

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.

9/2-1-1943.

M.C. 55
H

3000 Fort St. George October 1st 1782.

Dispatched the following Letter to the
Governor General and Council with
the Papers therein mentioned

To the Honble Warren Hastings Esq^r
Governor General &c Council
of Fort. William

Honble Sir and Sirs,

To Bengal - enclosing
Extracts of Minutes of
the Select Committee
ditto from Genl. Letters
from England -

At the request of Major
General Stuart We have the honor to send
you Extracts of our Minutes of the 27th & 28th
Instant, to which we add Copies of several
Extracts of General Letters from the Honble
Court of Directors with which we have
furnished General Stuart.

We have the honor to be,

Honble Sir and Sirs,

Your most obed^t humble Servants
Macartney
Secy to Com^{rs}

Fort St. George
October 1st 1782.

The following Number of Tents are wanted
as soon as possible for the Troops in the
Field and are to be made of good
Country Cloth which is found to answer
in point of Convenience and Carriage
much better than Canvas. -

Officers Marquees	160
Sepoy Tents	160
Private do.	250
Blank do.	500

3082 Fort S. George October 1782
pt.

Directions

Officers -- { The Flys to be three white & cloth
Tents -- { thick. The Inner Tent, Walls and Door
two white and one Blue

Private & Sepoy {
Tents without Flys { Two white and one Blue

Wanted for the use of the Garrison
of Madras for the temporary accommodation
of Troops after landing and untill sufficient
Quarters can be provided.

Canvas Tents

Officers	30 or 40
Private tents	100
Sepoy tents	30 or 40
Bell Tents	100
Necessary tents	12

Received the following Letter
from General Stuart

To the right Honible George Lord Macartney KB
President and Governor &c. Select Com^r
Fort S. George

My Lord and Gentlemen

The Line which you have
been pleased to draw with regard to my
Situation as a Member of Government
rendering it uncertain to me when you
may think proper to summon my
Attendance in Council or Committee,
I have consistent with what I owe to
my Station as Commander in Chief
judged

From Genl. Stuart
desiring a Line may
be drawn regarding
his Situation as to a
seat & voice in Council
& recommending Tents
& Gram may be
procured immediately

3083

Fort St. George October 1782

p⁶

for the Public Service
 judged it necessary to address you
 by Letter upon the present and on every
 occasion which in my humble opinion
 may require the taking early measures
 to provide means to enable the Army to
 carry on the Service to be ~~expected~~ in
 the Field; in case this War lasts beyond
 the Monsoon now at hand, & to be in
 motion during the Absence of the Squadron

What occurs to me at present ^{the}
 is that Tents to cover the proportion of
 two thirds of the present Army will
 be wanted, and if not now in Store
 should be ordered without Delay, and
 of the sort used by the Coast Establishment
 and not from Bengal; because there is
 not Carriage for the Weight. The thickness
 of the Cloth, Composition of the Tents
 and their Dimension to be according
 to Muster. I have also to mention to you
 that in order to feed the Cavalry now
 in the pay of the Company and occasionally
 to give some Gram to the Gun Bullocks
 there will be wanted to bring us beyond
 the Monsoon and ^{to the} ~~take~~ time when the
 Sea will be open by the return of the
 Squadron, and so as to be in condition
 to take the Field on every intermediate
 occasion. Two hundred Madras Carse
 of Gram.

3084 Fort S. George Octo: 1782
1st

I have the honor to be

My Lord and Gentlemen

Fort S. George
October 1st 1782.

Your most obed^t humble Serv^t
James Stuart.

2^d Sent the following Letter to Gen^l Stuart
with the Letter of the 30th Ult^o ^{to Bengal} for his
perusal. —

To Major General Stuart
Commander in Chief

Sir

We have had the honor
to receive your Letter of this Date. As
the only Line we have drawn respecting
your Situation, is expressly that you
shall have a Seat and Voice in the
Council and Committee, whenever
Military Affairs or Negotiations with
any of the European or Country
powers in India shall be under
Consideration; agreeably to the Company's
Orders. We are at a loss to conceive how
that Line can render it uncertain
to you when we may think proper
to summon your Attendance in a
Council or Committee — however to
remove every doubt that can possibly
exist in your mind upon this point,
we now declare it to be our resolution
and Intention that you shall be
summoned to Council and Com^{ee}

To Gen^l Stuart
Drawing the Line
of his Situation
respecting his Seat
and Voice in Com^{ee}
upon Military
Affairs only. —

et

3085 Fort St. George Octo^r 1782
9th

whenever Military Affairs or Negotiations with any of the European or Country Powers in India are under Consideration, and that all our Letters written in consequence of Resolutions made at such Councils and Committees will be sent to you for your Signature.

After this declaration on our part we imagine you will not think it necessary to deviate from the mode usually observed by the Commanders in Chief, when at this Presidency of delivering their Sentiments in Committee verbally, or in the form of a Minute: because we conceive that such deviation might in a great measure frustrate the end and meaning of the Court of Directors in giving their Commander in Chief a Seat and Voice in their Council and Committee on points, that relate to the Duties of his Profession.

Our present Letter to the Governor General and Council relates in some parts to matters that passed before you succeeded to the Command of the Army, but as they are of a Military Nature and of great importance, we send the Letter to you for your Perusal and your Signature if you peruse and your Signature if you approve of it.

Y^{rs}

3086 Fort St George Octo: 1782

2^d

We wish you also to suggest any thing further that you think it might be of use to represent at this time to the Governor General and Council

We have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Serv^t
Macartney per J. Stewart

Fort St George
2^d Octo: 1782.

Received the following Letter from Gen^l Stuart.

To Mr Audleston
Sir,

From Gen^l Stuart
desiring to see those
proceedings of the
Committee which
regard himself if he
has a right so to do

I conclude it to be the intention of the Committee and my right to see the whole of the Dispatch to Bengal before it is closed this day - I mean the whole proceedings in Committee the 27th and 30th Ultimo and whatever relates to me and where my Name is mentioned: I wish to know if this is to be the case so as I may be in the Way at the time they are sent - I am

Sir

October 2^d 1782.

J. S.

Your most obed^t humble Serv^t
James Stewart.

I shall wish to have the Papers returned which I left with you, also official Copy of all the proceedings.

J. S.

3087 Fort St. George Octo: 1782

2nd Sent the following Letter to General Stuart
with the Papers mentioned therein.

To Major General Stuart
Sir

I am directed by the right
Honble the President and Select Com^{ee} to
furnish you with the enclosed Copies of
Papers laid before them by the President on
the 20th Ult^o with an extract from their
Minutes of the 30th. —

I have the Honor to be
Sir

Your most obed^t humble servant
John Huddleston
Secretary

Fort St. George
20. Octo: 1782

Received thro' the Adjutant General / as
entered in the Miscellany Book, 16. Letters from
Captain Elliot and Cornet Hamilton
requesting leave to go to Bengal on Business
Received the following
Minutes of the Committee of Stores.

To the Right Honble Geo. Lord Macartney K^B
President and Governor &c. Select Com^{ee}
Fort St. George

My Lord and Gentlemen

Herewith we have the honor
to lay before your Lordship &c. Our
proceedings of the 30th Ultimo together with
a list of Ordnance and Military Stores &c
sent

To Gen^l Stuart
enclos^d Papers laid
before the Com^{ee} by
the President

Letter from Com^{ee} of Stores
recommended and sent to Com^{ee}
of Ordnance to be completed
with stores laid up in that
Garrison for the Army —
Incessant from Vizag^{apatnam} to be
completed with — &c. from
the Army to be completed
with — List of Ordnance &c
& stores sent to Negapatam
enclosed.

3088 Fort S. George Octr. 1782

3^d sent to the Southward

We have the honor to be

My Lord and Gentlemen

Fort S. George
1st Octobr. 1782

Your most obed^t humble servants

Patrick Ross
John Kennedy
B. Scottney

Fort S. George 30th Sep. 1782
At a Committee of Stores present
Lieut. Col. Patrick Ross
Lieut. Col. John Kennedy
Bryan Scottney Esq^r

The Military Storekeeper
acquaints the Committee that
the Indents for Gunpowder for
the use of his Majesty's Squadron
has been fully complied with
by 100 sixty lb Barrels from the
Company's Ship Hertford, and
982 sixty pound Barrels from
the Genl. Abbestie which were
intended for supplying the
Army when it marched last
to the Southward, 1820 whole
Barrels which have been
taken from the Magazines—
so that there now remains in
Store at the Mills and in
Road on board the Rumbold
11,000 sixty lb Barrels. —

3089 Fort St. George Oct^r

1782

3^d

The Committee proceed to take into Consideration an Indent from Trichpoliar for a return of stores in that Garrison belonging to the Army. — They observe there are amongst the Army stores lodged there, a number of Articles that would be very useful for defence in case of an Attack upon that Garrison — which it is ~~is~~ approved unnecessary to supply again from hence while they remain there, that in case of the Army's moving they may be furnished from this Place with those Articles or such as are thought necessary for its Defence may be then ~~is~~ thrown into Trichpoliar.

Agreed that the rest of the Indent be ~~is~~ complied with agreeably to the remarks of the Committee

Read a Letter from Mr Secretary Trevelyan ~~is~~ referring this Committee to the accompanying Indent for stores arrived from Vizagapatam

309th Fort St. George. Octo^r 1782
3^d

Vizagapatam which it
is agreed should be complied
with agreeably to the
remarks of the Commissary.
With respect to the Article
of Gun-powder the Com^{rs}
observe that in their last
Return of Stores dated
31st March, they have
required to be completed to
five hundred Barrels where
- as the Statement for
the Garrison is four
hundred only, and
judged sufficient. By
the Indent of the 31st
Aug^r the Committee
observe that there are
116 Barrels of condemned
Gunpowder, fit only for
salutes, which they
apprehend is greatly too
much for that purpose;
and therefore recommend
that the whole or
greatest part of it
be sent down to the
Presidency to be remade.

Copy to be sent to
Vizagapatam

The Military
Storekeeper lays before

3091/4 Port St George October 1782
3^d

Committed a List of
Ordnance and Military Stores
sent on board His Majesty's
Ship Sultan & Private Ship
Prince William for the
Southern Garrisons, and also
a List of such part of
these Stores as were
afterwards relanded they
not having been received
on Board. —

The Military &
Storekeeper acquaints the
Committee that he received
an Indent from Camp
for 20 Spare Axle Trees
and Six Poles which
rendered it necessary to
inform the Commander in
Chief Sir Eyre Coote, that
there was not Timber
for the purpose in Store,
and to point out that
the Nabob had a
Quantity in consequence
of which Sir Eyre Coote
applied to His Highness
who promised a supply
but he has only granted
four Timbers a quantity

3092 Fort St. George October 1782
3^d

insufficient for the
Purpose.

There are in hand
twelve Six Pounders & 12
three Pounders with 32
Tumbrils, of which the
Tumbrils & six Pounders
may shortly be required for
the Army, but wood is
wanting for some Ash
trees and for part of the
Wheels & Limbers. There
are also 22 Twentyfour
Pounders in hand for
the Garrison for which
Ash trees are wanted &
40 Platforms to complete
those already ordered.

So soon as the
Coast was cleared a Letter
was written to Negapatam
to procure Timber there
which Letter was unfortunately
detained at Madras and
did not arrive untill the
means of conveyance was
past - directions are still
left there for every means
to be used for sending it
to the Presidency - and

3093 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782

3^d

orders are sent to Pigan for
a large quantity from thence
in January next but as these
supplies while the French
remain in the Bay will
be precarious. We submit
to the Right Honble the Pres^t
and Select Committee
the propriety of requesting
the Nabob to lend us his
Timbers to supply the present
 exigency upon condition
that an equal quantity
be returned when the
Ships arrive.

application to be made
accordingly. — M.

Colonel Ross acquaints
the Committee that he has repeatedly
persuaded Mr Garrow to fix the Coppers
at the old powder Mill for
the refining of saltpetre — to
have the Powder Magazine
under the South Curtain
that it may again be fitted
up for the reception of
Powder — and to finish the
Powder works themselves with
all dispatch — who has informed
him "that he had sent to the
Northward for Shells for
that purpose and that they
"have been some time arrived

3094 Fort St. George October 1782
3d

"but has not been able to procure
"Boats to land them - and that
"without these Shells are seen
landed he is afraid it will
not be in his power for
want of Chumam to complete
the Magazine before the
"Rains set in" - and the Gunpowder
is now exposed on the Island. A Boat has been ordered
for want of them. some time since for the purpose
M.

The Committee beg
leave to recommend this
measure to the consideration
of the right Honble the President
and Select Committee.

Patrick Ross
John Kennedy
B. Scotney

A List of Ordnance & Military Stores
sent on Board his Majesty's Ship Sultan &
the Prince William Private Ship for the
Southern Country.

Iron Guns 24 Pounders	8
18 "	6
Brass Guns 6 "	4
3 "	4
Brass Mortars 10 Inch	1

3095 Fort L George Oct. 17

30

Brass Mortars 8 Inch 2

5 1/2 do 2

Brass Howitzer 5 1/2 do 2

Field Carriages with Limbers 24 P^{rs} 6

18 do 4

6 do 4

3 do 4

5 1/2 inch do 2

Mortar Beds 10 Inch 1

8 do 2

5 1/2 do 3

Turnbills 5

Iron round Shot 24 P^{rs} 2000

18 do 2000

Empty Shells 10 Inch 200

8 do 200

5 1/2 do 100

Hand Grenades 500

Round Shot fixed to Sergeant's Cartridges

6 P^{rs} 444

3 do 660

Shells fixed to Sergeant's Cartridges 5 1/2 inch 70

Quilted Craps fixed to Sergeant's Cartridges

6 P^{rs} 100

3 do 152

5 1/2 inch 28

Copper Tubes filled 6 Pounder 1260

3 do 1400

Sergeant's Cartridges filled 6 do 84

3 do 84

5 1/2 inch 42

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3 ^d Large Cartridges Empty	6 Pound	—	80
	3 D.	—	80
	5 1/2 Inch	—	40
Art Fires	—	—	440
Europe Match M ^r	—	—	32
Saddles with Worms	6 D.	—	4
	3 D.	—	4
Traversing Hand Spikes	6 D.	—	8
	3 D.	—	8
	5 1/2 Inch	—	4
Purchasing Hand Spikes	—	—	10
Linstocks	—	—	10
Tube Boxes of Sorts	—	—	10
Port fire Stocks	—	—	10
Drag ropes	6 D.	Setts	4
	3 D.	D.	4
	5 1/2 Inch	D.	2
Pinchers for Tubes	—	Pairs	10
Gun Spikes Spring	—	—	10
	Jagged	—	10
	Relieves	—	10
Pinchers for Tubes	—	—	—
Copper Dredging Boxes	—	—	2
Leather Haversacks	—	—	5
Leather Buckets	—	—	15
Lead Aprons	—	—	10
Padlocks with Keys	—	—	20
Twine Country	—	M ^r	10
Priming Irons and Steel Bitts each	—	—	10
Fuzes Grove 8 Inch	—	—	200

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3 ^d Fuzes drove	5 1/2 Inch	500
	4 1/2 do.	510
Musket Cartridge paper	2 nd	4000
Stationary	Chub	1
Sponges with Rammerheads	6 P ^{rs}	8
	3 do.	8
	5 1/2 Inch	4
Tompsons with Collars	6 P ^{rs}	4
	3 do.	4
	5 1/2 Inch	2
Single Yokes		20
Double Yokes with Europe Traces		42
Spare do.	do.	10
Tarpaulins Gun	6 P ^{rs}	4
	3 do.	4
	5 1/2 Inch	2
Turnbills		5
Rope Collars light		15
Rope for lashing	Pieces	21
Spun yarn	Rolls	6
Tar	half Dept ^s	1
Grease	do.	1
Pistols	Pairs	20
Flints Musket Garrison		15000
Field		15000

Fort S. George
28th Sep. 1782

B. Scottney
U. S. Keeper

3098 Fort S. George Oct. 1792

3^d The following are part of the Stores
ordered to the Southward but could
not be received on Board

Field Carriages with Limbers 24th — 4
— 18th — 2

Muskets with Spring Bayonets — 1000

B. Scottine
U. S. Keeper

Received the following Letters from Gen. Stuart

To the right Honble Lord Macartney KB
My Lord—

I got up before day light and
had finished the Letter before your Hon. came.
I now send it lest the Ship be detained on
my Account and if there had been any consultation
it would have been in favour of my Minute. I am
at all times ready to ~~perform~~ my duty in Committee
to observe the rules laid down by the Company's
Orders.

I have the honor to be

Your Lordship's most obed. Servant
J. S.

Thurs. Morning
Oct. 3rd 1792

To the right Honble George Lord Macartney
President and Governor &c. &c. Committee
Fort S. George
Honble

From 8th to this am. C. declines
signing the Letter to Bengal
encloses a Journal of Lord
Olmsted which with his
Letter seems to be sent to
Bengal.

