish you
with the enclosed Copies of Complaints exhibited
by Venkata Soubiah the Trichinopoly Renter
against Lieut.t Colonel Nixon the Commandant
of that Garrison, and to desire that as soon after
the arrival of Colonel Lang at Tanjore as may be
convenient you will make full enquiry into
the truth of the facts alledged in the said
Complaints and communicate to the Select &
Committee whatever shall come to your knowledge
regarding them, together with your observations
& opinions thereupon.

I &c.

3032 Fort St. George September 27/92.

2/4

Sir

Gentlemen

Your most obedt Hble Sts

Fort St. George
26th Sept. 1792

Macartney

Sir John Sullivan Esqr.
Resident at Tanjore

Pcc Select Committee

To Mr Sullivan - approving of his conduct - recommending to the Superintendance of Lany - with copy of this Instruction - and of letters to the Rajah - & his agreement with the Rana of Mysore

Sir

We have received your Letter of the 12th Instant enclosing Copies of several Letters to General Coote, and our President has laid before us several of your letters on the subject of your Negociation with the Rana of Mysore

We see in all these Letters fresh reason to applaud your Conduct and Zeal and exertions for the Public Service.

Your representations of the State of the Company's affairs to the Southward, together with those of Lieut. Colonel Nixon, and the probability which we think there is that the Enemy will endeavor to establish themselves in those Countries and that they will begin by attacking Negapatam, have induced us to send thither 300 of his Majesty's Troops with a field Train of Artillery & a quantity of Stores and provisions - We have also appointed Colonel Ross Lang to the Command of the Garrison of Tanjore and of all the Troops stationed south of the Coleroon

and

3033 Fort St George September 1782.

27th, and we inclose you a Copy of our Instructions to
him — We are persuaded you have a just sence of the
advantage to be derived to the Public Service from
the Cordial cooperation of those to whom it is
intrusted, and that you will use your utmost
endeavors to further our wishes in this respect.

Our President has written a Letter to
each of the several Polygar Chief to the Southward
and we enclose a Copy of it by which you will
perceive that they are referred to you for further
explanations — We recommend to you to use your
endeavors in conjunction with Colonel Lang to
conciliate them to our Interest, and we shall
readily confirm any engagements which you may
think it prudent and necessary to enter into for that
purpose.

In regard to your plan of an
Agreement with the Rana of Mysore — We are
sensible of its great Importance, and of its opening
a prospect of the most essential advantages in the
event of our attaching Hyder Ally's Dominions, but
we are to deliberately circumstanced with respect to
the Bengal Government and an Account of the
present uncertainty whether Hyder Ally will
or will not accede in case of a ratification to the
terms of peace stipulated for him by the Mahratta
Vackeel that we can as yet only impower you to
continue the Negociation and conclude an
Agreement with the Agents subject to the
revisal

3034 Fort St George September 1782.

27th revisal and approbation of the Governor Genera
and Council and to be considered as Resolved Unan
if they disapprove or if Hyder accede to the terms
of Peace prescribed for him

for

Fort St George
27th Sept 1782

Your most obt Hble Sert
Macartney
Select Committee

At a Select Committee present
The Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.
Governor & President
Friday the 27th Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hughes K.B.
Sept 1782 Anthony Sadlier Esqr Alexander Davidson
John Holland Esqr absent
Major Genral Stuart & Minds the Committee

The President informs the Committee tha

Minute on Sir Hector Munro resignation

Sir Hector Munro has desired leave to resign the
Company's Service and the Command of their Forces in
this Establishment and that he in consequence desired
Genral Stuart to be summoned to this Committee.
Agreed that Sir Hector Munro resignation be
accepted, and that the thanks of this Committee be presented
to him for the Zeal he has manifested, and the
distinguished Services he has rendered to the honble
Company in the Command of their Forces on this
Establishment

Mr Sadlier desires it may be minuted
that he defers to this last resolution

The President directs the Secretary

to

3035 Fort St George 27th September 1782

Memo of Genl Stuart thereon.

Genl Stuart appd to the Command.

Read the following paragraphs of the Company's General Letter of the 2nd February 1781 — "Upon the Death, "or coming away of Sir Hector Munro from our "Settlement of Fort St George We direct that you "grant a Commission of Brigadier General to the "Infantry Officer next in rank upon your Military "Establishment to General Munro at the time of the "General's Death, or departure for Europe, or such "other Commission as will preserve the Command "of the Company's Army in our own Officers, and it "is our further Order that the Officer so promoted "shall from that time have a Seat and Voice in "our Council and Select Committee only when "Military Affairs or Negotiations with any of the "European, or Country powers in India shall be "under consideration"

General Stuart requests that the consideration of the terms of his situation in the Command may for the present be deffered, but accepts the Command of the Company's Forces agreeable to the Company's Instructions.

Resolved in consequence that Major General Stuart be appointed in General Order Commander in Chief of the Company's Forces on this Establishment in the room of Major General Sir Hector Munro agreeably to the Orders of the honble the Court of Directors

The following Oath of Secrecy is now administered to General Stuart by the President

3036 Sat 1 Pt George 29th September 1798

Oath of Secrecy administered to Genl Stuart

President & Lt Major General Stuart do swear that
I will not upon any account whatever disclose any
Transaction or Resolution of this Committee that
they at the time of taking such Transaction or
Resolution into consideration declare their
desire that it may not be divulged, until the same
shall have been regularly, and officially made known
through the President and Select Committee or their
Secretary or carried into effect by their Authority
nor will I at any time discover the Vote or opinion
of any particular Member of the Committee unless
required to give evidence thereof as a Witness by a
Court of Justice in due course of Law".

The Committee requests of General Stuart

The Kings Troops proceeding to the S to be sent under the orders of Colonel

That the 300 of the Kings Troops now going to the Southward and the Officer who may command them be sent under the Orders of Colonel Ross Lang the Officer commanding them.

3037 Fort St. George, September 1702

28th. Issued in General Orders the appointment of Major General Stuart to the Command of the Army.

Sent the following Letter to General Sir Hector Munro.