Last night pretty late I received

309.9 Fort St. George Octo^r 1789

3^d

a Letter from Mr. Hudleston together with the Select Committee's Letter to Bengal dated 30th September acquainting me that an official Letter would come to me from them desiring my perusal of the Bengal Letter and my signature if I approved of it. —

I now do myself the honor to inform you that I did peruse that Letter but beg to be excused signed it. Because the circumscribed Line which you have been pleased to draw concerning my Station in Government as I think, without Authority from our Superiors, does now and will at all times prevent my Signature to any Letter containing matters agitated in Consultations where I have not been summonsed to attend in my place. — The Letter in question seemed to me to be of that sort. — To one point however there touched upon, I can speak with certainty Which is "That if the Army had not marched from the Red Hills at the time it did, but on the contrary waited for the Rice being landed from the Medea Frigate & Hastings Snow, which arrived on the 12th of last Month off Pondicherry without Boats to land a Bag of Rice; if we had nevertheless persevered to keep our position in the hopes of seeing the

sig

h
su

d

3100 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782.

3^d

other provision or store-ships and the
Boats— The Army I positively say must have
been reduced to Famine at the precise time
when the French 40 Gun Frigate / Bellona /
appeared off Cuddalore— This happened the
16th in the Morning and in my conscience
I believe she would have taken, destroyed
or forced back the whole Convoy with
above £20.000 Sterling value Specie and
26.000 Bags of rice, and thereby forced
the Army to acts of necessity which in
their direct consequence would have
involved the ruin of public Affairs—
I now send as one of the many Proofs
in my possession the Journal of Lieut.
Blundell of the Bengal Artillery who
in a most spirited manner went in
^{an open Boat in} search of the rice vessels— I do not
pretend to enter into the reasons why
these vessels were so late in
sailing— I only state facts to show the
reasons why the Army marched from
the Red Hills at the time it did.—

In regard to other parts
of your Letter to Bengal which relate to me
my Answers and opinions stand on
record, and I doubt not of their being
referred to with Exactness.

I am now to request
that this Letter and the accompanying

3101 Fort St. George October 1782

3^d

Journal may make part of the Dispatches to
Bengal as also numbers in the next Packets to
England by the Rodney and Myrtle

I have the honor to be

My Lord and Gentlemen of the Select Committee

Your most obedient

and most humble Servant

James Stuart

Fort St. George

early 3^d Octob^r 1782

P.S.

I have this moment had the Honor to
receive your Letter of Yesterday - and can
only now say that I am at all times
ready to attend the Summonses to ~~any~~
Committee; when at the Presidency; and to
give my opinion ^{there} according to the Forms
prescribed ~~[there]~~ by the Company - but in
the exigency of the present service when Com^{ms}
an Military Matters cannot [always] be
held in time - I suppose you will have
no objection to let you know what may
be wanted - I send this Letter now lest the
Ship be too long detained - had there been
a Committee it would have been my
Minute.

J. S.

Journal of a Trip taken by order of
Major Gen^l Stuart for the purpose
of hastening the Rice Convoy to
Pondicherry. —

Sept. 9th Left Camp about 11 A.M. found

3102 Fort St. George October 1792

3d

no Boat ready at Pondicherry and was informed by Captain Murchhead of the Impossibility of procuring one - Got a party of Sepoys and searched at night and found a small one concealed - which made some trifling repairs to & got every thing ready for putting off in the Morning. —

10th. — Got the Boat afloat by sunrise with two Catamarans - took a Tindal and two Lascars with rice and Water for four Days - rowed to the Northward but saw nothing till five PM was ^{then} a little to the Southward of Alamparva Saw a Snow in the Offing standing to the Southward pulled off towards her - in about half an hour another ship in sight & standing to the Northward which fired a Gun and Spoke the Snow who immediately went about and stood to the Northward likewise - with much difficulty reached the Snow found her the Hastings Hammond Master bound for Trincomalee with 600 Bags rice and 208 baskets Salt Provisions the Ship that had just spoke her was the Coventry Frigate who informed her of the Capture of Trincomalee and ordered her to return to Madras & requested the Master to stand to the Southward and go down to the Army at

3103 Fort St George October 1822

3^d

at Pondicherry which he positively refused for some time till at length giving him a written Order from Sir Eyre Coote he complied - lost much Ground by this delay - dispatched a Cattamaran with a Note of information to Captain Muirhead -

Anchored between 7 and 8 P.M. Permaut Hill Mts

Sept 11 - Dispatched the other Cattamaran -

about 7 A.M. weighed about ten the wind directly in our Teeth gained very little

Ground anchored in the Evening Permaut Hill Mts

12th - At day light a Ship in sight to the Northward weighed about 8 A.M. Wind somewhat more favorable both in Land and Sea Breezes - At 4 P.M. the Ship

to Leeward had got up within Gun Shot and fired to bring us to, supposed her the Medea Frigate but as bringing to at the critical time when the wind was somewhat favorable would have caused great Delay stood on and sent my boat on board to inform who we were at 10 P.M. anchored in ten fathom water not quite certain how far we had got to the Southward -

13th Found we were about $1\frac{1}{2}$ Mile to the Northward of Pondicherry the Medea at anchor about three Miles to the Southward - No sight of the Army - Went on board the Medea

found

3104

Fort St George Oct^r 1782.3^d

found she had taken on board 1200 bags of rice 200 Barrels of Powder and the treasure and had quitted the Convoy about 12 Days the headmost of them with all the Masula Boats a little to the Northward of Allampara. Capt. Gower all the Information in my power respecting the Army— A Boat sent ashore from the Medea to make Enquiries returned with an account that the Army had marched two days— worked to the Southward to examine a ship at an Anchor about Mid way between Pondicherry and Cuddalore found her the Yarmouth the property clearly proved Danish— bore away for Maoras with the Hastings— In the Evening two Sail of the Medea's Convoy in sight— anchored a little to the Southward of Allampara—

14th Weighed at day light saw the Masula Boats off Allampara sent a Boat to order them to the Northward—

A Catamaran came off with a Note from Captain Pringle informing of the Army's having marched towards Maoras— all the day collecting in the Convoy— about sun set the whole came to an Anchor to the Southward of

3105 Fort St. George Octo^r 1782

3^d

of Madras.

15th — Weighed at Day light and came to an Anchor in the forenoon in Madras Road ^{with} the whole Convoy.

[signed] W. Blundell

A true Copy

By Close Aid de Camp & Secretary —

Sent the following Letter to Major General Stuart —

To Major General Stuart.

Sir

I am directed by the Right Hon^{ble}

the President, and Select Committee to acknowledge

your Letter of this Date and to inform you that

altho' it has not been usual for Officers or

others of this Establishment corresponding

with the Select Committee to ask that Copies

of their Letters should be sent to another

Presidency — yet from a desire to shew you

every attention that can possibly consist

with their Duty they are willing to

comply with your Request but that as the

Ship Major has already received her Dispatches

and it may also be necessary to make some

observations on your Letter they must defer

it till the Departure of the Hertford or

the next Ship that may sail for Bengal.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obed^t Servant

J. Audleston Secy

Fort St. George

3^o Octo^r 1782

To General Stuart
altho' unusual for an
Officer under this
Establishment to desire
Copies of their Letters
might be sent to another
Settlement, yet the Com^{rs}
will allow it as an
Indulgence but must
be deferred to the Departure
of the Hertford. —

3106 Fort S. George Octo^r 1782

3^d

Received the following Letter from the Chief
and Council of Masulipatam inclosing
one to them from Captain Lloyd in which
he apologizes for his not having sent his
return of Casualties for last Month to
the Chief and Council of Masulipatam

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney
President and Governor Sec. Madras
Fort S. George

My Lord and Gentlemen

We have had the honor to
receive your Commands of the 5th 12th
13th and 14th Instant -

Conformable to your orders
in your Letter of the 12th we have consulted
with Mr. Daniell adopted such Measures
as appeared to us most eligible for
preventing the operation of any sudden attack
of the Enemy to our disadvantage by
collecting the force of this District as
much as circumstances will admit of
posting Mircarrabs at proper Stations for
Intelligence & attending to the stores of
all kinds necessary for the safety of this
Fort -

We have taken a twelve
Months stock of the most essential
articles of Provisions in Store and six
Months of all kinds for a Garrison of 200

From Masulipatam
every measure taken
against an attack of
the Enemy - 12 Months
provisions in Store -
Tents to be shipped on the
Free Trade - recommended
that no Provisions be
laid up in Ellore - desire
a reinforcement of
Europeans refer Capt.
Pondugott's Claim for
Pay of them Major. -

d

3107 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782

3^d

Europeans and 2000 Sepoys excepting Salt Provisions /Salted Beef or Pork/ which are not to be procured here, and if your Lordship ^{you} think these will be essentially necessary we beg you will either send them to us from Madras or desire they may be sent from Bengal after the change of the Monsoon. —

We request to have your Orders whether a greater Stock of Provisions than that already mentioned ought to be kept in Store here. —

All the Tents that are in Store which are but very few together with such as can possibly be spared from the Corps belonging to the District shall be shipped upon the Ship Free Trade for the Presidency and directions have been given for making up a further Supply with all possible Expedition. —

Captain Lloyd has been made acquainted with your Orders relative to his returns and in consequence addressed a Letter to us, Copy of which we beg leave to lay before you in Commendation of his Conduct. —

As your Lordship ^{you} have been pleased to recommend the laying up Provisions at Ellore as well as this Place

We beg leave to observe that neither that Fort nor any of the others in this District

3108 Fort S. George Octor 1782

3^d excepting Masulipatam are in a state of repair to make them be considered tenable for any length of time against any considerable force that may be brought against them. for which reason we shall defer complying with your Orders on this head untill we receive your further instructions.

We think it proper upon occasion of the Orders to which we are now replying to remind your Lordship rec^d of what was touched upon in our Letter under date the 25th Ultimo respecting an Addition to the European force in this Garrison and to recommend that matter to your very attentive Consideration being of opinion that the Safety of this place in case of any serious attempts against it will be exposed to very great risk, if a timely and sufficient reinforcement be not ordered hither.

Captain Prendergast having sent to us a Bill for his Arrears of Pay as Town Major during the time he acted in that Station previous to the receipt of his appoint^{mt} from your Lordship rec^d We beg leave to refer it to you agreeably to his desire in case we did not think ourselves at liberty to pay it without your ~~sanction~~ sanction.

The

3109 Fort St. George October 1782

3^d

We are respectfully
My Lord and Gentlemen

Masulipatam
26th Sept. 1782. —

Your most obedient
humble Servants
James Hodges
John Peter Boileau
Tho. Barnard.
Alex. Pringle

Received the following Dispatches from
the Resident at Tanjore —

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney Kt.
My Lord

From Mr. Sullivan
enclosing Letter from
Sir Eyre Coote & from
Major Alcock to Mr.
Harry Taylor representing
the Distress of the Troops
for Rice &c. —

I hope your Lordship will have
received the Original of the accompanying
Letter & the Enclosures which went with it.
I received last night a Dispatch of the
7th from Sir Eyre Coote the Duplicate of which
I now send your Lordship — The Tappal ^{from Tanjore} has
just brought me the Copy of a Letter
which Major Alcock has addressed to
Mr Harry Taylor — I need not comment
upon it — to remove as far as I can the
Evils complained of and to prevent the
more serious ones which Major Alcock
menaces, I will proceed immediately to
Tanjore — Captain Johnstone has shared
me for the present Exigency 3000 Pags
from the Money lent him by Sir Edward

3110

Fort St. George Citoⁿ 17823^d

Hughes for the Garrison of this place
I request your Lordship will remit
the same by the first opportunity

Our Distress increases
every day and must become very
serious if relief is not sent ^{speedily} to
us. Teppoo Saib has fixed his ^{Head} Quarters
at Terriore and his parties have already
began to plunder the Trichinopoly country

I have the Honor to be with great
respect and regard

Your Lordships faithful and
obedient humble servant

Negapatam

20th Sept. 1782 soon —

John Sullivan

To John Sullivan Esq^r

Resident at Tanjore. —

Sir

On the 30th Ultimo I received your
Letters of the 19th and 20th with Duplicates of your
preceeding ones of the 1st, 5th and 16th — I feel most
sensibly for the Embarrassments and difficulties to
which our Southern Affairs are at this Crisis
reduced — I am hopeful however that they are
now in a great measure removed as my
Movements have had the effect I did suppose
they would in clearing those Districts of
the Enemy and affording the Southern Troops
an opportunity to resume that Spirit and
Confidence which both the Public and myself

3114 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782

3^d have long since expected to experience from
so respectable a Body of Men, ^{15,000} in the pay of
the Company South of the Coleroon - It is to
your Zeal and Activity I look for the means
in Money and Provisions of the enabling them
to act with vigor and Effect and as on
this principle alone you may be persuaded
I am no less anxious than yourself to adopt
and enter heartily into all such Plans
and Schemes as might portend the
Advancement of the public Weal - It will
suffice here to observe that the critical
Conjuncture of public Affairs call for
the united Co-operation of our most distant
Forces towards expelling our Enemies from
the Carnatic - and in this arduous and
difficult undertaking I find my operations
so circumscribed from the Want of every
requisite to set an Army in motion that
I cannot for some time indulge the
hope of effecting it much less of being
able to enter upon so distant and
extensive an operation as that of establishing
and maintaining the Rana of Mysore in
all her former Possessions - With respect
to Colonel Humberston as he is placed under
the Orders of the Bombay Government
the Practicability and propriety of the
Forces under his Command being
employed in accomplishing the above object
must

3112 Fort St. George October 1782

3^d

must wholly depend upon the Judgement
of those under whom he now acts - I arrived
on my present Ground of Encampment
yesterday and am in anxious expectation
of the appearance of our provision-vessels
with our battering Train on board to proceed
against the French at Cuddalore where by
the best authenticated Accounts they have
1500 Europeans fit for Duty and about
3000 Sepoys - Tippoo and Lally are said to
have arrived there and it is currently
reported but with what foundation I know
not that Trincomalay was captured on the
31st Ultimo I trust it may not actually
prove true as it would be at this time
an Event for which we are not prepared
I shall be happy to receive from you the
earliest Intelligence of every interesting
occurrence which may come to your knowledge

I am

Sir

Camp Red Hills near Pondicherry
7th Sept. 1782.

Your most obedient Serv^t
Cypre Coole

To Harry Taylor Esq^r

Sir,

The extreme necessity of the
Troops in this Garrison occasioned by the want
of Pay but more especially the immoderate and
shameful high and exorbitant price of Provisions

3113 Fort St George 28th 1782

3^d

lays me under the necessity of desiring that you will as soon as possible be pleased to inform his Excellency the Rajah that an immediate ~~pay~~ supply of Money and a reduction in the price of Grain to the troops must be made or a supply of Grain for them without Payment otherwise I shall be under the necessity of taking measures that will probably be offensive to him & tend much to lessen the Dignity of his Government which it is my earnest Wish to support - and I trust his Excellency will by cheerful assistance give me reason. —

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble Servant

(signed) Hugh Alcock

Sto. received the Bⁿ in the morning. —

To the right Hon^{ble} Geo. Lord Macartney K^t.

My dear Lord

I send with this the Duplicate of a Letter I dispatched to your Lordship yesterday by Cadamaram —

The Bellona Frigate arrived last night at Tranquebar she left Trincomalay the 12th brought a Letter for the Dutch Agent from Monsieur de Souffren desiring that the Pallas Dutch

Tanjore

17th Sept. 1782

3114 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782

3^d Indianan might be immediately sent to Trincomalay - I am informed from good Authority that Mons^r Souffren intends to refit the Hero - with the Masts &c of this Ship - from the same Channel Near that the L. Orient sunk in the harbour of Trincomalay some days ago and that they had not time to save even her Masts. I give credit to both these Accounts and my anxiety for the Departure of the Admiral is increased in consequence - I have Hircarrak Intelligence that an advanced party from Tipu's Army is arrived at Palamuttah. If your Lordship should determine to attack Cuddalore and Chellambram near Chellambram, at the same time, and that the Carnatic Army should canton near those places I think I may promise that the Polygars of Warriarpollam and Arrialore will soon join us - for tho' I could not urge them to declare in our favor while protection was at a Distance I have never lost sight of them and I have reason to hope that when I offer them support, they will accept it with Confidence with those Polygars in our Interest it will scarcely be possible for any plundering Party to cross the Coleroon our army will receive great supplies in every article of provisions, ^{from their Villages} and the Enemy if Hyder should venture to remain in the Carnatic must be subsisted from

3115 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782

3d

from Mysore

I have the honor to be

with the truest regard and respect

Your Lordship's most obedient

and faithful humble servant

Negapatam

17th Sept^r 1782.