To Major General Sir Hector Munro K.B.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to inform you that they have been pleased to accept your Resignation of the Company's Service, agreably to your request signified to them by the President, and I am further directed to present to you the thanks of the Select Committee for the Zeal you have manifested, and the distinguished Services you have rendered to the honble Company in the Command of their Forces on this Establishment.

To Sir Hector Munro accepting his Resignation and thanking him for past Services

I have the honor to be with great respect, Sir.

Your most obedient humble Servant,

John Hudleston Secy.

Fort St George
28th September 1702

Received through the Adjutant General a Letter from Lieut. Fenn requesting leave to proceed to Bengal which is granted accordingly

Ordered

3038 Fort St George 1 September 1802 —

21st Ordered that a Bill of Bills on
Bengal be granted in favor of Lieutenant Peter Moon
to the amount of Pags 201. 18. 72 being his Arrear
of Pay —

29th Received Letter from Masulipatam with
return of the Troops for the month of August —
Received the following Letter and enclosure
from Masulipatam —

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney KB
President and Governor
of Fort St George.

My Lord,

I think it very necessary to furnish
you with Extract of a Letter just shewn me officially
by Captain Lloyd. I will not encroach on the Committee
time any more than to observe, I do not recollect ever
to have heard that an Engineer of this Garrison has
been either subject to the Orders or Controul of a
Commanding Officer of the Troops residing with
in the Fort of Masulipatam, much less should
I suppose him to be, when the Commanding Officer
lives at Ellore.

I am.
My Lord.
very

Bills on Bengal granted to Lt Moon.

From Mr Hodgson enclosing Extract of a Letter to Captain Lloyd from the Commanding Officer at Ellore, desiring Lieut Beatson might proceed to Masulipatam —

3039 Fort St. George, September 1702

2q.h.

very respectfully

Your most obedient and

most humble Servant,

James Hodges.

Masulipatam

24.th September 1702

Extract

To Captain William Seybourne Lloyd,

or Officer Commanding

Masulipatam.

Sir

Lieutenant Bratson being appointed an assistant Engineer at Masulipatam, by the late General Orders, and the Commanding Officer of the District not knowing of his having leave to go to the Presidency either from the Select Committee or the Commander in Chief, you will be pleased to send an Order to him, not on any Account to proceed—

By Order of the Commanding Officer

of the District

James Mackay.

Brigade Major.

Ellore.

29.th Sept.r 1702—

A true Copy

James Hodges.

Orkney

3040 Fort St. George, September 1702

29th

Bills on Bengal granted to Mr. Hane.

Ordered that a Sett of Bills on Bengal be granted in favor of Mr. Christopher Hane Purser to the amount of Pagodas 236. 6. 2 being for victualling a Detachment of Seapoys imbarkd on board His Majestys Ship Hare

Recvd the following Letter from Mr Botham

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney, K.B
President and Governor &c Council
of
Fort St. George

My Lord and Gentlemen

From Mr Botham acquainting of the death of the Commanding officer at Fort Marlbro' and of his having applied to the Government of Bengal for an Officer to succeed the late Commandant—

I have lately received Letters from the Government of Fort Marlbrough, acquainting me of the Death of the Commanding Officer of that Settlement, and of their Intention to apply to Fort William and Fort St George Presidencies for a capable officer to succeed him. The Company have now so large a Property at Fort Marlbro' in the Pepper collected there, that I have judged it prudent to solicit the Supreme Council to send there a Commanding Officer in the Ships now going there, which they have been pleased to comply with.

I have the honour to be
My

3041 Fort St George, September 1782

29th.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your very obedient

Servant

Henry Botham,

Calcutta

1st Sept. 1782

30th. The following Letter to the Governor General and Council stating the late Transactions of the Government having been proposed is now read and approved, and ordered to be sent to Bengal with the several papers therein referred to by the Ship Major now under dispatch —

To The Honble Warren Hastings Esqr

Governor General &c, Council of Bengal.

Honble Sir and Sirs,

To Bengal acquainting them with the determination of the Admiral to attempt the recapture of Trincomalay in the want of Sir Richard Bickerton's Arrival and of Gen. Coote's Illness, and of their having appointed Col. Lang to the Command of the Southern Troops, and mentioning their cannot discern to give Mr Sullivan full power to treat with the Rana of Mysore —

In a short Letter of the 15th Instant by his his Majesty's Ship Combustion We informed you of the Return of the Medea and her Convoy in consequence of having learnt on her Arrival at Providency that the Army was marched to the Northward —

We enclose No 1. Copy of a Letter which we had dispatched to Sir Eyre Coote by the Coventry previous to that event, you will observe therein the measures We had taken to assist the intended interprize against

30th

against Cuddalore, the readiness with which the Admiral then concurred in its support, and his spirited determination relative to attempting the recapture of Trincomalee in the event of the arrival of Sir Richard Bickerton within a few days – also the measures We had taken for the safety of Negapatan, – the Coventry, Sceptre and Isis and the Medea and Gram Vessels and returned with them – the two former soon afterwards proceeded to Negapatan with many Officers appointed to the Southern Troops, and some Rice and Gunpowder, all which were safely landed there and the Ships are returned –

We enclose copy of a Letter which was immediately written to Sir Eyre Coote conveying to him that Intelligence, and leaving to his option whether armed Vessels should proceed again to the Southward.

The next day the 16th of the Admiral met us in Committee, and on being asked respecting his ability to cooperate with Sir Eyre Coote, and protect the operations of the Army for the Reduction of Cuddalore, he gave it as his opinion that he could detach for the support of the operations of the Army a sufficient number of Ships to protect them against any force that the French could send

36th and to oppose them" — This declaration We immediately communicated to Sir Eyre Coote, as you will perceive in a postscript to the duplicate of our Letter to him abovementioned. Previous to the Return of the Vessels, We had received a Letter dated the 8th from General Stuart, informing us of Sir Eyre Coote's having been taken ill, and intimating that the Army would be obliged to march back, if the Vessels should not arrive by the 16th Instant —

On the 16th We received Letters of the 12th from Sir Eyre Coote and General Stuart, by which We learnt that the Army had left the Field Hills and was on its march towards Madras, and that General Coote has delivered the Charge of it to General Stuart, of which a Copy is enclosed stated in the former of those Letters, that 17 days Rice had the day before been their Intelligence received of our Fleet having returned to Madras, and the Impossibility in consequence of the Medea with the Rice and other Store Ships proceeding to their relief was to be lamented, and could not be otherwise parried than by falling back towards Madras for their immediate and future support — That had the Vessels and Provisions arrived

30th arrivd, and it had been possible to cover them by Sea off Pondicherry by Sir Eyre Coote, would have had the fairest field for attempting the Annihilation of the present french Land force upon the Coast. On the 18th when the Army was arrivd at Chinnapurracoil between Conjeveram and the Mount we received several Letters from Genl Stuart, and our President received one of the 17th from Sir Eyre Coote acknowledging the Letter of the 15th with the postscript as before mentioned, and informing his Lordship that his state of health was yet so indifferent, that he had found it necessary to desire Genl Stuart would answer them Conformable to Instructions which he had given him. The Answer from Genl Stuart accordingly arrivd (paper No 2 in the packet) at the same time with Sir Eyre Coote's Letter, and on taking it into consideration and deliberating on the very critical situation of the Company's affairs, it was our unanimous wish to have the benefit of Sir Eyre Coote's advice, and assistance in Committee before We should come to any absolute determination on the measures to be pursued — particularly as no time would be lost by it, the Army

3045 Fort St George 1 September 1781

30th

Army being at all events to come to the Neighbourhood
of Madras to expedite its receiving the necessary
supplies — The Letter No 3 was in consequence
immediately dispatched to Sir Eyre Coote —

Sir Edward Hughes favored us with his
presence in Committee on this occasion and
gave a ready assent to our proposal that he
should hoist his Flag on board the Sultan, and
proceed himself to cover the operations of the Army —

Sir Eyre Coote informing us that
his Indisposition continued so severe as to render
him altogether unequal to the Task of assisting
at our deliberations, and referring us to General
Stuart for his Sentiments; our President immediately
summoned a meeting of the Select Committee, and
desired the attendance of General Stuart. That
you may be fully acquainted with every part of
our Conduct at this serious Crisis, We enclose
Copies of our proceedings on that occasion the 29th
and at a subsequent meeting held the 22d Instant

You will observe in the former that
although Sir Edward Hughes then absolutely and positively
refused to comply with our requisition for the
Squadron

3046 Fort St. George, September 1781

30th Squadron to remain on this side of India during the Monsoon, and at the he heard General Stuart delivered his opinion relative to the Southern Expedition, the time it would require to march to Cuddalore, the Landing of the Stores, &c. he gave us not the least reason to apprehend any Change in his Sentiments, or determination to cooperate with the Army on that important Service — We were therefore not less surprized than concerned at the resolution and decisive refusal which Sir Edward Hughes gave to that requisition, also at our meeting the 22d Instant, when We came to a determination to pursue the Enterprize, he urged & insisted the taking of the Ceaven, and intimated that time had been lost, but neither of these objections had acquired additional force since the 20th because from the moment of the return of the Army, every possible exertion was made to supply it afresh, and the time which intervened between the 21st and 22d was only so much expired of the 6 days which in the Admirals presence, General Stuart had supposed it would require to send to Camp the necessary quantity of provisions and Stores —

Being under the necessity of relinquishing

3047 Fort St George, September 1782

30th relinquishing the expedition against Cuddalore, We became the more solicitous to have a Body of Europeans sent to reinforce the Troops to the Southward, and particularly the Garrison of Negapatam, and accordingly resolved, as you will observe in our minutes of the 29th Instant, that Sir Eyre Coote should be requested to furnish for that Service 300 of the Kings' Troops.

We enclose copy of a Letter which was sent to Sir Eyre Coote with those Minutes, also of his Letter of the 29th intimating his Intention to send 300 the Kings' Troops to Bengal, of his ditto Letter of the 25th in answer to that we sent with the Minutes part of our reply to both, Sir Eyre Coote in answer to our requisition of 300 of the Kings' Troops to be sent to Negapatam, sent to us a Copy of a Letter which he had written to the Admiral, informing him of it; and that he had no mode of affording that assistance to the Service south of the Coleroon, but by requiring that Lieutenant Colonel Fullarton's Corps, and such number of the 78th Regiment on board the Squadron as would form a Detachment of 300 effective rank and File should proceed to Negapatam.

At a meeting of the Select Committee

30th Fort St. George, September 1780

30th Committee the same Evening, The 25th of the Admiral was present, and told us he had received an requisition from Sir Eyre Coote we above mentioned, and that he had ordered a Ship to be ready to proceed to Negapatam capable of Transporting 300 Men with a field train of Artillery and the Stores belonging to it, but "that "he would not possibly consent to part with Colonel "Fullarton's Corps, deeming it absolutely necessary for "the Service of the Fleet that they should remain "on board for reasons which he should lay before us "and communicate to Sir Eyre Coote in his answer"

In this situation of things, all in our power to do was to communicate the above Declaration to Sir Eyre Coote, and to request of him in all words to give orders that the number of Troops required to be sent to Negapatam be supplied from such other Corps as he might judge best for that important Service—

We enclose Copy of Sir Eyre Coote's answer to that request, in which he also answers our Letter on the Subject of his Intention to send 500 of the Kings Troops to Bengal, an Intention which provided, we be more certain of must prove, to have arisen from his conceiving that

3049 Fort St George, September 1792

30th That your requisition on the occasion of the mutiny was still in force, and from his having forgotten your subsequent letter of the 9th May last, in which you desired us to signify to him that you did not think it in any degree necessary or proper that he should send you any Body of his Majesty's Forces nor any European, Viz.—

The 300 Europeans We required have accordingly been furnished from other Corps; and his Majesty's Ship Sultan sailed with them the 28th for Negapatam— We have sent Colonel Ross Lang in the Command of all the Southern Forces, and with him several other officers 10 pieces of field Artillery, a further supply of Gunpowder, and 3,000 Bags of Rice— The Kings' Troops are under the Command of Colonel Fullarton—