John Sullivan

Received thro' the Channel of the Adjutant
General Letters from Lieutenants Colebrook
and Erskine requesting leave to go to
Bengal the former on account of ill
Health, the latter on Business and the
following Letter from Colonel Hopkins

To the right Honble Lord Macartney K B

President and Governor &c Select Committee

Fort St. George

From Col. Hopkins Right Honble Sir and Mrs

requesting permission
to go to England for
the recovery of his
Health

My ill state of health from
many years service to the Honble Company
in this Country as well as my Family
and private Concerns making it necessary
that I should return to England, I take the
Liberty to trouble your Lordship &c
thro' the Commander in Chief with this
Letter requesting you will be pleased
to grant me your permission to return
to England by the first opportunity that
offers and as it is my present intention
to stay there but a short time - I have further

3116 Fort St. George Octo^r 1782

3^d

to request your Lordship you will be pleased
so to mention me to the Honble the Court
of Directors as that there may be no
hindrance to my return to serve ^{again} in
this Country.

I have the honor to be
with great respect

Right Honble Sir and Sirs,

Your most obed^t and
faithful humble Servant

C. Hopkins

L^t Colonel.

Fort St. George

3^d Octo^r. 1782.

As by the Company's Orders no Officer
can have leave to return to England
without resigning the Service, it is
agreed that Lieutenant Colonel Hopkins
be informed that his request can be
complied with only on that Condition

At this Junction no plea but
absolute necessity arising from ill health
should be admitted for an Officer's leaving
the Army - Agreed therefore that the Adjutant
General be informed we cannot comply with
the requests of Captain Elliot Lieutenant
Erskine and Cornet Hamilton but that
Captain Brown and Lieut Colbrook have
permission to proceed to Bombay and
Bengal agreeably to their requests

Received the following Letter from

Minutes thereon

Agreed that the Adj^t Gen^l
be informed that Cap^t Elliot
Lieut Erskine & Cornet Hamilton
cannot have permission to go
to Bengal; that this Cap^t
Brown has leave to proceed
to Bombay & Lieut Colbrook
to Bengal for recovery of
their healths.

3117 Fort St. George Octr 1782

3^d

Vizagapatam —

To the Right Honble Geo. Lord Macartney K.B.
President and Governor &c. Members of S.C.
Fort St. George

My Lord and Gentlemen

We have the honor of your
Letter of the 12th Instant and shall make
the several arrangements that you have
been pleased to order for our Safety.

The Troops we have
ordered from Chicacole excepting one
Company with an European Officer
but having no Quarters for them We
shall be under the necessity of raising
temporary Cantonments at a small charge
to save the Expence of keeping them on
Batta besides the rainy Season being at hand
is another great Objection to their being
encamped — This place is so open and defenceless
that against an European Enemy all
that can be expected is ^{to} prevent a surprise.
We hope your Lordship you will excuse us if
We are mistaken in construing your Orders
to extend only to compleat the quantity
of Provisions usually kept in Store
against the temporary Incursions
of a black force and this we have
ordered to be done. —

The

From Vizagapatam, —
Troops ordered from —
Chicacole; — temporary
Cantonments to be raised
for them; quantity of
Provisions usual to be
completed.

3118 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782.

3^d.

We are respectfully
My Lord and Gentlemen

Your most faithful
and obedient servants

Claud Russell

W. Crawford

Nathl. Barlow

Chas. Maxtone

J. H. Drake —

Vizagapatam
25th Sept 1782.

Read report of 149 Bullocks arrived
from Nellore. —

1st.

From Cap^t Smith,
with intelligence.

Received Letter, as entered
in Miscellaneous Book, ^{N^o 5} from Captain
George Smith advising that his ^{Miscorahs}
brought him Intelligence of 15 sail of Ships
having been seen off Vizagapatam four
days ago — also enclosing a note of
Intelligence from Nellore that 20 Large
Ships had been seen off Colapattam

Sent Copy of this
Intelligence to Sir Edward Hughes.

Received the following
Letter from General Stuart. —

To Mr. Secretary Audleston

Sir/

From Genl. Stuart
requesting to copy
of the proceedings
against him of the
30th ultimo.

I was yesterday favored with
your Letter of that Date and am now to
request of you to acquaint the Right Honble

3119 Fort St. George Octr. 1782

4th

The President and Select Committee that it was not as an Officer or other corresponding with the Select Committee but in my Station as Commandant in Chief of the Honble Company's Troops on this Coast a Member of the Committee and then present that I desired the whole of the proceedings at the meeting of the 30th Ult^o. might be forwarded to Bengal and until receiving your letter I concluded it had been so settled to be sent by the Major, I now hope they will be forwarded by the Ship Hertford, and in Duplicate by other occasions. —

You will please to do me the favor to represent to the right Honble the President and Select Committee that I conceive it to be according to the rules of the Company's Government and therefore now request to be furnished with an official Copy of those proceedings of the 30th Ult^o. concerning me with my Minute and the resolution of the Committee upon it. —

Late last night I received your Letter of the 2^d. Instant tho' of a date prior to the one above mentioned it was accompanied with ten Copies of Papers and an Extract from the Minutes of the 30th Ult^o. I do not recollect having seen this Minute read — I mention the Circumstance only lest it be supposed that it was in my possession sooner than last night — You will do me the honor to acquaint the

3120 Fort St George Octbr 1/82

the Right Honble the President and Select Committee, that looking on it as the Duty of my Station I had of myself some days ago taken certain leading steps in an essential part of what is there recommended and that I will continue my Endeavors according to the means and the Information I am possessed of upon this and upon every occasion to do what the Right Honble the President and Select Committee may desire of me for the public Service but it will require some little time and for the present I am called to Camp for a few days and propose being there on Sunday next the 6th Instant. —

I remain Sir,

Your most obedient hble Serv^t
Jas^l Stuart.

Fort St George
1st Octbr 1782

At a Select Committee summoned to meet on
Military Affairs — Present

The Right Honble George Lord Macartney, ^{8.15} President

Anthony Sadler Esq^r — Major Gen^l Stuart

Alexander Davidson Esq^r

Sir Edward Hughes attended

the Committee —

X The President lays before
the Committee the following Letter from
Mont. de Souffren received by the Cartel
Vepels Concord and Bussy which arrived
this

Evening the 6th Oct 1782

3121 Fort St. George 4th Octo. 1782

this morning with the late Garrison of
Trincomallee also the Articles of Capitulation
for the Surrender of that Fortress.

To the right Honble Lord Macartney
My Lord

From M^r. de Suffren
dispatches the Concord
and Betsey as cartel
ships with the Garrison of
Trincomallee lately
captured by him. —

I send you the Dutch Vessel
La Concord and the French Betsey equipped as
Cartel Ships to carry to Madras the Troops of
His Britannic Majesty, and those of the
India Company which before composed the
Garrison of Trincomallee — Unforeseen —
circumstances and very bad weather prevented
their being Dispatched at the Period fixed
by the Capitulation. —

I hope you will be
pleased to cause the delivery of Passports to
these Vessels that they may meet with no
Interruption in their Return.

Onboard the Hero
29th Sept. 1782 —
at Trincomallee

I am with respect

My Lord

Your very humble and
very obedient Servant
(signed) L. R. de Suffren

Articles of Capitulation to be agreed on
between the Chevalier de Suffren, Commander
in Chief of His most Christian Majesty's
Naval Forces in India and the Baron
d'Argout commanding the Land forces
now

3122 Fort L. George Oct 4th 1782

now before Trincomallee and Captain May
W. Dowal commanding His Britannic
Majesty's and the Honble East India Companies
Forces at Trincomallee in the Island of Ceylon

Article 1st.

Translation

Twenty four hours after
signing the present
Capitulation the Garrison
of Trincomallee shall
march out at the South
Gate with all the honors of
War, Drums beating Colours
flying, cartouch boxes
complete with ammunition
Matches lighted two fields
six pounders and one

The Gates shall be delivered up
as soon as the Capitulation is
signed and approved, the Troops
shall file their arms & telling
off on the plain in going out
The Garrison shall march out
tomorrow at sunrise and be
conducted on ship board - The
rest of this Article granted in full
the English Troops shall receive the
same treatment on ship board as
the Crews of the Kings Ships.

Mortar with their appertinances
and twelve rounds each to
be conducted by the most
expedient route to
Moorac in Transports
fitted out for that purpose
maintained at the expence
of his most Christian
Majesty and in every
respect honorably treated

2^d.

2.

That a vessel shall be
appointed to carry the

Granted in full -
The Transports shall be furnished
in ten days and for use of the
that

3123 Fort St. George 4th Decr 1782

Commanding Officer, the ^{that is to say on the 10th Sept^r}
Officers, the Staff of the Forces ^{next}
Engineer, Commissary of [&]
Artillery Surgeons and their
Suite the Vessel shall [&]
likewise be victualled and
the necessary accommodations
provided in it. the said
Officers shall take with
them their Papers without
being examined. —

3^d

The Besiegers shall furnish
a sufficient quantity of
Coolies to convey on board
the appointed Ships the
Artillery and Mortar
mentioned in the first
Article with the baggage
of the Officers and
Soldiers. —

3^d Granted

4th

That the Sick and wounded
which cannot be carried
off and are obliged to
remain in the place shall
have free liberty to go
away to Madras with
their effects when they
are in a Condition to
do so and they shall

4th Granted

3124 Fort St. George 1st Oct^r 1782

be furnished in the
mean time with lodging
and provisions at the
expense of His most
Christian Majesty. —
yth

That the commanding
Officer with the rest of
the Officers under him and
those belonging to the
Garrison & in General
every one in the King's
and Company's Forces
shall freely go out of
the place without the
least molestation. —

5th Granted

yth

The Inhabitants and
those depending on the
place shall be maintained
in all their rights &
privileges, and prerogatives.

6th Granted

yth

The public stores shall be
delivered up to any
person that the
Commanders of His most
Christian Majesty shall
appoint but all private
property shall be
secured to the present

7th Granted

3125 Fort St. George Oct^r 4th 1782

Proprietors —

8th

8th

All Deserters shall be pardoned, nor shall any Methods be taken to oblige the Troops either Europeans or Natives to enter into the Service of His most Christian

Majesty. —

9th

9th Granted

The Commanding Officer of his most Christian Majesty's Forces shall be answerable for all Disorders on the part of his Troops. —

10th

10th Granted

That the Commanding Officer and all the other Officers shall be permitted to remain in their houses until the Ship mentioned in the 2^d Article is ready to sail for Madras. —

11th

11th The Gate shall be delivered up an hour after the capitulation is granted. The Garrison shall march out agreeably to the 1st Article

One of the Gates shall be delivered up to the Besiegers at an hour

3126 Fort St. George 4th Sept. 1782

agreed upon and the Garrison shall march out with all their baggage at a time fixed upon by the two Commanders of the French and English—

Lastly that the present Capitulation shall be inviolably executed in all its Articles Bona Fide on both sides

Answer to M^{rs}. De Suffren's Demand This Capitulation includes the Fort of Oranaburg to capitulate on the same terms as the Garrison of Trincomally but Captain M^r. Dowal cannot be answerable for the refusal of the Commanding Officer to surrender it and that no infringement of the aforementioned Articles shall take place on this account

Trincomalay

30th Aug. 1782. — (signed) / May M^r. Dowal

Cap^t 42nd Reg^t 2nd

I approve of the Capitulation to Captain M^r. Dowal has made for Fort Oranaburg

Trincomalay

31st Aug. 1782

(signed) / M^r. Wilso

Cap^t 98th Reg^t

Le Che^v. Suffren

Le Bar. Dugault

a true copy from the original

3127 Fort St. George 4th Octo^r 1782

Ordered to lie on the Table for the present.
Read the following Letter from Colonel
Fullarton received by his Majesty's Ship
Sultan arrived to day from Negapatam

To the Right Honble Lord Macartney KB
My Lord

From Colonel Fullarton
with intelligence of
the Designs of the
French to visit
Negapatam. —

I have only this moment
been informed that the Sultan is about
to sail immediately — I cannot omit the
opportunity of informing your Lordship
that the Detachment is safely landed
I have seen a Black Man this afternoon
(a Dubash of Captain Bonneveau's) who
has escaped very lately from Trincomalee.
He gives a clear and circumstantial account
of the proceedings at that place, and tells us
that the French Squadron was preparing
to visit Negapatam in a day or two —
that Troops, fascines, and other hostile
Implements were actually on board and
the object of these preparations publicly
mentioned among all the People at
Trincomalee. —

I think it my Duty to
give your Lordship this Information,
and have the honor to be

My Lord

Your Lordship's most obed^t
and very faithful Serv^t
Will. Fullarton

Negapatam
1st Octo^r 1782.

3128 Fort St. George 4th Decr 1782

The President gives
his opinion on the
alarming state of affairs

The President informs the Committee that
he has summoned them to call their
attention to the present alarming state of
public Affairs and to communicate and
record his own opinion and request thereof
upon the subject.

he states the quantity
of provisions in
Garrison, and the
daily consumption.

The first object for consideration
is the present stock of rice in the Settlement
which in the whole amounts to only about
50,000 Bags of which 30,000 are the
Company's Property the Consumption is
as follows —

The Army	300 Bags p Day	or	15,000 p Month
The Garrison	—	—	6 to 7,000 do
The Town	1,000 —	—	or 30,000 do

Protect against the
Squadron leaving the
Eastern side of the
Peninsula of India.

From the Intelligence contained
in the above Letter from Colonel Fullerton
and every other Information the President
has been able to procure, he is convinced
that the French intend to attack
Negapatam — our situation with regard
to provisions is stated above and upon
a review of every Circumstance the
President declares it to be his opinion that
if the Squadron leaves this side of the
Peninsula / not the Coast but the
eastern side of it as explained in a
former minute / India is lost — and
such being his opinion the President

3129 Fort St. George 4th Decr. 1822

declares that he formally protests against the Squadron's going to the other side

General Stuart's
Opinion.

General Stuart is of opinion that the Fleet cannot stay on this side of the Peninsula as he thinks that in that case the heavy ships would be of no service ~~in~~ next year but he is clearly of opinion also that Sir Edward Hughes should be requested to go against the French Fleet at Negapatam if they go to that place and if he drives them from before Negapatam the General thinks it is all the service that can be expected from the Squadron before the Monsoon. — General Stuart is further of opinion, that it should be recommended in the strongest terms the language can convey, to come round with all the ~~the~~ copper-bottomed ships by the 13th of Feb^y. as it may be too late after that period.

Mr. Dalrymple is of opinion that the Squadron's departure will be the loss of the Coast and he protests against it, and fixes the whole responsibility on the General. —

Mr. Dalrymple declares that if the French Squadron stays at Trincomallay, and our Squadron goes away he thinks the Coast will be lost — that he will therefore join in the strongest representation or protest to prevent the Admiral from leaving this side the Peninsula and to fix upon him all the responsibility for the fatal consequences that may ensue and to clear himself from any share

3130 *Mr. George Oct. 1782*

in it -

The President apprehends
everything from the activity
of Mons^r de Suffren and is
of opinion that Negapatam
will pay a sacrifice to him
unless the Intervention of
the Squadron -

The President declares he
apprehends every thing from the
activity and spirit of Mons^r de Suffren
that he will attempt any thing and
the Monsoon will not deter him and
that he is certainly ^{now} gone or going to
Negapatam - that at such an alarming
Crisis our Constituents will expect
that we should duly consider and give
our opinions from the appearances of
things as they are at the time of such
consideration, and that he / the President /
will be very ready to alter his opinion
and to confess it to have been erroneous
whenever it shall be found to have been
so - and the President again desires that
it may be minutes that by his Intelligence
he is clearly of opinion that Monsieur
de Suffren is gone or going to attack
Negapatam and that if Negapatam
is not relieved by the Squadron his
Lordship is of opinion that it will be
taken and the President desires to add that
he is of opinion that if M^r de Suffren
undertakes the Siege at present, the
setting in of the Monsoon will not
induce him to abandon the Enterprise
for the relief of Negapatam can only be

3131 Fort St George 4th Oct: 1782

affected by the Squadron. —

General Stuart observes he has no particular Information to enable him to judge with any degree of certainty — that he thinks it probable Mr. de Souffren will go and attack Negapatam, and that in that case it is not probable he will take it before the Monsoon sets in and if he makes the attempt, and Sir Edward Hughes moves with the Squadron towards Negapatam while Mr. Suffren is there it will not only defeat the attempt before the Monsoon but in all probability have the effect of preventing any attempt between the End of December, and the beginning of February the only critical time in his / the General's / opinion affecting Negapatam because he supposes the whole or such part of the Squadron as are fit for the Service will be round to this Coast by that time — this Opinion the General gives upon the supposition that Sir Edward Hughes is resolved to carry the Squadron round to Bombay

Mr. Davidson thinks from the Information laid before the Committee by the President and the Enterprising Character of Mons^r de Souffren, and the vigor of his procedure, and attack of Trincomally, that it is very probable he will attack Negapatam. If the British Squadron were to appear before it they would no doubt relieve it — Admiral

Gen^l Stuart is of opinion that Negapatam cannot be taken before the Monsoon and by Sir Edward Hughes engaging the fleet previous to his departure may defeat any attempt after it —

Mr. Davidson thinks it probable that Mons^r de Souffren may take Negapatam though places much confidence in the Navy of the British and protesting to full till the setting in of the Monsoon which he thinks will of itself induce Mons^r de Souffren to abandon the Enterprize. —

3132 Fort St. George Oct. 4th 1782

Suffren has a port for shelter - Admiral Hughes has none on this side of India - at least not on this Coast - Mr. Davison thinks with General Stuart the Monsoon itself may relieve Negapatam, but from the lateness of the season and the distance of Hyder's Army he has hope the Bravery of the Garrison will defend it till the Monsoon break. —

Mr. Sadler thinks if Negapatam is attacked it can only be relieved by the Squadron as he knows of no Army on foot that can afford it succour. —

Sir Edward Hughes from his Information thinks M^r. Suffren's object is to bring the Squadron to an Engagement, if he can, before the Monsoon in order to prevent its going round to refit at Bombay he being himself Master of a Port to refit on this Side of India, and to prevent his J^{ts} Edwards Hughes's Junction with Sir Richard Bickerton —

Sir Edward Hughes said also that he could hardly be ready before the 15th Oct^r and then it would be his Duty to proceed round Ceylon without attempting the relief of Negapatam, if attacked. —

Agreed that bids on Bengal be granted in favor of Captain Geo. Bampfrd of the 98th Reg^t to the amount of £8. 2s. 4d.

Mr. Sadler thinks the Squadron alone can relieve Negapatam should it be attacked.

Sir Edward Hughes is of opinion that the object of M^r. Suffren is to bring the Squadron to action in order to prevent their going round to Bombay. —

says that on the 15th Oct^r he shall can give it his duty to proceed round without attempting the relief of Negapatam if attacked. —

3133 Fort St. George Octo^r 4th 1782

being his arrears of Gratuity. —

Agreed that Bills on Bengal be granted in favor of Volunteer Charles Corner of the 73^d Regiment to the Amount of 100 Pag^{as} being his Arrears of Pay, and Battal —

Agreed that Bills on Bengal be granted in favor of Ensign Thomas Maishhead to the Amount of 900 Rupees with Interest from 1st Nov^r 1780 at 8^d Cent, in lieu of a Bond granted by the Factors at Tellicherry of his Arrears of Pay and Battal. —

Ordered that Bills on Bengal be granted in favor of Mr. Charles Kegan to the Amount of 115 £ being, for Medical Attendance on the men of the 101st Reg^t during their Voyage to Madras on board the Major Indiaman.

3134 Fort S. George 5th Octo. 1782

Saturday
5th Octo. 11 A.M.

At a Select Committee - summonsed to meet
on Military Affairs - present -

The right Honble Lord Macartney President
Anthony Sadler Esq. Major Genl Stuart
Alexander Davidson Esq.

Sir Edward Hughes attends
the Committee - Minutes of the last Committee read and
approved.
Read the following Letter from
Mr. Sullivan

To the right Honble George Lord Macartney KB
Governor of Fort S. George
My Lord,

From Mr. J. Sullivan,
the French fleet expected
at Negapatam - Mr
Rich^d Bickerton sailed
from Bombay on 10th Mch^r
Col. Lang and Dehaack
still at Negapatam -

I have the honor to acquaint
you that a fleet of 17^{ships} is now in sight
from the Southward. The had last night accounts
from Tranquebar which mentioned that Mont.
de Souffren had fixed this day for his appearance
before this place with the Intention of attacking
it whether this is his fleet or the fleet of Sir
Richard Bickerton, we cannot yet judge. - After
received this morning from Palam cotah mention
the arrival ^{of Sir Rich^d Bickerton} at Bombay the 5th of Sep^r with
five Ships of the Line, 3 Transports and 11 Indiamen
and that he sailed with the whole of his fleet
the 10th of September for Maoras - Col. Lang with
the Detachment of the King's troops is still here

I have the honor to be with respect
My Lord, Your Lordships most obed^t Servant
J. Sullivan

Negapatam
3rd Octo 1782
11th Clock - from

3135 Fort St. George 5th Sept 1782.

Intelligence of the
French fleet's laying
off Negapatam.

The President also acquaints the Committee that a Gentleman just arrived from Tranquer informs him that Negapatam was actually attacked the 3^d Instant and firing heard against it for several hours that afternoon - The Gentlemen above alluded to attend the Committee and confirms the above Intelligence, and delivers a Letter which he received from the ^{Shore} after he had embarked for Maoras and of which the following is an Extract. -

"Negapatam is besieged by
"the French and the English expected fleet from
"Bombay is on their way to this Coast expected
"to arrive every day -"

P.S. You may count 17 Sail of French Ships
"in Negapatam road - they have been firing at
"the Fort these three hours"

The President moves that a
requisition be made to ~~the~~ Admiral Sir Edward
Hughes now present in Committee to proceed
and attack the French fleet at Negapatam
without delay in order to relieve that Forts
which the Committee have now no doubt is
attacked by the Enemy and which there is
reason to think will fall if not relieved
by the Squadron - agreed to unanimously and
that the request be signed by the Select Com^{ee}
and sent to the Admiral -

Read the following Letter and inclosure from
Sir Edward Hughes. -

Request to be made
to the Admiral to sail
to the relief of Negapatam

3136 Fort S. George Oct^r 5th 1822.

To the right Honble George Lord Macartney
President and Governor &c Select Committee
Fort S. George

My Lord and Gentlemen

The accompanying copy of
a Letter from Captain Mitchell of his Majesty's
Ship Sulthan to me will inform you that on
the 2^d of this Month - He ran down in his
Majesty's Ship under his Command on a french
Cutter of 18 Guns then lying in or nearly in the
road of Tranquabar took possession of her
with his Boats and brought her with him
to this Road - Captain Mitchell in his Letter as
you will see offers prudential reasons, very sufficient
in my opinion to justify him in bringing the
Enemy's Vessel off the Station which she then occupied
from which she would no doubt have endeavored to
capture the Prince William then in Negapatnam Road
landing Provisions and Military stores for the Service
of that and other Garrisons to the Southward -

The point now in question on
which I wish to have your opinion, is whether I may
without Injury to the Interests of the Company
detain this Cutter? there are many Precedents
that would go far to justify me, simply as the
Commander in Chief of a Squadron of his Majesty's
Ships in retaining her as a legal Prize - but in
the compromised situation in which I am now
placed I consider every Interest of the Company
as involving a part of my Duty, especially

From Sir Ed Hughes
with letter from Capt.
Mitchell advising of his
taking a French cutter
requesting the opinion
of the Committee on
the above capture -

313 Fort St. George Oct^r 5th 1782

in the present situation of Affairs - if then
My Lord and Gentlemen you are of opinion that
the retaining this vessel as a Prize, will involve
the Affairs or Interests of the Company immediately
with the Danish Governor of Tranquebar to their
Prejudice on a Charge of the Breach of Neutrality
of that Port, or may be so at an after Day with
the Danish Nation, I will order the Cutter to be
restored to her Commander and give her safe
Conduct as far as Pondicherry otherwise not.

I have the honor to be

My Lord and Gentlemen

Your most obedient

humble Servant

Edw^d Hughes

Superbe in Maoras Road
the 5th October 1782. -

To Sir Edw^d Hughes H B. &c &c &c

Sir,

Obediently to your orders I used the
utmost Dispatch in disembarthing the Troops and
landing the Military Stores at Negapatam -
During my stay there I received Information
of a French Cutter being in Tranquebar Road
and as the Directions I received from you were to
leave the Prince William, ^{Prisoner} to discharge the Cargo
I considered the detention of the Cutter to be absolutely
necessary for her preservation as also to be of the
utmost consequence to the Garrison of Negapatam
as late the night before I sailed I had intelligence
from unsoubted Authority, which I enclose

3138 Fort St George Oct^r 5th 1782

of the intentions of the Enemy against it and the capture of the Privateer would have made them acquainted with the true situation of the place out of the Supplies intended for its relief; and given them every information relative to the Squadron at Madras. Therefore at break of day the D^o Instant I got under weigh and at Sun rise saw the Cutter at Anchor in Tranquebar Road a considerable distance more than Gun Shot from the Fort, and without all the shipping as I was cautious to avoid giving offence to a Nation at amity with great Britain at eight O'clock I shortened sail that it might appear that my intentions were not hostile but to anchor and at 1st Minutes after sun dropped at the art her Mast and ordered her Commander to strike his Colours and cut his Cable which was immediately complied with; and a requisition from him not to fire -

The Barge and Pinnace I had manned and armed ^{ready} ~~to~~ board her, which I detached for the purpose and directed the Officer to make sail after me. I have the satisfaction to tell you that I believe this matter was so conducted as not to give the least umbrage to the Dames as neither the Fort or a Frigate that was at anchor close to the Cutter took the least notice of this transaction notwithstanding the shore was lined with Spectators.

The Officer commanding the

3139 F.V. L. George Oct^r 5th 1782

Butler came on board of me and expressed great astonishment at being taken out of a neutral Port; as it was not my business to have any altercation upon the Subject I told him the Emergency of the times made it necessary for me to carry him to Maoras where the British Admiral could determine the matter and recommended it to him to return on Board again and see that no Embezzlements were committed. —

The inclosed Intelligence I received from an American I found in this Vessel, she is called the Pizarro, and belongs to the French King, and about four Months from the Mauritius, commanded by Monsieur de Frenaux, carries eighteen French six Pounders and eight Brass Swivels, & Men and I have the honor to inclose her dimensions

I flatter myself that my proceedings in this affair will meet with your approbation as I consider it the only certain means of securing the supplies for Regapatam Garrison which at this critical time maybe of the greatest consequence to that place I have the honor to be with great respect

Sultan
Maoras Road the 14th Dec^r 1782

Sir

Your most obed^t

humble Servant
Signed Andrew Mitchell

A Copy

Edw Hughes

3145 *Sept S. George 5th Oct^r 1782*

Minute thereon

*Ordered to lie on the Table for the Consideration
of the Members. —*

*Agrees that Bills on Bengal
be granted in favor of Mr Collyer Lucas to the amount
of 3000 Pags. being in part of his arrears for the
Hospital Charges. —*

3141 Fort St. George October 1782

5th

Received the following Letter from the
Resident at Anjengo enclosing a Paper of
Europe Intelligence (as entered in Miscellany
Book)

To the right Honble Lord Macartney KB
President and Governor &c Select Committee
Fort St. George.—

My Lord and Gentlemen

The enclosure is Copy of

Europe Intelligence received here this day ^{for}
which the Honble President directed me to forward to your Lordship &c. On the 26th Sept the same Intelligence was received
by the Pattamar Boat express from Bombay.
Pattamar Boat express from Bombay. — The left
Sir Richard Bickerton on the 1st between Madagascar
and the Main in 21 South — The Scepter of 64 Guns
and Medea Frigate sailed from Rio Janeiro the
22^d April or Week before Sir Rich^d Bickerton
arrived; he supposes them gone on to join
Sir Edward Hughes — Sir Rich^d staid there five
Weeks — left it very early in June — between which
Place and the Cape about the 17th following
in a very hard gale of Wind he was separated
from 8 or 10 Indiamen and a valuable Store
Ship with Masts &c. — It is conjectured they
have proceeded towards Madras — Sir Rich^d
arrival expected off Bombay about the 1st Instant
with five Ships of the Line, and the remainder
of the Indiamen. —

Lieutenant Colonel Ham-
-berston wrote me on the 31st Ultimate that
the Grenadiers of the Line had mov

From Anjengo,
with paper of Europe
news and Intelligence
of Sir Rich^d Bickerton's
fleet — Colonel Hamberston
intends to move from
Calicut. —

3142 Fort St. George Cto^r 1782
5th

Days before to the Southward of Calicut to
suppress some straggling Parties of Myder
who had made an excursion from Palangachem
with a view to collect the Revenues - that
he intended to follow with the whole of his
Force on the 2^d. Instant. —

I have the honor to be
My Lord and Gentlemen

Your most obedient and
most humble Servant
J. Hutchinson

Angelo
18th Sept. 1782 -

Received the following Letter from M^r
Wm. Burke. —

To the right Honble George Lord Macartney K^t
My Lord. —

From W. Burke

4 Sail of French Ships
in Sight off Negapatam —

I need no apology for it is
my Duty this in no Office to let you know
that this Instant we descry plainly 4 large
Ships off Negapatam - One of them has taken
in her Top Gallant Sail - Your measure of
sending the Body of Europeans has now its
full Weight, without them I fear the Fort
could not have held out till Sir Edward
could come down - as it is Col^l Langwill
gives them a good reception and I trust in
God Sir Edward will have a fair Stroke at
them nearly in the same place where
he so gallantly beat them before - even sail

3143 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782

Mr

are now seen -

I am with great respect

Tranquet ar

day { Octo^r 3^d 1782 1/2 after 12.

My Lord

Your faithful friend & servant

(signed) Wm. Battle -

Received Letter from Captain Byres/as entered in Miscellany Book N^o 17 stating a Correspondence between him and Sir Eyre Foote on the Subject of his desire to be exchanged for a French Officer at Bengal -

Read Letter from Captain Byres relating to his Exchange. -

The Commander in chief being against ^{a compliance with} Captain Byres' request the Committee thinks there would be an impropriety in their consenting to it; but/as it is agreed to transmit a Copy of his Letter to the Court of Directors, and to recommend the Case to their favorable consideration -

to be recommended to the Court of Directors

Received Letter from the

Read Letter from Adjutant Gen^l with request from Captain Brown to proceed to Bombay on account of his ill health. -

Adjutant General, enclosing a Letter from Captain Brown in which he requests leave to proceed to proceed to Bombay for the recovery of his Health agreeably to the Surgeon General's Certificate.

Minute thereon -

Agreed that Captain Brown's request be complied with, and that in future no plea less urgent than necessity arising from ill health be admitted for an Officer's leaving the Army -

6th

Received the following Letter from Sir Edward Hughes -

3144 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782

6th. To the right Hon^{ble} Geo. Lord Macartney
President and Governor &c. Select Committee

My Lord and Gentlemen,

I have rec^d the Extract of
the Proceedings of the Select Committee held
Yesterday on Military affairs and in answer
to your requisition therein contained, that I
would proceed with His Majesty's Squadron
under my Command and attack the French
Fleet at Negapatam without Delay I have to
inform you that the present condition of the
Ships of the Squadron greatly damaged in
their Hulls, Masts and Complements by four
successive and severe Engagements against a
Squadron of the Enemy's Ships greatly superior
both in Numbers of Ships and Men and the
impending Shift of the Monsoon when heavy
Gales of Wind may be expected without a port
of Security to shelter them in have determined
me to put the Ships in the best condition
I can for Sea before the Period when the change
of Monsoon may be expected which is about the
13th of this Month and then to proceed with
them to Bombay there to refit them for
Service as early as possible in the ensuing
Year, and in addition to my reasons derived
from the present disabled state of the Squadron
I think it necessary to inform you that in the
Event of an Engagement with the Enemy's
Squadron at this time, the Enemy have
a Port where they can not only repair their

From Sir Edw^d Hughes
declares his intention of
proceeding round to Bombay.

3145 Fort St George October 1782

6th

disabled ships but also capable of sheltering them
from the Dangers of the coming Monsoon
and furnishing every kind of refreshment whilst
His Majesty's Squadron would be exposed to
every Wind that blows on an open and at
that Season most Dangerous Coast, without
the means of refitting the ships, or the least
refreshment to the Men, for these reasons,
My Lord and Gentlemen and many others
which you cannot so readily comprehend, I
cannot comply with your requisition.

I have the honor to be

My Lord and Gentlemen

Superb in Maoras Road.

the 6th Octo^r 1782. —

Your very obedient

humble Servant

Edw^d Hughes

Dispatched the following Letters. —

To Lieutenant Colonel Malcolm

Adjutant General. —

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your Letters of the 2^d, 3^d, and 5th Instant
with their enclosures which have been laid before
the right Honble the President and Select Committee
and they direct me to acquaint you for the information
of the Commander in Chief that in their opinion
no plea less urgent than absolute necessity
arising from ill health should be admitted for an

To the Adj^t Genl.
no officer to leave his Corps
except on great ill
health.

3146 Fort S. George October 1782

6th

Officers leaving the Army at this juncture
and that they cannot therefore comply with
the request of Captain Elliot, Lieutenant Cookin
and Cornet Hamilton - Those of Captain Browns
~~and St. John~~ are complied with. - Colonel Hopkins cannot
have permission to return to England without
resigning the Company's service agreeably to
the Company's Orders

Fort S. George
6th Octo^r 1782

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obed^t & most
humble Servant
J. Audleston
Sec^y

To Lieut^t. Colonel Hopkins
Sir,

To Col^l. Hopkins
to resign the service
if he proceeds to England -

I am directed by the right Hon^{ble}
the President and Select Committee to acknowledge
the receipt of your Letter of the 3^d. Instant
and to inform you that by the Company's
Orders no Officer can have leave to return
to England without resigning the service and
that your request can therefore only be
complied with upon that condition.