We hope this very considerable reinforcement will enable Colonel Lang not only to secure Negapatam, but also to give a favorable turn to our Affairs on the Trichinopoly Country, where they have at present a most melancholy aspect; Colonel Nixon being too Weak to cope with the Force under Tippo Saib, and the Garrison

and

3050 Fort St. George September 1792

30.th

and Inhabitants extremely distressed for provisions, at Tanjore too they have the immediate prospect of famine, and both there and at Trichinopoly the Troops are many months in Arrear, straitned as We ourselves are, We have been obliged to remit to Mr. Sullivan 30,000 pagodas within the last 4 or 5 months -

This subject leads to another on which We wish to be favored with your advice and Instructions We mean Mr. Sullivan's Negotiation with the Rana of Mysore, concerning which We wrote you some time since, enclosed copy of the Agreement proposed to Mr. Sullivan by the Agents, duplicate Copy of that paper now waits on you, with extracts of Mr. Sullivan's Correspondence with Sir Eyre Coote upon the Subject. Mr. Sullivan has been very urgent in his Letter to our President to be empowered to Conclude the Agreement on the part of the Company, representing the advantages to result from it as certain, and the resources to be furnished for carrying on the War to commence immediately by a considerable advance of money, which the Agents have in their possession at Tanjore -

Fort St George, September 1792

30th Tanjore — We are not so sanguine as to suppose that all the advantages held out in the proposed agreement would be realised, but if the War against Hyder Ally is to be continued, a plan of invading the most valuable part of his dominions would be that which We should wish to adopt, and the existence of such an Agreement did not forward, might not, we should hope, impede its success. In all events the immediate advance of a sum of Money is an object which the state of affairs at Tanjore renders worthy of attention. In answer to Mr Sulwan's Letter We have lately written to him, that We are so delicately Circumstanced with respect to your Government, and on account of the present uncertainty whether Hyder Ally will or will not accede (in case of a ratification) to the terms of peace stipulated for him by Mahadjee Scindia, that We can as yet only empower him to continue a Negotiation and Conclude an Agreement with the Agent to subject to your revisal and approbation, and to be considered as null and void if you disapprove of Hyder accede to the terms of peace prescribed for him —.

We

3052 Fort St. George, September 1702

30th We informed you in a late Letter that we had ordered the Powder Laden on the Blake for Bombay to be Landed here, and dispatched the Vessel back to Calcutta — the heavy demands for Gun powder made upon us by Sir Edward Hughes for the use of the Squadron compelled us to that measure, but as several Vessels with Gunpowder have since arrived, and We understand that further Supplies are coming, We intend to request of the admiral to take round to Bombay the same quantity which you had shipped for that Presidency on the Blake, and we shall not fail also to forward your dispatches —

You will observe by our minutes of the 29th Instant, that the Admiral has consented to leave with us four of his Frigates, and We hope they will be sufficient to protect our Supplies against the Frigates of the Enemy, who possibly may not venture to detach any of their Ships of the line either during the Monsoon or after the period when they may begin to expect our fleet from Bombay, which we trust will then be Superior to theirs. We beg leave therefore to submit

3053 Fort St. George, September 1792

30th submit to you whether it may not be advisable to lay an embargo on all vessels from the end of November to the beginning of February, but from this time to the former period We earnestly request you will use every possible exertion to send us supplies of provisions; our distress is already such as will fully justify the attempting it without attending to any risk to be apprehended from the Weather The Streets in the Black Town and the public roads begin to be covered with dead Bodies, of which the number is daily increasing, this situation We are confident you will allow to be but too just an excuse for the resolution We are come to of sending to you as fast as opportunity offer all our dutch and french Prisoners a measure which in compliance with your desire We have hitherto avoided, but which humanity at length compels us to adopt, as it is extremely probable that, were we not to send the Prisoners to Bengal, they would perish here by famine

In considering how by our own exertions We could alleviate the public distress, and the difficulties under which We labor for want of

resources

30.th Resources for carrying on the War, the first object that presented itself was the reduction of the Army Expences, which far exceed the example of any former period, but our hopes of effecting this have met a check, which cannot be removed without your Aid— for We find We are not considered as possessing any right or authority to control or even examine into the expences of that part of the Army which belongs to your establishment; upon applying to Mr Tierney the paymaster for an account of the Arrears due to the Officers specifying the exact sums due to each, and on what account, he answered that it was out of his power immediately to comply with the requisition our Letter contained, for want of Instructions to that effect, either from the honble the Governor General and Council, or from his Excellency the Commander in Chief— Out of delicacy to your Government, of which Mr Tierney is a Servant, we have not taken any of those Steps which we think ourselves authorized to do, but preferred Submitting the matter entirely to your Judgment, and in order that you may judge the better of the propriety of

3055 Fort St George, September 1782

30th of establishing some check or power to enquire into and regulate the expences of the Bengal Troops now acting here, We think it right to observe to you that altho' they do not in number Constitute more than one fifth of the Army, we understand the ~~th~~ disbursements exceed one half

We have in this Letter endeavored to give you a full account of our Situation, and we shall conclude it with assuring you that we have the firmest hope that, with your assistance, We shall yet surmount all our difficulties, and ~~that~~ in all events We will struggle to the last in support of the Company's Interest —

The Media sailed so suddenly, that it was not in our power to write to you by that Conveyance, The state of Sir Eyre Coote's health required a change of air, which we flatter ourselves will be attended with all possible good effects — His length of Service and Zealous exertions to the last moment he was able to keep the field must always do him the highest honor, and we are happy on every occasion to express our Sense of them —

We requested some time since that you will assist us with some Tents, We now beg leave to recommend

3056 Fort St George, September 1702

30th recommend that those you send may be made of good dungrees, the usual Cloth befor your Government used Canvas, and not of Canvas as the latter, when wet, dry slowly and are very heavy

We have the honor to be,

Hon^ble Sir and Sirs,

Your most obedient

humble Servants,

Macartney

Wm Talbot Committee

Fort St George,

30th Sept 1702 —

Read letters from Major Campbell of his Majesty's 4th Regiment, as entered in Miscellany Book, No 38 advising that a certain number of Officers of that Regiment are ordered by the Commander in Chief to go to Europe to be employed in the recruiting Service and requesting that the allowance of passage Money for each Man may be issued

Agreed that the usual allowance be granted, and paid by Bills on Bengal —

Received the following letter from Vellore.