Fort S. George
6th October 1782.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obed^t & most
humble Servant
J. Audleston
Sec^y

3147 Fort S. George October 1/82.

7th

To Claud Russell Esq^r

Chief &c. Council

of

Vizagapatam.

Gentlemen,

We have received your Letter

of the 25th September —

Whatever expence may have

been incurred in raising temporary Cantonments

We rely upon your economy and we trust that

your vigilance will always guard against a

Surprise — As to rendering Vizagapatam a place

of great strength neither the situation of our

Affairs nor our Circumstances would admit

of it at present if it were recommended. —

We enclose you an Extract

from the Minutes of the Committee of Stores

We are,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient,

humble Servants,

Macartney

for S. G.

Fort S. George

6th October 1/82.

7th Received the following Letters. —

To the right Hon^{ble} George Lord Macartney K^t.

President and Governor &c. Select Committee

Hon^{ble}

From Gen^l Stuart
concerning repairs to
the field Gun Carriages —

On the first of the month I gave

orders to the commanding Officers of Artillery

belonging to the Bengal and Coast Establishment

and to the Commissary of Stores to form a

d
be

3148 F M S George Oct^r 1882

7th

Committee to inspect into the ordnance, and stores of the army as far as that service could be done in the field without unloading the Tumbrils.

They report to me in consequence that several new wheels will be wanted, that others want repairing, axle trees and Poles much worn, Transoms shaken with other particulars that require a thorough repair. They represent that the Field train having been in constant use for two years, it will require more time during the ensuing Monsoon to have them completed than was allowed last year.

They recommend the exchange of some of the 18 Pounders because of certain Defects.

Captain Moorhouse the Field Commissary of Stores had had difficulty in supplying the artillery with Europe Cordage. It has been found that the chain traces brought from Bengal have stood the test of service and are not attended with any inconvenience. The adopting them would save a considerable expense of Cordage and Carriage. It is therefore recommended they be ordered for the whole Field train.

I beg leave also to recommend the commissioning of Fick Timber of proper size fit for the train service from the

3149 Fort St. George October 1782

7th Northward, but particularly from the other Coast and to come round with the Fleet if it cannot be had sooner - By all accounts I find that there will be great difficulty to have the proper timber even for the repairs of Carriages, and Tumbrils now needed for the Field train -

If the Weather should oblige to caution the Army care shall be taken to station the Artillery in such a way as the Artificers belonging to the Corps shall be in condition to complete the repairs under the inspection of the Commanding Officers and Commissary of Stores - Any Part which they have not the means to repair in this way may be done at the Arsenal so that the whole will be completed expeditiously.

Camp near Tannaaurum - I have the Honor to be respectfully
October 6th 1782

Your most obedient
humble Servants
James Stuart. -

To the Right Hon^{ble} George Lord Macartney K^t.
President and Governor of Fort St. George. -
My Lord,

Yesterday I received a Letter from the Captain of the Partel Ship the Concordia Mr Hartogh who brought some Days ago the Prisoners of War from Trincomallee wherein the

From Mr van Olfing on
requests the Partel Ship
maybe delivered up -

3150 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782

7th

above mentioned Gentleman acquaints me of the Desertion of eleven of his Crew with a Boat and today he informs me that again nine Men deserted from ^{the} Board by swimming ashore —

I find therefore myself obliged to reclaim in the name of my superiors all such Crew as from the above mentioned ^{ship} Cartel may be found and apprehended here at Madras or any other Settlement of the Hon^{ble} English Company, not doubting but your Lordship will in consequence of the Law of Nations and those Privileges which a Cartel Ship and it's Commanders enjoy, grant the delivering back of the mentioned Deserters that Captain Hartogh may thereby be enabled to proceed in his Voyage from hence —

I have the honor to be with all due respect —

Madras —

My Lord.

7th October 1782

Your most obedient
humble servant
R. V. Vessinger

(Translation)

To the right Hon^{ble} Lord Macartney KB.
My Lord,

As the Letter I brought from the Commander in Chief Mons^r de Suffren informed you of the Service on which I was employed I deem it sufficient to inform you to

From Capt. Hartogh requests the deserters from his ship may be delivered up

3151 Fort St George Oct^r 1782

7th

enable me to perform that Service with the utmost expedition - I am to inform you my Lord that 28 Lascars have deserted from me - they compose two thirds of my Crew part of them swam on shore and the rest deserted with the Boat which they have carried off and of which I can learn no accounts as I am convinced of your Integrity - I request you will order them to be restored to me together with the Boat or that you will be pleased to replace them with Dutch or French Seamen, the more so as I am unable to weigh my anchor to proceed on my Voyage, I also request the favor of a Passport from hence to Batavia -

If I was not apprehensive of abusing your Civility I would also request of you to restore me a Mias Slave - he speaks a little of several Languages and belongs to one of my Officers - he stole 120 Piastres on board the Ship and has since absconded -

In complying with these requests you will confer an obligation on him who will always remain with respect

My Lord

Your most obed^t servant
(signed) / J. D. Johnson Harley

A true translation

Lanson
French Translator.

On Board the Concordee
Dutch transport in
St. Thomas Road - 6th Oct^r 1782

3152^{to} Fort S. George October 1782

7th

To the right Honble Lord Macartney H.B.
President and Governor &c Select Committee
Right Honble Sir and Sirs

From Col. Hopkins
resigns the Service & desires
to be recommended to
the Court of Directors

& and that my request can
therefore only be complied with
on that condition, and beg leave
to assure you that in all
things I willingly conform
myself to the established Rules
of the Company's Service.

I have received the Honor of
your Secretary's Letter of Yesterday in answer to
my request of the 4th of this Month, informing
me that by the Company's orders no Officer
can have leave to return to England without
resigning the Company's Service, trusting that
you will not only grant me your permission
to return to England but also to be pleased
to mention me to the Honble Court of Directors
in such terms as will secure my return to
the Service and this Country as soon as my
Health and private Affairs will admit of it—

I have the honor to remain with great
Respect.

Right Honble Sir and Sirs

Your most obedient Servant

C. Hopkins

Lt Colonel.

Fort S. George
the 7th Octob^r 1782.

Dispatched the following letters.

To the Honble Genl Van Vlesingen.
H. H. H.

Honble Sir,

To Mr. Van Vlesingen
the Directors to be
delivered up if found

I am directed by the Right
Honble the President and Select Committee
to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of

3153 Fort S. George October 1782

7th this Date and to acquaint you that if there has been such Desertion from^y Cartel Ship as you mention, it is entirely without the Knowledge of the Select Committee and they will endeavor to have the Deserters found and restored with all expedition you may rest assured the Committee will not countenance any breach of the Privileges always annexed to a Cartel—

I have the honor to be

Fort S. George

Honble Sir

7th October 1782—

Your most obed^t ant

humble Servant—

J. Hudleston

Secy

To John Maxwell Stone Esq^r

Chief sea Council

of Ganjam.

Gentlemen

To Ganjam—
Lieut Geo. Brudenell
proceeds thither—

I am directed by the Right Honble the President and Select Committee to acquaint you that they have been pleased to grant permission to Lieut^r Geo. Brudenell to proceed to Ganjam and to draw his pay there from 1st Octob^r—

I have the honor to be

Gentlemen

Fort S. George

7th Octob^r 1782—

Your most obedient

humble Servant

J. Hudleston

Secy

3154 Fort St. George October 1782

7th To Mr. Robert Gardiner

Paymaster at Ongole.

Sir

To Mr. Gardiner
to pay Capt. Edmonds for
Horses. —

I am directed by the right Honble
the President and Select Committee to desire
you will pay to Captain Edmonds the sum
of 478 Pag. for Horses purchased by him on
account of the Company. —

I am

Fort St. George

Sir

7th October 1782. —

Your most obedient
humble Servant
Thomas Kingscott
Deputy

The following Letter to Sir Edward Hughes having
been prepared in answer to his Letter of
yesterdays date is now read and approved
and ordered to be dispatched. —

To Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hughes

See you see

Sir

To Sir E. Hughes
remonstrating against
his not proceeding
to attack the French
fleet off Negapatam. —

We have the honor to receive
your Letter of yesterdays date in which you think
proper to refuse compliance with our requisition
to you to proceed with His Majesty's Squadron
under your Command and to attack without
delay the French fleet which was off Negapatam
on the third Instant. You do not however

3155 Fort St. George October 1782.

The

call in doubt the propriety, the utility or the necessity of such a measure. You are acquainted with the state of Negapatam to the capture of which your Squadron contributed so largely in the season of the Monsoon of last year. If the Enemy who has a considerable Number of ^{European} Land Forces and may have the Assistance of Black troops should determine on attacking it with such advantages it can scarcely fail of success against a place which was taken by us when the Besiegers were fewer in Number than the Besieged who bore arms. There could be therefore no solid Ground for hoping that the Enemy would fail in such an attempt unless you attack the Squadron by which it can be undertaken - nor are we warranted to suppose that an Enemy so able, active and sagacious as Mons^r de Suffren will decline an attempt of which the success is probable either now or immediately on your proposed Departure for - Bombay.

The Loss of Negapatam might be more fatal this Year than the acquisition of it was of advantage to the public cause of great Britain last year, when its just importance induced you to stay before it the whole season of the Monsoon and even then you considered it of the utmost Importance to our Affairs. Now when there are French Ships and Troops upon this Coast

Sir Cdr. Hughes's Letter to
the Select Committee July 3^d 1781.

3156 Fort St George October 1782

7th

least in addition to the Dutch and Hyder ally the fall of Negapatam might be attended with the Loss of the whole Country of Tanjore and all the Southern Provinces and involve even the Army of Colonel Mumberton which according to our latest advices may be at present on its march from Calicut to Paliacherri and the Combatoor Country and which if aided and joined by some of our Troops from Trichinopoly might effect a diversion in the Southern Countries of Hyder ally that would force him from the Carnatic to their Defence, while an attack from Bombay upon Mangalore or other of his territories to the Northward and Westward would occupy all the other Forces he could collect.

To these consequences must be added the danger of leaving on this side of the Peninsula an Enemy's Squadron capable of keeping the Seas and intercepting the Supplies without which you know the Settlement of Fort St George with all the British Possessions on the Coast of Coromandel must soon fall an easy Prey to the Enemy— Few of our expected Supplies are yet arrived from Bengal nor can we depend upon receiving any from the River you sail for Bombay— This you should leave Frigates here for the protection of our trade if the Enemy's large Men of War can range in the Bay of Bengal without Controul it is not to be expected that any Vessels will venture from

3157 Fort St. George Oppr 1782

7th

Thence with Provisions to us and those already sailed before the knowledge of your Design to forsake the protection of this Coast may have to pass thro' the Enemy's whole fleet of Line of Battle Ships as well as Frigates. A very small part of their Squadron would indeed be able to block up this Road effectually if the Enemy chose to risk that small Part during the Monsoon as you did the whole of yours last year on a part of the Coast less dangerous than Madras - A risk which the certainty of reducing us by famine might very well induce the Enemy to incur; upon the Consideration that a Gale of wind is not always destructive of Ships especially when at some distance from the Shore that such Ships might on the approach of a Gale retire to the harbours of Trincomallee or Nicobar or Achem and also upon the well known observation of persons who have long resided in this Country that for forty five Years past there have not been upwards of six Gales of Wind in different Parts of the Coast and only four in Madras of sufficient violence to affect Ships of War - But the dread of such Gales if it drives our Protectors from us is still more likely to deter weak and ill found Merchantmen from coming with Supplies to us in the face of an Enemy, nor can those in the Road be unloaded with sufficient quickness to go in search of more Provisions a great proportion of the only Boats that can serve

(2)

3158 Fort S. George Octob^r 1782

7th

" the violence of the Surge on this Shore being employed in the service of the Squadron, so that if you should persist in the Design of abandoning our Defence we may justly be said to have borne the Inconvenience, but not to receive the Benefit, of a Squadron of Men of War —

In desiring that you should risk his Majesty's Squadron we are conscious that several of the Ships must have suffered in their Hulls, Masts, and Complements in four successive Engagements against the Enemy's Squadron superior in Number of Ships and Men but we know from you that several of the Enemy's Ships must have suffered in a greater degree in these same engagements and in one more having been in the Action off Port Panya before they were opposed to your ships. We know from the best authority because it is your own that the Enemy's Squadron gave Proofs of being every time worsted by yours that in the action of the 17th February when you gallantly sailed with 8 Line of Battle Ships and one 50 Gun Ship after 11 Line of Battle Ships and one 80 Gun Ship and when only 5 of your ships were engaged against ^{eight} the Enemy with those advantages finished the Combat by hauling their wind and ceasing to ^{fight} ^{on} ^{the} ^{water} ^{that} the second action terminated by the Enemy's Squadron drawing off to the Eastward in great disorder that in the third action you expressed the

Letter 9th March 1782.

1st May 1782.

3159 *Fort St George* *Novr 1782*

Letter 12th July 1782

The happiness you felt to inform us that this Majesty's Squadron gained a decided Superiority over that of the Enemy's and had not the Wind shifted and thrown your Squadron out of the action when some of the Enemy's Ships had broken their Line and were running away and others of them greatly disabled you had good reason to believe that the engagement would have ended in the Capture of several of their Line of battle Ships that the last action notwithstanding the reinforcement to the Enemy's Squadron of two Line of Battle Ships and one of lesser Strength likewise ended by the Body of the French Squadron hauling their Wind and the Engagement ceased because our Ships had apparently suffered so much as to be in no condition to pursue the Enemy."

Account of Transactions of the Fleet in Letter 5th Sept^r 1782.

Since that engagement in which like the former the Enemy retired before you, certain information is received of the Loss of one of his Line of Battle Ships Driven upon a rock near Trincomalee and one of lesser force is laid up in that harbour: the accounts you have received of the state of their other Ships mention many of them to be much shattered, they entered into harbour the same day you arrived here, and as they had several Masts to replace and yet were arrived at Negapatam the 3rd Instant it is probable they have refitted incompletely.

3168 Fort S. George Oct^r 1/82

7th and that they are as you assert in a weak and shattered condition at any rate the Enemy's Squadron is left strong by two Ships than when you engaged last, and had the better of him - according to the account of his losses in the last Engagement he must be much worse manned than he was that day. As he has had no opportunity since that time of recruiting his Crews and if he should be employed in the siege of Negapatam it is probable he may have a considerable part of his Crews or Marine forces ashore assisting at the Siege as you had last Year - tho' he may increase the number of besiegers by land Forces from Cuddalore. When therefore you compare your relative strength on a future Combat with your former strength when you had the better of the same Enemy when you consider the vast importance of preventing the Designs of such an Enemy you will find no Motives of equal public Cogency to deter you from the attempt or prevent you from endeavoring to shelter your Squadron in the Event of an Engagement in the Harbor of Manacore in the Nicobar Islands which is about the distance of Trincomalee or elsewhere on this side of the peninsula; even if you had not procured sufficient information to be certain of meeting so fine a Harbour

as

3161 Tipp S George Octo^r 1782.

M.

as that of Trincomallee - Our President is ready
to communicate to you a Chart of ^{Harbour} Vancourt, in
the Nicobar Islands with all the Soundings and
bearings and other nautical and useful observations
It may not as few Charts are, be in every instance
perfectly correct - but it appears to have been done
with care and might answer the purpose of a
Guide till further observations should confirm
or amend it - A Harbour indeed less extensive
than Trincomallee may yet be sufficient for your
Squadron and Vancourt Harbour is represented
as sufficient to contain in safety 100 Ships
of the Line, nor does Trincomallee besides furnishing
the same shelter with several other places on
this side of the Peninsula afford more refreshments
or facility for refitting Ships. In these times besides
risk must be incurred in one instance to avoid
certain destruction in another. If the safety of His
Majesty's Ships were to be the sole or even primary
object of His Majesty's Commanders they should
never meet the Enemy or even go out of Bombay
Dock. Ships of war have been sunk on sundry
occasions designedly with the view of retarding
the Progress of an Enemy, and when the safety
of the British Possessions on this Coast depend
on your remaining in its neighbourhood and
on your attacking immediately the Enemy
the risk attending His Majesty's Ships is not a
sufficient reason for declining the Service for which
they were intended - If many of them are weakened

3162 Mr J^r George C. W. 1792

7th and shaken many of the Enemy must and
in your declared opinion are much more so
We therefore have a right to call on you Sir
in the name of our mutual Sovereign of the
British Nation to which the Territories in possession
of the English East India Company are by
Parliament declared to belong and in the name
of that Company / whose representatives you
are by several ^{Royal} Charters strictly charged to
assist whenever thereunto required / to give us
that Assistance which is in your Power and
which we conceive to be essential to those
Interests which are committed to your and our
Care.

Our President has received infor-
-mation from Mr Sullivan Resident at Tanjore that
Sir Richard Bickerton with five Ships of the Line
two Store Ships and fourteen Indiamen arrived
at Bombay on the 5th of September; no doubt Sir
Richard Bickerton looks for granted the Public
Service would induce you to remain, or at least
to leave his Majesty's Squadron on this side
of the Peninsula; for by the same account he
sailed ^{from Bombay} for Madras on the 10th of the same month
with the whole fleet and our President has likewise
had various accounts from the Northward that
twenty Ships have been seen from Kishnapuram
a very few days since. If these accounts are
true it is probable that Sir Richard Bickerton's
Ships having made ^{that} land have since found it
necessary to stretch ^{onward} to the Eastward but may, be very

3163

Fort St. George October 1782

7/11

soon expected here. In that Event we trust that it will require no persuasion on our part to determine you at once to pursue the Enemy. If he should be at Sea the design of taking Trincomalee will be still more easily effected - but the success of the best designs frequently depends upon the celerity with which they are carried into execution. We are therefore willing that none of the Troops conveyed by Sir Richard Bickerton should wait to land here on his coming into the road but that the whole should accompany your Squadron which reinforced with five Ships of the Line would be fully able totally to defeat the Enemy's Squadron if you found them and with which in all events you should proceed to the attack of Trincomalee which before the French could put it in a posture of defence could not long resist the Troops come out with Sir Richard Bickerton about 3000 Men assisted by your naval force - You would then have that special post of security to shelter and winter in which now the Enemy possesses - and the advantage, and the necessity of this measure is so strong upon our minds especially as the want of that Port is given as a reason for your going to Bombay that if we had no hope of the arrival of Sir Richard Bickerton we should be inclined to offer to you to embark on board of divers Vessels now in the roads the greatest part of our European Troops now here and a sufficient number of Sepoys to accompany you to attack with the

3164 Fort S. George Oct. 1/82

th more effect Mons^r de Souffren on the Coast and that you might get before him to Trincomallé and have the same advantage in getting Possession of that place which Admiral Barrington with a few Ships of the Line at Anchor had of contributing to the capture of the Island of St. Lucie in sight of a much greater number of Ships of the Line under sail

He need not press upon your Consideration the Importance of Trincomallé which you have so often mentioned, and which you have rendered greater by supposing that there was no alternative between being able to shelter there and your going to Bombay leaving thus not merely this Coast which we know is dangerous but this side of the Peninsula where we are well assured there are places of shelter against Monsoon Gales.

On your return here the ninthth of last month you expressed the fullest readiness to attempt the recapture of Trincomallé and tho' it might have been dangerous to attempt it while the Enemy's Fleet lay there at Anchor to assist in its defence, the chance is much more favorable by his proceeding to Sea and leaving works to which little can as yet be added since the late surrender of them to the defence of Land Troops only.

It appears by your Letter to this Committee of the 5th of July last that you very judiciously foresaw that the getting possession of Trincomallé seemed to be the point that the

3165 Fort S. George Oct^r 1782

M.

Enemy had at present in view. The next day you gained a decided Superiority over the Enemy's Squadron and some of this Ships were greatly disabled. It is probable that the victorious Squadron was soon able to repair the Damages it received, for on the 12th of the same month when you wrote to the Committee your intention of coming to Madras you gave as the only reasons for such a Determination that as the Provisions and Ammunition of the Squadron were nearly expended and every Ship in the greatest want of stores you should in a few days proceed with the Squadron to Madras for a full supply of every article wanted for further service. The Enemy after repairing his Damages as well as he was able under many Disadvantages at Buddalore sailed from thence the 1st of August. Of this Intelligence having received authentic Accounts on the 5th of the same Month We who perfectly concurred in your opinion of the views of the Enemy, and were aware of the ill Consequences to the British Interests of their Success were immediately alarmed. Our President communicated to you the Account of the Enemy's having proceeded to Sea. We had little doubt but that you who had in your Letter of the 5th July declared to us that Trincomelay was the object the Enemy had in view, and in express words added that it must fall into their hands unless protected by your Squadron, would instantly sail to give ^{that} Protection. A month had already elapsed

Sir Edw.^d Hughes's
Letter to the S. Comm.

Sir Ed. Hughes to
the Comm.

d

3166 Fort St. George Decr. 1782

7/1

since your last Engagement. You had been half that time in Madras road and it did not appear reasonable to suppose that if the time had been well employed the Squadron would have a sufficiency of Provisions and of Stores on board for such an Expedition as in as short a time the Enemy besides Stores and Provisions replaced his Masts and repaired his Damages so as to venture to sea. It is probable and you suppose that he refitted ill; and such a Circumstance added to the prospect of your Success against him; When we understood that you had declared to our President your intention of sailing on the 11th of August we were in hope that you would be still in time to defeat the purpose of the Enemy and we were willing to believe that you would forego every inferior Consideration in favor of attaining so essential an Object as the Security of Trincomalee. It gave us much Concern to find soon afterwards that you postponed your Departure and seemed to throw a Doubt on the Authenticity of the Intelligence on the ground of the Impossibility that the Enemy could be refitted with so much Expedition. We thought we could no longer refrain from addressing you in our public Capacity to press your Departure But even in this instance notwithstanding the Danger of our Situation, the Importance of our Representation, the reports of unnecessary Delay and the comparison with the activity of the

5th August 1782

3167 Fort St. George Octo. 1782

7th Enemy, we suffered no doubt or insinuation to escape from us that could throw any imputation on your Conduct. We made the propriety of assuring you that our Intelligence of the Enemy's ~~was~~ sailing so very soon was well grounded as the sole Occasion of our Letter expressing our Confidence that it would determine you to follow him instantly. We constantly used the utmost delicacy in all our applications to you, accompanying them with the strongest marks of our attention, Confidence and Esteem. And We felt no small reluctance in being forced by you to speak at present with less reserve. We are obliged to observe that you did not sail from hence notwithstanding our representations till the 20th of that Month. The Enemy got before you to Trincomalee, it had not the Protection of your Squadron which you knew and declared it wanted, and it was lost.

Our Squadron defeated on the 6th July and some of His Ships greatly disabled yet proceeds to sea on the 1st Aug^t while the Victorious Squadron tho' acquainted with the movement of the Enemy remains in Port till the 20th of that month and one of the most essential Possessions in India is thereby eventually lost which you had declared must be lost without the protection of your victorious Squadron. These are circumstances which remain to be explained by Facts and Reasons.

3168 Fort St. George Oct^r. 1/82.

7th

comprehensible to His Majesty, who cannot be supposed to be possessed of professional Marine knowledge to the Lords of the Admiralty all of whom are not professional Men and in these times of Enquiry perhaps even to Parliament few of which are Seamen by profession. If it had been in any manner possible for you to have sailed from hence before the 25th of August tho' perhaps with an incomplete Supply of Stores and provisions in order to save Trincomalay it is now the more incumbent on you to contribute to the recapture of it and the more incumbent on you to guard the British Possessions on this side the Peninsula which the fall of that place into the Enemy's hands has evidently endangered. We repeat that we do not desire or wish you should in any event remain during the whole Monsoon in Madras Road or even on any part of the Coast because it is not necessary to run that risk. but we repeat that there are in the Bay of Bengal divers places of shelter against Monsoon Gales. Nancouri Bay is universally acknowledged to be safe and sufficient for your Squadron so is Achun and many other places to some of which even if you have no personal knowledge of them you are bound by the Situation of the British Affairs on this side of the Peninsula to venture with whatever guides and information you can collect, the Ships under your Command. You can easily take the

3169 Fort St. George Octo^r. 1782

^{7th} necessary precautions of sending small vessels before
to sound those Harbours and we shall procure you
Pilots. We are sorry to be forced to enter into this
Detail, by your attempt to persuade us that while
the Harbour of Trincomalee is in possession of
the Enemy, You would by staying on this side of the
Peninsula be exposed to every wind that blows
on an open and in the Monsoon a most
dangerous Coast. — If the Harbour of Nancouri
of Achen were still more indifferent than you
may suppose them, it would still be proper to
venture in some of them, if Trincomalee should
not be wrested from the Enemy. You will please
to recollect what you related to us of the
Application made of Mons^r. de Suffren by his
Captains concerning the Condition of their Ships
and the necessity of leaving the Coast and
returning to the Isle of France to refit them
and of the Answer made by Mons^r. de Suffren
worthy of his Character; that the value of the
Ships was nothing to the value of the object for
which they were sent to India that he would
keep them here as long as they should be
able to swim and untill he could possess himself
of a place to refit them in, the Ocean should
be his Harbour. It may be right to be taught even
by a Fox and not to mistake the means for the
End you were meant to answer, the defence of
the British Possessions which you seem willing to
put to great hazard rather than put your ships to hazard.

3170 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782

Yth

The purpose you avow of
refitting these Ships for service as early as possible
in the ensuing Year will be defeated if you abandon
that service this Year and thereby suffer the
Enemy to get Possession as well of the British
Territories on the Continent of India as in
the Island of Ceylon.

We desire you to recollect
that you are as strong in Ships and we shall
make you as strong in Men, if you promise not
to leave us as when you last engaged the Enemy
who is diminished in Ships and Men and as
you declare and as we believe beaten and
shattered but retaining indeed his Spirit and
Activity. We request you to consider that the
Bravery you manifested in four successive actions
against the same Enemy, will not compensate
for avoiding a fifth Engagement with him vanquished
as he is but ready to renew the Combat and
threatning if you avoid him Destruction to the
British Interests in India.

We give you notice that We
expect the moment you sail for Bombay that the
Enemy following the Plan he is said to have begun
at Negapatam will attempt to sink and burn
every Vessel in these Roads. Should the Grain
Vessels arrive before your Departure the very
assistance by which you will be enabled to
abandon us will deprive us of the means of landing
the Grain before the arrival of the Enemy which may

3171 Fort St. George Octo^r 1782

7th
occasion the Destruction not only of the Grain
but of all of the Tonnage by which we might
hope to obtain more. We declare to you our opinion
that the Loss of Fort St. George and consequently
of the whole Coast of Coromandel is among the
probable Consequences of your Departure for Bombay
before the arrival and landing of our Supplies and
that such a Conduct on your part will be virtually
to deliver the British Possessions in India into the Hands
of the Enemy.

We therefore request you will
desist from your Design of going to Bombay, that
you will immediately prepare to go and attack
the Enemy's Ships either on the instant of the
arrival of Sir Richard Puckerton or on taking
the before mentioned Reinforcements from the
Shore which if you promise to remain on this
Side the Peninsula We are willing to afford you
and that in the event of the Defeat of the Enemy
you will instantly proceed to the attack of Trincomalee.

We have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient
humble Servant

Macartney

In Select Com^{ee}

Fort St. George

7th October 1782—

The following Letter to Sir Edward Hughes
having been prepared in answer to his Letter
of Yesterday's date is now read and approved

3172 Fort St George Oct 11/82

3^d

and ordered to be dispatched —

Received the following letter and
Intelligence from Mr. Close Aid du Camp to
General Stuart.

To Mr. Andleston

Sir,

From L. Barry Close
42 irregular Horse
dismissed - the Gen.
recommends improvement
in the Gun Carriages
encloses Paper of Intelligence

I am directed by the Commander
in Chief to acquaint you, for the information
of the Right Honble the President and Select
Committee, that he ordered 42 of the irregular Horse
to be discharged yesterday as totally useless, the account
of their names and what is owing to them is here
enclosed. The General desires me to inform you,
that as there is no money here in Camp he
wishes the Governor will please direct Captain
Sydenham to settle with these people, and give
them proper discharges when Captain Rawlinson
sends them to the Fort. The number of the irregular
Horse now serving is exactly one hundred they are
of the best sort and sufficient for the present purpose.

There is here enclosed the Examination
of a Man who came in to the Fort this day, he
left the Enemy's Camp seven days ago and his account
seem to agree with the other reports.

General Stuart orders me to
acquaint you for the information of the Select Com.
that Captain Crispage in his last letter from Bellona
requests a supply of money which the General thinks
should be sent soon.

3173 Fort St. George Octo^r 1782

8th

I have the Honor to be

Camp near Taummarum

Sir

8th Octo^r 1782. A.M.

Your most obedient humble Serv^t.

B. F. Close

P.S.

Aid de Camp.

The officers at the Head of the Artillery Department here in Camp have reported to the General that there are certain Alterations or Improvements which from experience they want to recommend in the construction of any Gun Carriages or Trunkwheels which in future may be ordered to be made. The General therefore recommends previous to any new ones being made that a Committee of Shores be held at Madras as soon as may be, and that Major Elliot, Major Mackay, Captain Pigault and Captain Moorhouse be present at that Committee. B. F. C.

Intelligence from the Enemy's Side.

Mahommed Abraham (black Man) just now come in to one of our out-Posts, being examined says that he has served Hyder as Jumadar of Cavalry in Laal Chan's Party for these five years past, but was absent from the Party on Business at the time Laal Chan joined us on the Red Hills. That when Hyder learned that Laal Chan had gone off with part of his people he ordered the remainder of them amounting to 1150 to be dismounted, and deprived of their Horses and without paying them any part of their arrears told them to return to the Mysore Country, or go where they pleased upon which he, Mahomed Abraham, determined to come over in quest of

3174 Fort S. George Octo. 1782
8th

his Semidar who he supposed continued to serve
here— That 7 Days ago he left Hyder's Camp
at Dobku Gur and yesterday parted from
an out Picket of Horse near Finery Tank who
informed him who informed him that Hyder
moved three days ago from Dobku Gur to
Kowlackah Barg near Lalakpet— That before
he left Hyder's Camp, it was reported that Tippoo
and Lalla / now in the Neighbourhood of Trincomalee /
were to march soon to the Malabar Coast, and
upon inquiry found that this report took rise
from some words which had escaped from the
Sarasore Rajah's Son in the Durbar — That
Hyder's Stable Cavalry and in very bad condition
consisting only of about 7000 and his irregular
Cavalry of much about the same Number. That
the provisions formerly in Arnee, and Chittapet
have been withdrawn from time to time to
supply the encampment where he imagines there
may be Provisions for two or three thousand /
Camp near Tanjore / Rice selling at the rate of three Seers for
8th Octo. 1782. — the Rupa.

Minute thereon —

Agreed that Copy of the
last Paragraph be sent to the Committee
of Stores. —

Received Letter and Proceedings
of the Committee of Assigned Revenue as lodged
in the Office enclosing letters from the Finery

3175 Mr J. George Oct. 1822

8th

Read letter from the Com^r of Assigned Revenue the ruler of Tinnivelly complains against Colonel Arjion. —

Letter, in which he complains of Colonel Nixon's having ordered away a Battalion of Sepoys from that Country in consequence of which the Polygars are exciting Trouble and it will be impossible for him to discharge his Engagements, and the Com^r of Assigned Revenue express their hope that it will not be thought necessary to recall any part of the force stationed in the Tinnivelly Country.

Bills granted on Masulipatam to Lall Cawn for Horses purchased by him for the Company.

Ordered that Bills on Masulipatam be granted in favor of Lall Cawn to the amount of 15,761 Rupees and 600 Pagodas to be paid immediately, being for Horses purchased for the Company, and carried to the Head of second War with Hyder Ally.

The Military Paymaster's receipt for money expended to the Southward —

Ordered that the Military Paymaster pass receipt for the amount of Pagodas 2,581, 33, 50 a bill of exchange transmitted to Mr John Sulwan for the use of the Southern Garrisons the amount of which, the President reports he has issued from the Honble Company's Cash. The President informs the Committee that thinking it might be of great consequence that we should know as soon as possible what were the Ships that are said to have been seen off Nistnapatam and not finding that any Ships had been sent from the Squadron for the Intelligence he dispatched the Rodney Packet with orders to endeavor to discover whether any and which Ships

The President dispatches the Rodney to cruise off Nistnapatam —

317 Fort St George October 1782—

8th

there are to the Northward their Number and
of what Nation.

Bond granted to
Savacoty & for Horse Gram—

Ordered that a Bond be granted
in favor of Savacoty, Lumbyah to the Amount of
1,100 Pagodas and another to Mumaroo Moodelly to
the Amount of 510 Pagodas to be dated the 1st June 1781.
they having supplied the Army with Horse Gram
to that Amount to be carried to the Head of
Second War with Hyder Ally.—

Bills on Bengall
granted to Capt. Rich^d
Scott.—

Ordered that Bills on Bengal
be granted in favor of Captain Richard Scott.—
to the Amount of Pagodas 1,113, 17. 68 being his
Arrears of Pay and Batta.—

Tuesday Octo 8th 1782 At a Select Committee on Military Affairs

Present.—

The right Hon^{ble} George Lord Macartney, K.B.

President and Governor.—

Anthony Sadler Esq^r.— Major Gen^l James Stuart—

Alex^r Davidson Esq^r.