My Lord,

I have the honor to address your Lordship the 5th Instant, w all my Hircarrahs are either

From Capt Cuppage acquainting with the receipt

3057 Fort St. George, September 1702

receipt of 60 loads of Grain from the Polygars of Bangar naig Pollam; and requesting money to pay the Horse come over from the Enemy, together with those taken by him—

31st either at Madras or Camp, Make the opportunity of sending this by the Polygar of Bangar Naig Pollam, who have promised to deliver it to your Lordship, they came in last night with 60 loads of grain and are the only Polygars that have been in for some time. Chendarhagar Naig, the head man acquainted me that he has sent to the Mysore Country to buy grain, and that he will do every thing that is in his power to supply this Garrison; on the 20th a party of Hyders Army encamped on the North side of the River, opposite to Bringeveram; it is said to be Hyders baggage and his Tent; which is great; and that he is to follow in a day or two; at present he is on the Southside of Canny-amba-dy pass, about eight Miles from hence; numbers of his horse are about us daily, but dont come within shot of the Fort. As I have been at a good deal of expence in repairing the Tanks, and clearing the Water courses against the Monsoon, and the Horse which have come over from the Enemy With those I have taken from them, I hope your Lordship will send me money accordingly. Within these few days we have had a good deal of rain which will be of great service to the place in general.

I have the honor to be,

Sir

3058 Fort St. George, September 1802.

30th

Vellore
24th September 1802

My Lord,

Your Lordships most
obedient Servant,
signed John Cuppage.

Monday 30th Sept.
1802 at 12 P.M.

At a Select Committee summoned to meet on
Military affairs present
The Right Honble Geo. Lord Macartney K.B.
Governor and President
Anthony Sadleir Esqr. Major Genl. Stuart
Alexander Davidson
John Holland Esqr. absent.

Genral Stuart delivers in and reads to the
Committee the following Minute.—

Friday 27th Sept. 1802

Minute in from of Journal from the 27th September 1802

Genl. Stuart's Minute desiring a Seat and voice in all Councils, referring his Case to them and requesting their speedy determination of the Case he is to observe with respect to that Seat and Voice —

I had the honor this Evening to be
summoned to attend the Committee, and in consequence
of Sir Hector Monro's resignation, succeeded to the
Command of the Honble Company's forces on this Coast
pursuant to their orders—

I observed from Conversation and
reference, but more particularly from the Leaving out
of certain words in the Oath of Secrecy as administered
to

3059 Fort St George 30.th September 1702

to me by the Right Honble President, that a Doubt
was entertained as to the Station I was to hold in this
Government, or whether or not I was to be a member of
the Select Committee, and of all Councils without
exception, in like manner as my predecessor was,
or as I myself stood in the old form of the Company's
Government when I had the honor to command
their Troops here &

the words in the Oath left out were of which I am a member

The Idea of a Possibility of a Doubt
on this occasion having never once entered my thoughts,
I fairly confess it was matter of extreme Surprize to
me. I was not then prepared for it, and the
Committee at my request were pleased to defer
proceeding further than asking me if I accepted
of the Command of the Company's Forces according
to their Instructions, which I answered in the
affirmative. and I took the Oath pointed out as
it was read to me by the Right Honble President —

My Duty with the Army will
not in all probability admit of my entering into
long Discussions to detain the Committee, and I
probably I shall not have time to examine the
Company's Dispatches from the Period to be
attended

3060 Fort St. George 3d. September 1782

attended to, I am therefore that I collect what
I have to say in Journal until the next Committee
meets ~

I shall now beg leave to observe in
general, that Situated as I was during the
Dependency of my Trial, or until the result
was known in England, any Instructions which
may have come from the Honble Court of Directors
to this Presidency mentioning the Names of
Colonel Horne or of Colonel Brathwaite, or of
the next senior Officer of the Infantry with
certain restrictions eventually affecting these
Gentlemen, such Instructions or restrictions cannot
as I think apply to me, and nothing but my
Name particularly mentioned with the
Alteration to take place as to my Situation in
Council after my return to the Command
as I suppose, be brought even in Argument to
place me there on a different footing than
what I was formerly ~

I am the more convinced that such
restrictions or Alterations were never meant to
affect me, because of the very honorable testimony
which the Court of Directors have given of
my

Fort St. George 30th September 1782

my conduct in that line after the review of it, and during the dependence of the Trial. He stated in several parts of their letter of the 11th April 1779 to this Government, but particularly in the following Paragraphs—

Par. 14th "The Memorial, Reterniates and Gunral Stuart of the "16th December 1779 and 20th June 1777 are "convincing proofs of his possessing the most perfect "knowledge of the Company's military affairs "and political Interests on the Coast of Coromandal, "and of his attention to every thing necessary for the "Security of our possessions on that Coast. The "Subject is comprehensive and Important, and in "justice to Genral Stuart we must declare, that "the perspicuity of his Statement, and his Zeal for "promoting the Good of the Service by the establish-"ment of such excellent regulations as were recommend-"ed in his memorial are very deserving of our "commendation".

Par. 24th "Having thus given our sentiments on the conduct of Genral Stuart, independant of every consideration relative to the late Troubles, and confirmed as we are in our opinion of his great

Experience

3062 Fort St. George 30th. September 1802

Experience, and of his ability to render the most im-
portant service to the Company in the present
conjuncture of public affairs. We think proper to
acquaint you that in case the event of General Stuarts
Trial shall be an honorable Acquittal we shall be
well satisfied that he remain in India as Second in
Military Command at Fort St. George, during
the continuance of General Monro at that Presidency;
that he succeed to the Chief Command of the Troops
on the Coast upon the first vacancy that shall happen
in such command, after he shall have been so
acquitted by a Court Martial as aforesaid.