Mr. Bellone in Bengal.— Read the following Letters from
Tranquebar.—

To the right Hon^{ble} Lord Macartney.—

My Lord,

I am convinced when you have
seriously reflected on the Letter sent you from this
Government you will be of opinion with me and
every feeling Man that the Gentlemen in Bengal
have been too precipitate in their determinations
for laying an embargo on Grain intended for this
Port

From the Governor of
Tranquebar apprehends
a famine if an Embargo
is laid on Ships in Bengal
requests 10,000 Bags of
Rice may be sent to him.—

3177 Fort St. George 8th October 1802.

Port. I could mention many circumstances setting forth the Cruelty of such a Conduct, but shall for the present be silent waiting for Answers from Bengall to the Representations I have made on this Subject. —

This Settlement for one month past has been nothing but one continued scene of wretchedness and what must now be our feelings at the Distressing prospect before us, on having our hopes of relief from a severe Famine, totally set aside by our Bengal Ships being stopped — which report has reached us but I hope is not true. —

My Ship, the *Tranquibar*, was loaded in Bengall last April, but the Fortitude Indiaman running foul of her in the river disabled her from proceeding on the Voyage and my attorneys have been obliged to repair her after which she was ready and ought to have sailed the beginning of last Month to have been here before this together with the Company's *Grab* and three other private Ships belonging to Merchants of this Place but not having had the least intelligence of any one of these Vessels I fear they are stopped by the Gentlemen of Bengall or at your Presidency on the belief of which I must declare to your Lordship on my Honor that these Supplies are entirely for the use of this Settlement and absolutely necessary to save the Lives of many thousands of the

3178 Fort St. George 3rd Octo^r 1782

distressed Inhabitants — who must inevitably
perish if no Provisions arrive before the
Monsoon sets in. —

I must therefore intreat your
Lordship will take into consideration our necessities
and in case of any of the afore mentioned Ships
should be ordered to land their Rice at Madras that
you will have the Goodness to let them proceed
with their Cargoes here and in case of their being
detained in Bengal to send us down 10000 Bags
of Rice in Boats for the relief of this Colony I shall
now conclude assuring your Lordship that I shall
^{be} happy to render on my part such Services
as in my power and hope you will believe me

Your Lordships

Tranquebar

15th Sep. 1782.

most obedient humble Serv^t

Attest^d

To the right Honble George Lord Macartney.

My Lord

The deplorable sight of
From the Missionaries dead Corpses constantly passing our Streets the
at Tranquebar requesting relief of
rice for the School there Lamentations of the starving who surround
our Doors like living Shadows and Skeletons
the present prospect that in a short time the
Misery of Hunger must enter even into all
Families and the great Danger our Mission
and Schools filled with a Number of 600 Children
will be attacked by the same and force us to
dump these hopeful Youths to their miserable

3179 Fort St. George 8th Octob^r 1782

fate will be a sufficient Apology for the
Liberty we take now to entreat Your Lordship
both for Assistance for our public as for
Permission that we might be supplied with
300 Bags of Rice from Madras for the
Support of our schools and Mr. Holfred will
procure a Conveyance for the same to
this place.

We hoped, hitherto to have
been relieved by the ^{arrival of the} Danish Ships from
Bengal but the report of an Embargo heightens
our fears and certainty of it would complete
our Misery— You have it in your power
My Lord to save us from this terrible
Apprehension, and your generous Character
is too well established to doubt of your
friendly Assistance when we have made
known to you our Distresses. By this you
will turn the Sighs of many thousands
into praises and prayers to God Almighty
that he may reward your Clemency
with all desirable Blessings—

With the greatest respect we remain
My Lord.

Your most obed^t humble Serv^{ts}.

James Klen

John Frederick Wronig

Christopher Sam^l John

John Peter Rottel

M. John Dan^l Mentel.

Tranquebar,

September 26th 1782. —

3180 Fort S. George Octo^r 8th 1782.

Minute thereon —

Our own people are perishing by hundreds in the streets, the Committee are therefore extremely concerned that it is out of their power to do more for the relief of Tranquebar than to send Copies of the foregoing Letters to the Governor Genl. and Council. —

Read the following Letter and enclosure from the Governor and Council of Tranquebar —

To the right Honble Lord George Lord Macartney K. G.
your Council at Fort S. George

My Lord and Gentlemen,

From Tranquebar, protesting against the capture of the Lizard, by the Sultan with copy of their Letter to Capt. Mitchell.

As the Friendship which so long and uninterrupted subsisted between our respective Nations, has been hurt by the most unlawful Conduct of a Man of War in this road supposed to be the Sultan; we hereby give us the honor to apply to you for to get satisfaction for the greatest act of Violence. —

Yesterday morning an English Man of War came into this road, and hauled directly down upon the Lizard a French Cutter laying here under the protection of this Fort broke her cable and carried her off with Armed Boats with her French Colours flying so that we did not suppose even his intention before it was executed and it was too late to give the necessary Assistance The Letter I enclose

undressed

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addressed to him he refused to receive, threatened the people that brought it, and sent them back —

After this Conduct we also apply to your Board for to know if any such orders have been given to expose us and our road to be open for every violator of Neutrality and to expose your own Subjects to be attacked by your Enemies in the same manner. We therefore expect My Lord and Gentlemen that you will give ample satisfaction and restitute the Lizard with Officers and Crew which has been taken in such unlawful manner and We do hereby in the Name of our Royal Master protest against this Conduct in the strongest terms, and must in case no immediate satisfaction should be given, take necessary measures against the Infractions made on the Laws of Nations to the Neutrality and to the Flag of our Sovereign.

We leave to you My Lord and Gentlemen to punish the Infraction who by Violence, Hostilities and Contempt shown for the Danish Flag have made this Port to be exposed to New Insults as Reprisals from your Enemies when this Government shewed their regard for the English in returning a vessel near the Port taken out of the reach of the Guns, the General Coote and also merited your

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attentions as Friends.

We have the honor to remain
with great Esteem

Fort Danstourg

Octo^r 3^d 1782.

My Lord and Gentlemen

Your most obed^t humblest

Abbestle

Lichtenstein

P. Hetting

Tho^s C. Walker

To the Commanding Officer on board the
English Ships in Road —

Sir

According to the Laws of
Nations, I hereby address you for to represent
you that I expect you will undertake
nothing contrary to the Neutrality by
permitting yourself any Hostilities in this
Road. — If it should be the Case I hereby do
protest against such undertaking in the
most solemn manner in the name of my
Sovereign, and will complain highly in
proper places over it

I remain with esteem

Sir

Fort Danstourg —
2^d Octo^r 1782

Your most obedient Serv^t
Abbeslee

A true Copy before me

Tho^s C. Walker

3182 Fort St. George 8th Oct^r 1782.

Minute of the
President

The President informs the Committee that he has perused the
Letter from Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hughes on the
subject of ^{signature of} the Lizard a French Cutter off Tranquebar
with the enclosed account from Captain Mitchell
of his Motives for and of the circumstances attending
that Capture and the President has likewise
read and considered the above Letter on the
same Subject from the Members of the Danish
Government of Tranquebar to this Presidency strongly
remonstrating against the Conduct of Captain
Mitchell and claiming the Prize as made
contrary to the rights of a Neutral Nation*
which Captain Mitchell is said to have refused

* Under whose protection
he asserts the Cutter actually
was at the time of the

Seizure, and also copy of a
Letter addressed to Cap^t Mitchell

previous to such Seizure warning
him against any attempt contrary to
the Rights of neutral Nations.

Leaving —

Captain Mitchell indeed positively
asserts that the Cutter was a considerable Distance
more than Gun shot from the Fort but the
Letter from the Danish Government implies that
Assistance was not given by it merely
because the manner of Captain Mitchell's
executing his Plan prevented any previous
Suspicion of his Intentions, a circumstance
that seems to be corroborated by Captain
Mitchell who says that he shortened sail
that it might appear that his intentions
were not hostile —

The Distance of the
Cutter from the Fort out of the reach of
Gun shot in the opinion of Captain

318th Fort St. George 8th Oct. 1782

Mitchell may be thought fully sufficient to justify him to his Commander for yielding to Motives of Public Necessity in taking possession of the Cutter, but his Argument that such possession ~~is~~ was free from ^{the imputation of} infringing the rights of Neutral Powers drawn from the Want of notice of this Transaction by the Danes is at an End by their strong representation on the Subject

If the Fact, that the Cutter was at a considerable distance more than Gunshot ~~from~~ which now rests on the Assertion of Captain Mitchell which the President believes to be his candid opinion were proved to be incontestably true it might be a ground for the Detention of the Prize; but the contrary seems to be implied in the Letter of the Danish Government and in a Case where the rights of a Neutral Nation are concerned there should not be the least doubt of their having a just Ground for Complaint

It will redound more to

The President offers merely his opinion without wishing to interfere in the ultimate decision by the Admiral on this Point

The Committee agreeing in Opinion with the President it is resolved that a Copy of the minutes be sent to the Admiral

the Honor of the British Nation and to its strict regard for the rights of other Nations to be on the Side of yielding up any momentary advantage against the Enemy that by insisting on retaining it to give umbrage and occasion Disputes on the doubtful Points with friendly Powers - The Pres^t is therefore of opinion that it would be best to send back the seized Cutter to the Members of the Danish Gov^t of Tranquebar as soon as it can be done without inconvenience, but as the Admiral writes that there are many Presidents that will go far to justify him as possessor in chief of a Squadron of his Majesty's Ships in detaining the Cutter as a legal Prize

3185

Fort St. George 8th Decr 1782

The President lays before the Committee sundry Papers delivered to him by Captain M^r. Dowal which being taken into Consideration together with the articles of Capitulation for the Surrender of Trincomalle the Committee are of opinion that the Company and the public at large will expect that some Enquiries should be made into the Cause, or Causes of a misfortune which has given the French an Establishment on this side of the Peninsula, and thereby endangered the Loss of the whole of our possessions. Agreed therefore that General Stuart be ordered to order a Court of Enquiry upon the Conduct of the Officers who lately commanded at Trincomalle, and Astenberg concerning the Surrender of those Ports and that every Information in our power ^{to furnish} be furnished the Court. Agreed also that General Stuart be desired to give directions to all the Officers of the King's Troops who lately belonged to either of those Garrisons remain here till the Enquiry is over.

A Court of Enquiry
to be held on the Officers
who lately commanded
at Trincomalle.

3186 Fort S. George Oct^r 1782

8th Sent the following Letter to Sir Edward Hughes
with Extract from the Minutes of this date upon
the subject of the Capture of the Cutter —

To Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hughes H. B.
Sir,

To Sir Edw^d Hughes
with Extract of the
Minutes of the 5th Inst^t.

I am directed by the right Hon^{ble}
the President and Select Committee to furnish
you with the enclosed Extract from their Minutes
of this Date. —

I have the honor to be —

Fort S. George —

8th Oct^r 1782

Sirs

Your most obedient
humble Servant
J. Huddleston
Secy^r

Received the following Letter from the Chief and
Council of Ganjam. —

To the Right Hon^{ble} George Lord Macartney —
President and Governor &c. Select Committee
Fort S. George

My Lord and Gentlemen,

We have been duly honored
with your Lordship's Letter of the 12th Inst^t
and in obedience thereto shall take such Steps as
appear to us most effectual to answer the End
your Lordship &c. have thought proper to recommend
Capt. Bowyer the Commanding

From Ganjam. —
The 6th Batt^{on} stationed at
Machapam requests a supply
of Stores and a few invalids
returning from the Governor
General requests that
the two Grenadier Companies
& 500 Soldiers at Machapam
may return built with
for the reception of the
Stores &c. &c. to be
made up.

3187 Fort S. George Octo^r 1782

8th Officer of the Troops in this District being of opinion with us that the Cantonments of Aska are not only too remote from the Sea Coast but owing to the river are in such a Situation as at this Season in particular would render it impossible for the Troops stationed there to march hither should their presence be required without considerable delay which in Case of a Sudden Attack might be attended with the worst of Consequences. — We have thought it expedient for the present to move the Battalion to Ichapour from whence it will be readier to march where occasion may require — We are the rather induced to this as from the late Settlement of the Goomsur Zemindary — We have nothing to apprehend in that Quarter. —

Ichapour having formerly been a Cantonment the Troops there will be upon the same footing as at Aska and we are in hopes a very trifling Expence will be required to put the barracks into a temporary state of repair for their reception — We have also ordered the Garrison of this place to be augmented to the Number directed in the General Orders of the 29th June 1778

With our Letter of the 7th Instant we had the honor to transmit a Return and Indent for Military Stores wanted for the use of this Garrison, but as from the Lateness of the Season, and the Situation of Affairs to the Southward we are apprehensive it may not be

3188 Fort St George Octor 182. —
8th

in your Lordship's power to comply therewith
We have thought it our Duty to represent our
wants to Calcutta and have accordingly requested
of the Honble Governor General and Council
a Supply of such articles of Stores as are
absolutely wanted for the immediate Defence
of this Garrison — From the little Dependence
that can be placed on Sepoys particularly
those to the Northward when unsupported by
the appearance of Europeans We have been
further induced to request the Honble Governor
General and Council will be pleased to spare
us twenty or thirty, invalid Artillery Men
fit for Garrison Duty which we hope will
meet with your Lordship's approbation
for except the Conductor and a few of the
Coffries there is hardly a Man in the
Garrison understands the working of a
Gun. —

Captain Bridges having
represented to us that the greatest part of his
Battalion is composed of recruits lately raised
the best of the Sepoys of those remaining after
the several expeditions to Goomsur and Moherry
having been drafted to complete to the present
Establishment the two Grenadier Companies
ordered to Masulipatam we are induced to
request your Lordship will be pleased to
order them back, ^{to the District} as also the 15 Coffries detached
from the Company doing duty in this Garrison —

3189 Fort S. George Octo. 1782

8th

The Storekeeper has been directed to lay in a sufficient quantity of Provisions for the use of this Garrison but as we have no place to deposit them in we have given orders that this should be recommended in our Letter of the 7th Instant be immediately set about —

We have also given the Storekeeper Directions to make up as many Tents as possible with all Expedition —

We have the honor to be

with the greatest respect —

Garnam

26th September 1782 —

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient,

humble Servants

J. Stone.

R. D. Munro.

Dan Russell —

Ith Received the following Letter —

Sir,

The silence you have observed with respect to me has filled me with the utmost Astonishment —

It is the most mortifying Circumstance I ever experienced

I am sensible Sir of the Multiplicity of Business

which engages your attention but a single Line from

you would have either afforded me hope or drawn

the Line for my future Conduct for you know that

as I remain here unemployed I am expending my

Stock of water of which I am in great Want having

From Mont. Cossing
requesting a Passport and
a supply of water - complaint
of delay - with respect
to him —

3190 Fort St George Oct^r 1782

9th received but four Butts altho' you had
probably ordered me to be supplied with a
sufficient Quantity for I doubt not but that
your Conduct is regulated by the strictest
attention to propriety - As it is my intention
to execute the orders of my General as soon
as possible - I request you will furnish me
with a Passport and water that I may if
possible sail tomorrow or if I cannot be supplied
with Water I will proceed to Tranquebar for it
I request as a particular favor to be honored
with an answer to this Letter. ~~which is the~~
~~this I have had the honor to address~~
I am with respect,

On board the King's
Transport the Betsey
9th Oct^r 1782 -

Sir.

Your very humble

and obedient Servant

(signed)

Chev^r de Corson

James Landon

French Translator -

Just the following Answer -

To Le Chevalier de Corson

Commanding the French Castel Ship.

Sir

I have received your two Letters
and in consequence gave such orders as depended
upon me for supplying you with such Articles
as you desired - If there has been any unnecessary delay
you may be assured I shall punish the authors of
it - I have now recalled my former Directions

To M^r Corson
the orders for supplying
him with water recalled
to apply to the command
for a Passport -

3191 Fort J^e George Oct^r 1/82

9th on this point and flatter myself there will be
no reason for Complaint—

The time of your Departure
depends upon the Admiral whose Flag is now
flying in the road and he will give you a Passport
as soon as he thinks fit to dispatch you. I have
written to him upon the Subject and have
the honor to be —

Sir,

Fort St. George

9th Oct^r 1/82

Your most obedient

and most humble Servant

Macartney

Sent Copies of the above Letters to the Admiral with the
following Letters —

To Sir Edward Hughes K. B.

Sir,

Inclosed I have the Honor to send you
a Letter I received yesterday from Mons^r de Corsin, ^{Commanding the french Consul} together
with a Copy of my answer.

As he has been some days in
the road and no doubt made his Observations upon
the State of it, I think the time of his Departure
should be regulated by your Opinion, I have
therefore referred him to you and leave it to
you to dispatch him as soon as you think the
public Service will admit of it —

I have the Honor to be

Sir

Fort St. George

Oct^r 9th 1/82

To Sir Edward Hughes;
with Copies of Letters to and
from Mons^r de Corsin, whom
he refers to the Admiral
for a passport —

3192 To Mr George Pitt 1782
9th

Your most obedient
humble servant

Macartney

Sent the following letter to the Commander of
the Dutch Cartel Ship —

To Mons^r Hartog.