The Court Martial in question sat
from the 10th to the 15th of December 1801, and the
result was an honorable acquittal.

The Sentence was approved of by
Sir Eyre Coote, the Commander in Chief, and by
him sent to the Governor and Council for their
Information.

The vacancy to which I succeed
happened this day, by the the resignation of Major
General Sir Hector Munro, and I now beg leave to obtain
my Seat & voice in the Select Committee and in all
Councils without any peculiar restrictions.

In case of Doubt or difficulty
upon

3063 Fort St. George 30th. September 1790

upon the Sense of the Company's Instructions in this point, & on my part desire it may be referred by the first Dispatch to Bengal, to the Judgement and decision of the Supreme, Superintending and regulating Board. The Governor General and Council of Bengal, whose powers are doubtless adequate to the purpose —

One principal reason for my wishing to refer the business immediately there is that no time may be lost in determining on the regularity and perhaps the Validity of the acts of Government, because, if according to my belief I might to be of the Select Committee of all Council, it will necessarily follow that I am without restriction while at the Presidency to be summoned, & make part of Government on very occasion where it is in my power to attend —

Saturday 29th. Sept.

This day Mr Secretary Hudleston sent to me Extracts from the Company's orders supposed to be applicable to my Case or Situation, they are Marked from 1 to 5. The first Second and third are foreign to the purpose, and need not be here transcribed; the other two I shall annex, in

Order

3064 Fort St George, September 1707

Order to shew that by direct inference they
were to establish and confirm my Claim as already
stated —

4 21 of July 1701 — 4. "Upon the Death or coming away of Sir
Hector Maure from our Settlement of Fort St George,
"We direct that you grant a Commission of
"Brigadier General to the Infantry Officer next in
"Rank upon your Military Establishment to
"General Monro at the Time of the General Death
"or Departure for Europe, or such other Commission
"as will preserve the Command of the Company's
"Army in our own Offices; & it is our further Order that
"the Officer so promoted shall from that time have a
"Seat and Voice in our Council and Select Committee,
"only when Military Affairs or Negociations with any
"of the European or Country powers in India shall
"be under Consideration" —

5 7th Feb 1701 — "In order to preserve the Command
"of the Company's Troops in our own Offices, We direct
"in the 31st Par. of our Letter of the 2d Instant
"That upon the Death or coming away of Sir Hector
"Munro such Commission should be granted to the
"Infantry Officer next in Rank upon your Military
"Establishment as would be necessary for that purpose
"and We now direct that in case of the Death or
coming

3065 Fort St. George 30th September 1808

coming away of Colonel Mathew Horne, such Commission
be granted to Colonel Braithwaite, and that he have a
seat and voice in our Council and Select Committee
upon such affairs only as were specified in our Letter
before mentioned, and not other ways.

At the time of making out the
former part of this Minute, I was not prospective of
these extracts, and yet they clearly confirm my position;
because in the former of these Paragraphs I need only
observe, That Sir Hector Monro has actually resigned—
That Shaw long since had the Rank of Brigadier
General of the highest the Company gives to their
Officers and that the Command of the Company's
Army is without any new Commission devolved upon
me according to seperate and distinct orders and
instructions totally foreign to the Contents or even of
this Paragraph.

And in regard to the last Paragraph,
it is manifest that it cannot apply to me, because the
Command of the Company's Troops is now in me, who
am a Company's Officer, and therefore no new
Commission need be granted to any Infantry Officer
next in Rank upon this Establishment. But the latter
part

3066 Fort St George 30th September 1802

part of this paragraph which I have therein particularly marked, puts it beyond the possibility of a Doubt in my humble opinion that nothing therein mentioned does attach to me, but only to Colonel Horne, Colonel Brathwaite, and the Successors

After considering the preceding Paragraph, I should join in hope that the Right Honble President and Committee would admit my Claim without any reference to Bengal — The particular Instructions respecting Colonel Horne or Colonel Brathwaite or next Senior officer of Infantry seem to have a guarded allusion to present Record arising from two Separate Commands of His Majesty's and of the Company's Troops owing to the Circumstance of his Majesty's principal Military Officer not being bound by the same ties & obligations to the Company as their own officers are

But in my case all this difficulties are removed, for besides my being bound by personal obligations to the Honble East India Company, for which as a private man in every situation of life, I shall ever feel and act the grateful part towards them, I am also bound by my

3067 Fort St. George 20th September 1802

my Oath of Fidelity and written agreement under which by their order and favor I am now the commander in Chief upon this Coast with the highest rank given by them to that Situation —

I am likewise by his Majesty's gracious favor a Major General in the East Indies from May 1777 and I have the honor to be Major General in all His Majesty's Armies from October 1781 —

The principal Object in the view of our Superiors being, as I shall suppose, to assimilate the whole Body of the Army acting in this Country, there seems to be no more probable way of doing this than in the case of the Commander in Chief in India, and also of the next in Command to his Excellency which I have the honor to be holding ranks, such as we respectively now have in his Majesty's Service; bound at the same time as we are by every tie to the Service of the Honble East India Company —

The State and the Honble Company have repeatedly felt the most happy Effects from the Rank and Abilities of his Excellency the present Commander in Chief In his absence it shall be my Aim and my Ambition to follow his Example —

J

3068 Fort St. George 30th September 1702

Thursday 9th Sept.

I had got thus far with the preceding Mant.
when I received an Extract from the records of the
Generall Letter which the Right Honble President
brought to India from the Court of Directors,
dated 11th of January 1701. from which I transcribe
what follows, viz. being all that is to the purpose —

"We have thought fit to direct
"to the Company's former System in the Coast of
"Coromandel, and resolve that the Government of
"Fort St. George shall consist of a Governor and Eleven
Councellors The Commander in Chief included.

It is under this Form of Government
now subsisting that I succeed to Sir Hector Munro,
as Military Commander in Chief, and to be
Third of Council.

This last Communication seems
to me to remove very Shadow of doubt, both of what
I am and what Station I ought to hold in Council
and in Government. I hope I need not therefore add
any other Arguments to establish my claim to a
Seat and voice in the Select Committee and in
all Councils where it is in my power to attend,
or that Summonses can be sent to me.

I trust therefore that the Right
Honble the President and Committee will be of the
same

Fort St. George 30th September 1801

same opinion; if otherways, I am to desire that this Minute with the proceedings of the Committee may be forwarded to the Supreme board in Bengal by the Ship Mayo now under sailing orders, and on Duplicate by any other occasions that first offer by Sea or Land.

James Stuart

Monday 30th Sept. 1801,

This morning I received a Note from the Secretary in the following words. Major Genl Stuart

Sir.

I am directed by the Right Hon'ble the President & Select Committee to request your attendance at a Committee to be held on Military affairs this morning at 11 o'clock.

I have the honor to be respectfully,

Sir

Your most obedient

humble Servant

John Huddleston Secy

Fort St. George

30th Sept. 1801

The preceding note shews clearly that I am not considered in the same view as the other Members of the Committee, I shall nevertheless continue to do my Duty in my Situation at this crisis of public affairs. In the Confidence that my Situation will in a short time be finally ascertained by proper authority

J. Stuart

2

3070 Fort S.t George 30.th September 1782

To The Hon.ble Warren Hastings Esq.r
Governor General and Council
of Bengal

Hon.ble Sir and Sirs

I have requested the Right Hon.ble the
President and Select Committee to send forward
to you the Proceedings in Committee this day together
with my Minute in Journal
Were it not of public consequence
it would be matter of total indifference to me the line
of distinction they have been pleased to draw as I
humbly think without any authority from our
Superiors — My Minute is full and intire before
you there is no dispute as to the References the
conclusion drawn is the only question — If a question
only
I say you are the judges now to determine it and I
beg leave to refer it to your decision for the Reasons
mentioned in my Minute — I can in great truth
say to you, that if I am not at liberty to see all
the records and Correspondence and to be present at
every deliberation or conclusion of the Government
here when I can attend or if others are to judge of
what extracts are to be communicated to me or when I am
to

Fort St. George 30th September 1702

to be called in or desired to retire from the Council Board I say however strong my indination may be to accommodate in the executive part I am in my own convinced tho without meaning any intentional improper design any where that the necessary information and the means to carry forward the public Service with that degree of confident support which the present most important cases of public affairs require will be extremely deficient and I conceive it is in this view that the Honble Court of Directors in general give full communication to their Commander in Chief upon this Coast and Bombay General Goddard is in this Situation on the other Coast—

This is the reason why I desire your support if you omit to be the sense of the Companys instructions in my instance that I should have a Seat and voice in the Committee and in all Councils

My Minutes was delivered to the Committee immidiately on taking my Seat this day I made no alterations tho I might have added the usual practice of the Honble Court of Directors in the case of Colonel Horn or any new man being limited to a voice only in Military or Political concerns, that it was their usual form thus to leave with their choice

on

Fort St. George 30th September 1702.

on further reference the power of giving afterwards a greater latitude. This was the case with regard to Genral Joseph Smith and Sir Robt Fletcher by the first order of the Company and I should suppose that the Right Honble President and Committee have not attended to this routinwards concluded me to be in the same predicament as Colonel Horne or Colonel Brathwaite

I have the honor to be respectfully

Fort St. George
30th September 1702

Honble Sir and Sirs

your most obedient &
Duteyd Humble Servant
[signed] James Stuart

A true Copy
By. Close
Sd de Camp and
Secretary

Genral Stuart having read a Minute or Journal by way of Minute and having desired that in any case of doubt or difficulty upon the sense of the Company Instructions on the point relative to his Seat at the Committee the question may be referred to the Governor Genral and Council of Bengal — the Committee resolve that as they have no doubt that the sense of the Companys Instructions is that he shall have a Seat

Minute thereon

Fort St. George 30th September 1780

Seat and Voice in Council and Committee only whenever Military affairs or Negotiations with any of the European or Country powers in India shall be under consideration they cannot agree to make such reference but being desirous of showing their attention to Major General Stuart the Committee comply with his request to have his Minute and the proceedings of the Committee relative to him forwarded to Bengal by the Ship Major now under sailing orders, and in duplicate by the next opportunity. and it is so resolved Accordingly.

Resolved also that Copies of the several extracts of General Letters from England which General Stuart has been furnished be also sent to the Governor General and Council

The present critical Situation of our affairs requiring that we should be fully prepared for and on our guard against the enterprizes that we may expect will be undertaken by our Enemies after the Monsoon and the exhausted State of our Resources with the present Irregularity that prevails in the public expenditure of the Army calling loudly for reform the Committee wish to take these subjects into Consideration as soon as possible possible

and

3074 Fort St. George 30th September 1780

and to assist them in taking such measures as may
be most effectual for the above purposes they
desire the opinion and advice of Major General
Stuart on the following points

1st The best plan to pursue at this time with the
main Army in our present circumstances

2d Whether to order Wandewash Carangoly and
Tripasore or any, and which of them to be destroyed
and the Garrisons withdrawn

3d What immediate Steps should be taken
and what Instructions given relative to the
Military System to be now adopted in the Circars
and particularly what extraordinary preparation
should be made there under the Idea of a
probability that Hyder's Intentions may be to
descend to the Northwards what regulations will
be most effectual to restore order and method in
the distribution of Provisions management of the
Bullocks receiving of Arrears due by Officers and
others at Camp on various accounts and in
short with respect to such other details of the
Service as may best promote regularity and
Oeconomy through all the different departments
of

3075 Fort St. George 30th September 1702

at Camp and more particularly what means can be fallen upon to reduce the present enormous Expenses of the Army and to cut off all unnecessary and unauthorized Allowances perquisites and Charges.

Read the following Letter from Mr. Robbins

John Hedgeston Esqr

Sir

The Right Honble the President and Select Committee have given Mr Scattergood the Military Storekeeper permission to furnish the Ships of the Squadron with 1454 Whole Barrels of Gun Powder, but to deliver in part One hundred & half Barrels which are on board the Hertford Indiaman and Eight hundred and eighty two half Barrels which are on board the Arrow & Aberdeen Ships as the Ships are now completing their Powder I shall be obliged to you to order the Captains of the Hertford and Aberdeen to deliver the above Powder to the Gunners when they go for it.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient

humble Servant

J Robbins

ordnance Storekeeper -

Fort St. George

30th Sept 1702

From Mr Robbins

desiring that as Mr Scattergood has permission to furnish the Admiral with Gun Powder orders may be given to the Commanders of the Ships laden with it to deliver it to the Gunners when they go for it -

3076 Fort St George 31st September 1792

Granted

Ordered accordingly.

Read the following Letter from Mr Grant

To the Right Honble Geo. Lord Macartney K.B

President and Governor &c &c

Fort St George

My Lord

It is now upwards of five months after having received from Mr Holland my credentials as successor on the part of the Honble the Governor Genral and Council of Bengal to the Embassy at the Court of his Highness the Nizam, that I have unwillingly been detained here, not so much from any ignorance of the true disposition of that Prince towards our own government, as from the circumstance of being an entire Stranger to the actual views and relative interests of the latter arising from any or such negotiations and political transactions, as have occurred since my departure from Bengal in August 1781. and it has been in the daily hope of being relieved from this uncertainty which alone could render the information of any moment that I have so long delayed announcing to your Lordship my appointment

3077 Fort St George 30th September 1782

appointment, and at the same time to testify that
as it was my duty to act with Zeal in performing
such public services as might be required of me, &c
I must be equally my inclination to take every
opportunity of manifesting that high Respect and
personal consideration which will always impel
me to receive as a very particular honor and with
the greatest displeasure any special commands from
your Lordship

Considering that intelligence and long
experience from which your Lordships information
respecting the disposition and political Situation
of the different powers in the Decan has been
derived until the moment of my predecessors
resignation, it might be presumption in me to think
of offering any thing new or worthy of public notice
on this subject so immediately after being only
simply visited with a light and responsible charge
unfurnished with such lights as may perhaps be
necessary to form a true impartial judgment
That intriguing temporizing policy which before and
since the commencement of the present war in the Carnatic
has influenced the Court of Hydrabad, the steps which
have led to the present measure of receiving publickly
an

3078 Fort St. George 30th September 1790

in that capital a person in the Character of Vakeel to Hyder Ally Khan our declared Enemy, the reports fabricated and carefully circulated indicating the hostile disposition of the Nizam and movement of his Troops towards our Territorial possessions to create alarm and give jealousy to our Government probably to prevent its' anticipated interference in the impending contest with the Nabob of Veramul, have no doubt been circumstantially represented, and your Lordship in every respect is better enabled to appreciate, and draw just conclusions from all such articles of intelligence than I could pretend to do. On like manner an opinion founded on short observation and perhaps very limited powers of discernment of the total incapacity of the Nizam under actual circumstances to carry on any formidable warlike operations either against our own immediate dominions in the northern Circars of Hydrabad, or those of our federate Ally Hallah Sah in the Carnatic, could give no additional satisfaction to that which the same opinion must have occasioned when conveyed through a more experienced channel. Yet whatever comfort may be derived from an Idea of our Security on this side, tho' founded on the most comprehensive or enlightened political views, it cannot lessen the expediency, or therefore the circumspection and activity of our

government

government in preventing & preparing against every possible foreseen event of dangerous tendency, and this leads me to the more immediate purpose of the present address.

Your Lordship would of course have been informed either through the Superintending power in the district of Nizampatam, or the Commandant of Angole, that at the near and intervening Sea-port of Mortapille dependent on Guntour, preparations have been made some days since, or are making for the reception of some French Gentlemen expected from Pondicherry, and to forward them on their way to Hydrabad; at least such is the report given out by the agents of the Nizams government on the spot. It is just possible that the ministry of that Prince may have listened, to the suggestions of some renegade French Soldier, so far as to countenance the measure of receiving an Embassy, or entertaining a few expirienced officers of the same nation either to excite the jealousy of the neighbouring powers, or otherwise facilitate the present views of this Court in reducing a too powerful tributary. But what is more to be apprehended is, that channel of communication with Busaulut Jung the most dangerous and dreaded enemy of his brothers government may be opened by Mr Burgy immediately on his arrival in this country, thro the Port of Mootapilley, by means of which, if the latter did not find himself sufficiently in force to invade directly the districts North of the Kistna, he might easily secure a footing in the Circar of Guntoor, which could not be disputed by the Nizam until, having collected a body of Horse either from Kerpah or Adoni, to lay waste our dominions, or by means of his Emissaries having

3080 Fort St. George 30th September 1782

having excited to rebellion such of our Zemindars as may be dissaffected from the interest they may have in cancelling their balances of Revenue, our principal Fortress might become an easier conquest if native Troops driven from the country and cut off from their current supplies, were to form the only Garrison. Nay even supposing that our European enemies may now, as it appears more eligible since the conquest of Trincomalay confine their grand operations to the Southward of the Coleroon, yet it seems probable that an attempt in the way just suggested may be made to create a diversion to the Northward, if the explicit consequence were only to diminish the assistance afforded from thence to the Providency. On the whole therefore it may be of some importance to prevent, if possible, any communication with the interior country through the Port of Mustapilla, the Commandant of Ongle, or a small force stationed at Yanlapallam, might intercept any suspected Travellers by land, but a Cruizer from point Divi to Armagon to search all coasting vessels, if one were appointed to that station for the weighter consideration of protecting the Trade to Madras, until the change of the Monsoon, would perhaps be a more effectual Security against the danger apprehended, and could not afford any pretence for ill humour on the part of the Nizam. I have thought it the more necessary to communicate these reflections, as the object of them falling immediately under my view, appears of some magnitude, but further Reserve might in the multiplicity of more important concerns escape public attention. I have the honor to be with the greatest respect, My Lord, Your Lordships most obedient and most humble Servt

James Grant

Masulipatam
24th Sept. 1782