Commanding the Dutch Cartel Ship —

Sir,

I have received your letter in consequence
of which I gave the proper orders which depended
upon me for your arrangement —

With respect to the Oscars and
others who have escaped from your vessel it will
I fear be impossible for me to discover them
after their having been able to deceive your own
vigilance but if they can be found they shall be
most punctually delivered to you — I had already
given Directions to enquire after them and
particularly the Oscar slave but as no news of
them has yet reached me I imagine they have
not landed at this place but proceeded along the
coast — with regard to replacing them with French
sailors as you desire, the conduct of those who
put the English Prisoners into the hands of Hyder
ally will naturally suggest to you the answer
to be made to such a request — the time of your
departure depends upon the Admiral whose flag is
in the Road and he will give you his passport as soon
as he thinks fit to dispatch you. I have written

To Mr. Hartog —
Enquiring on board after the
Prisoners from his ship
declines replacing them
with French sailors
upon him to the Admiral
for a passport —

3193 Fort St. George Oct^r 1/82

to him on the subject and have the honor to
be, —

Sir,

Fort St. George
Oct^r 9th 1782

Your most obed. humble servant
Macartney

10th Received the following Letters —

To the right Honble Lord Macartney, M.B.
President and Governor & Select Committee
My Lord and Gentlemen

From Mr. Russell
proceeds to Europe on
the Neptune for the
reestablishment of his
Health —

I arrived here the 17th of December
last and have tried the most healthy situations
upon the Island. But with so little benefit to
my health that I am at this present time totally
unfit even for Garrison Duty —

I have therefore determined to
proceed to Europe upon the Neptune Indiaman, she
will be dispatched about the middle of next month
I shall carry home certificates from the Surgeons of
this place to lay before the Court of Directors
Should I recover my health I mean
to return to my Station without loss of time —
I have the honor to be

My Lord and Gentlemen

Your most obed. servt
humble servant
Russell —

Bombay
11th Aug. 1782.

3194 Fort St. George Octob^r 1782
10th

To the Right Hon^{ble} Lord Macartney K^t.
President and Governor &c. Select Com^{rs}.

My Lord and Gentlemen

From Masulipatam
and advanced him 50 Pagodas

We take leave to acquaint you
of our having sent upon the Ship Free Trade M^r.
St. Jennis a French Man and Prisoner upon his
Parole who about three Years ago came here
from the Presidency upon leave to settle some
private Concerns as he had no allowance paid
him for his subsistence during that time we
have been induced to comply with an urgent
application from him for an Advance Madras
Pagodas 50. to enable him to pay off some
Debts he had contracted and extricate him
from his Difficulties here which we hope will
meet with the approbation of your Lordship &c.

We are respectfully—

Masulipatam
30th Sep. 1782

My Lord and Gentlemen

Your most obedient

Humble Servants

James Hodges.
John Peter Boileau
Thos. Barnard
Alex^r Pringle.

To John Haddleston Esq^r

Secretary of the Select Committee

Sir,

From the Adjutant Gen^l
with recommendation
that Mr. Haddleston be appointed
S^r Secretary.

The commanding Officer of Artillery
having represented that there is a Deficiency of
Officers

3195 Fort St. George Octo^r 1782

Officers for the Guns in the Field and having
recommended Mr. Friend a Cadet on the Bombay
Establishment for a Commission in that Corps
the Commander in Chief directs me to acquaint
you that the same has his approbation and to
request that you will accordingly lay it before
the Right Honble the President and Select
Committee —

Head Quarters
Fort St. George.

10th Octo^r 1782.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant

Henry Malcolm
Adj^t Gen^l.

Agreed that Mr. Friend be admitted
Mr. Friend app^d Cadet a cadet on this Establishment and appointed
act as Irish Fireworker to act as Lieutenant Fireworker till a vacancy
shall happen for his promotion —

2 Rupee freight for
their sent to the S^o.

Agreed that the Commanders of the
Vessels which went lately to the Southward with
Rice be allowed two Rupees pp^t Bag freight —

Dispatched the following
Letter to Mon^r Souffren by the French Barkel Ship

X To Mon^r Le Chevalier de Souffren,

Sir,

I have received the honor of your
Letter dated at Trincomalee on the 28th of last Month
I have paid all attention to its Contents and written

To Mon^r de Souffren —
observing that he did not
and the whole of the Garrison
of Trincomalee & that only
one letter had been
recd from him —

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to the British Admiral relative to granting proper passports and to the Dispatch of the Cartel Ships - I have only to observe that the number of Prisoners sent to us falls greatly short of the number of our Troops in the place when it capitulated - but I avoid entering into a discussion upon this point or indeed upon any other at present - the measure of your delivering over our people to the Ally having comparatively rendered almost every other Object of inferior Consideration

Before I conclude I must take this opportunity which is the first that has offered to assure you that I never received any Letter from you except the one of the 27th of last Month by the Cartel Ship which I have now the honor to acknowledge - I think it necessary to mention this to you because I usually heard that you had addressed a Letter to me upon a former occasion

I have the honor to be with respect

Sir

Your most obed. humble Servant

Macartney

Fort St. George
Octo. 10th 1782

Dispatched the following Letter to the Danish
Missionaries at Tranquebar -

To Mess^{rs} Klein, Konig, Sohn, Rottler and Stentel
Gentlemen

To the Danish Missionaries
refer them to Mr. Abbot's
for ans^r to their Letter and
concerned at our inability
to supply them with rice

I have received the favor of your Letter
and should most readily afford you the relief which you

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desire if it were in my power. I have written
so fully upon the subject to Mr. Abbestie the
Governor of Tranquebar that it is unnecessary
for me to repeat it to you. They have therefore
to refer you to him and at the same time to
express the very great pain I feel in being
deprived of the means of giving you the assistance
you desire.

Fort St. George
Octo^r 10th 1782

I have the honor to be
with great truth
Gentlemen
Your most obedient humble servant
Macartney

The following Letter to the Select Committee
at Bombay having been prepared is now read and
approved & dispatched to Bombay with the
Enclosures therein mentioned.

To the Honble William Hornby Esq.

President & Members of the Select Committee
at Bombay.

Right Honble Sir and Sirs

To Bombay —
receive this Letter by the
Coventry, and enclose Copy of a Letter
to Bangalore, respecting the detention of
a Body of Europeans from the
Right Honble's fleet. 1100 Barrels
of Gun Powder for Bombay, shipped
here, advice of the loss of the Commodore
and the Action off that place
the failure of the expedition
to Puddalore, represents the
Dangers that are to be apprehended
when the Admiral leaves
the Coast recommends Mr.
Parker for their Diligence
& good behaviour.

We have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your Letter to us of the 31st July
by the Coventry Frigate together with your Packet
to the Governor General and Council sent open
for our perusal and of the Contents of which
agreeably to your desire Copies were taken and

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10th

forwarded from hence in Duplicate —

We enclose you copy of our Letter of the 25th Aug^t to the Governor General and Council sent with those Despatches and which we trust will shew that We have not been wanting in a desire to forward your Views and to suggest whatever might contribute to the successful execution of the only plan from which the Company's Affairs in all these different Establishments can expect effectual relief.

The arrival of Sir Rich^d. Bickerton at Bombay of which Intelligence has been received from Palamcotah / with we hope have enabled you to obtain the necessary assistance of a Body of Europeans as in all Events you can detain the Company's accounts but we greatly fear it may not be in the power of the Governor General and Council at this time to furnish the Sum of Money / 30 Lacks / without which you think it will be impossible to set on foot the Expedition. We were lately under the necessity of detaining a Supply of 1500 Barrels of Gunpowder shipped at Calcutta for your Settlement on the ship Blake which vessel arrived here just at the time that Admiral Sir Edward Hughes made a very heavy demand upon us in that Article which We could not otherwise have complied with His Majesty's Ship Combustion is sent to Bengal for Gunpowder and should the Admiral replace from the Quantity whomay bring what we

3199 Fort St. George Oct^r 7/82
4th.

lately furnished for the Squadron. We shall in that case be able to send you as much as We have of yours - otherwise we can only recommend your making application to the Admiral -

The Despatches for your Committee which We received from the Commander of the Blake will be forwarded by the Squadron -

The Capture of Trincomali by Mons^r. de Suffren in the absence of our Squadron and the unfavorable turn which that event has given to our Affairs will probably be known to you before you receive this Letter.

Upon the arrival of Sir Edward Hughes in this Road after the third Action / of which you are advised in our Letter of the 14th July our attention was immediately directed to supplying the Squadron with every Assistance in our Power towards enabling it to proceed again to Sea without Delay, and in a condition of meeting the Enemy to Advantage; out of a very inadequate Stock of Gunpowder we supplied it with 240,000^{lb} and 284 Europeans of the King's Regiments were sent on board as Marines.

Towards the end of July various Accounts were received and regularly communicated to the Admiral of M. Suffren's having by

3200 Fort St George Oct? 1782-

great and active Exertions already nearly completed the refitting of his Ships and of his Intention to proceed again very soon to Sea - At length authentic Accounts were received of his having sailed from Cuddalore the 1st Augst this also we instantly communicated to the Admiral, with our sentiments of the importance of immediately going in pursuit of the Enemy whether their object was the attack of Trincomalli or the Interception of our expected Reinforcements or both -

Sir Edw^d Hughes sailed the 20th Augst was prevented by contrary Winds from arriving off Trincomalli till the 2^d September, when he found it in possession of the Enemy. -

Mons^r Suffren sailed out of the Harbour to meet our Squadron and an Action ensued in which we had again the Advantage several of the Enemy's Ships were greatly damaged their Admiral's Ship in particular was dismasted another lost her Mizen Mast our Fleet suffered in some Degree but no main Mast was lost and only one Topmast.

The Enemy's Squadron however put to Sea again the beginning of this month and on the 3^d appeared before Negapatam By Intelligence received from Tranquebar we heard ~~that~~ there was firing heard for several hours - We have since heard that the French fleet is at Cuddalore - Fortunately we had sent in his Majesty's Ship Sultan and the Prince

3200 Fort St George Oct 1782
18th

William a freighted Ship 300 of the King's Troops, and a quantity of provisions and Stores to Negapatam and they arrived there a few ^{days} before the French fleet.

Soon after Sir Edward Hughes sailed from Trincomalay Sir Eyre Coote marched to the Southward in the Intention of attacking Cuddalore, and a number of Vessels laden with provisions and stores under Convoy of His Majesty's Ship Medea were sent to assist his operations. This also proved unfortunate. The Grain Vessels did not reach Pondicherry until the 12th September and the Army had marched back the day before from an apprehension of wanting Provisions. The Medea and her Convoy returned in consequence to Madras and we were desirous as well as the Commander in Chief that they should proceed again to the Southward and that the Enterprize against Cuddalore should be renewed, provided the Admiral would cooperate which he at first ~~understood~~ ^{intended} to do giving 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 Mr. Suffren could send to oppose them. — a very few days afterwards however he altered that opinion and gave a sudden and decisive

3202 Fort St. George Oct^r. 1782.
10th

refusal to our requisition for him to
cooperate in the reduction of Cuddalore —
that Enterprize was therefore from necessity
laid aside —

The Loss of Trincomalli having
having destroyed all hope of the French
Fleet retiring on the approach of the
Monsoon and this Settlement having no
Dependance for the means of Subsistence
but on Supplies from Bengal which are
not yet arrived nor expected in sufficient
Quantity to sustain us till the Fleet could
return from Bombay we found ourselves
impelled by these Considerations to require
the Admiral to remain with his Majesty's
Squadron on this Side the Peninsula and
pointed out to him several Harbours where
he could be sheltered during the Monsoon
This requisition also the Admiral refused
to comply with and another which on
hearing the French were before
Negapatam she made to him to proceed
and attack the Enemy without delay
for the Relief of that place.

Sir Edward Hughes in
his Answer informed us that he should
proceed with the Squadron to Bombay
about the 15th of this Month — should he
execute that Determination we shall
have nothing left to apprehend from

3203 Fort St. George Octo: 1782.

10th

the loss of all the Company's Possessions on this side of India — This Port will be immediately blocked up and the vessels coming to it with provisions either captured on the passage or destroyed after their arrival and before it can be possible to land any part of their cargoes —

From this Melancholy view of our Situation you will plainly perceive that it is not in our Power to afford you any hope of aiding your Invasions of Hyder Ally's possessions on the Malabar coast by attacking him on this side; on the contrary we have every reason to fear that we shall be driven to the necessity of dividing if not disbanning the Army and of confining our Intentions and our hopes to the single Object of keeping possession of this Fortress —

Mess^{rs} Page, Lancelot, Crowe, Whitthoff and Broughton Writers on your Establishment having arrived here in the Chesterfield were requested to give their Assistance in our Secretary's Office to which they very readily consented and We have great pleasure in recommending them to your notice and favor for their

Fort St. George Affiduity and Diligence — We have the honor to be
10th Octo: 1782. Yours most obed^t little Serv^t
Macartney &c. &c.

320 1/2 Fort St George Octr 1782
18th

Bond granted to the
Agent Victualler on a
Settlement of Accounts—

The Agent Victualler of His Majesty's Squadron
having applied for a Settlement of Accounts
with the Employes from which he has received
Stores and having procured a Bond from the
Company for Payt 44,658.34.42 dated 1st Aug^t
last on which he demands that the Interest to
this day should be allowed being Payt 694.24.58
Agreed that the amount of the Stores
supplied from each Employ be brought to
the Credit of the Employ in the Cash Account
as follows—

Military St. Keeper — Pay. 25169.34.36

Imperial St. Keeper — 1050. 5.32—

Garrison St. Keeper — 11,361. 23.36

and that an Interest Bond be granted to Arthur
Cuthbert Esq^r Agent Victualler of His Majesty's
Squadron under the Command of Vice Admiral
Sir Edward Hughes Kt. for Payt 7771.32.69
on his delivering up his Bond for Payt 44,658.24.42—

Ordered that Bills on Bengal
be granted in favor of Mr Edward Hitchin
to the amount of Payt 215 being for Medicines
and attendance on the Hanoverian Soldiers
on board the Nottingham—

Three Officers being left to
every 50 Men of the King's 95th Regiment, the
Commander in Chief recommends the remainder
Captains — Wm. Hulse

W. Johnston

Lat. Symes

Lieut. Barber.

3205 Fort St. George Octo. 10th 1782

Lieutenants James M. Adam

Mr. Miller

Archd. Cunningham

Mr. Scott.

Forquar P. Macneil

be sent home on the recruiting service which
is agreed to and the usual allowance to be
paid them of 80£ by Bills on Bengal to
procure a Passage —

At a Select Committee — present

Thursday

10th October 1782 —

The right Honble Geo: Lord Macartney K^t B

President and Governor

Anthony Sadler Esq: Maj: Gen: James Stuart

Alex: Davidson Esq: John Holland Esq: absent
in Bengal —

Minutes of last Committee

read and approved —

Read the following Letter from

Sir Edward Hughes —

To the right Honble Geo: Lord Macartney K^t B

Pres^t and Governor &c. Select Committee

My Lord and Gentlemen

I have received your Letter of
yesterday's date offering reasons on your part
for my attack of the French Squadron of
Negapatnam without Delay & against my
proceeding with the Squadron to Bombay to
refit it; As no one occurrence has taken place
since my answer of the 6th to your minutes

From Sir Edward Hughes
horrors in his intention
of going round to Bombay
displeased at the
style and contents
of the last letter to
him, attributes the
top of Sir Edmund's to
this Government —

3206 Fort St George Oct^r 16th 1782

of the 5th of this Month to the same effect
I have to inform you, that I continue in the
same Determination as to the Conduct I mean
to observe regarding the future operations of
His Majesty's Squadron under my Command.

Your letter is worded with
that Latitude of Style & Criticism on my
conduct which I am convinced your Station
in the Company's Service cannot justify to one
either as an Officer or as a Man & your
quotations thro' the whole are unfairly made
and curtailed as if the originals from which they
were extracted had passed thro' the hands of a
Compiler of a Newspaper and the inferences
you have drawn are in general false or ill
grounded and yet I judge it consistent with
the Duty I owe my Country both as the
Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Squadron
and as a Man to submit to this treatment
from you for a time as an open breach between
you and me would probably be attended with
the worst Consequences to the Public; however I
am very willing to abide by your own
reference to His Majesty, the Lords of the
Admiralty and the Parliament for an inquiry
into my conduct well assured, altho' they
may not be possessed of so much Maritime
knowledge as you the President and Select
Committee of this Settlement pretend to, that I
shall nevertheless have ample justice done to my
Character and Conduct against your unjust insinuations.

3207 Mr. St. George Oct^r 11th 1782

The Information you say your President has received from Mr. Sullivan Resident at Tanjore, I have also received from the same Person but it is so vague and so unsupported by any circumstance on which to found credibility, that however much I wish the Junction of His Majesty's Ships and Convoy under the Command of Sir Rich^d. Beckerton I do not believe it true; but should that event take place which I do not expect on this Coast I shall then pursue such measures with His Majesty's Squadron as I judge most conducive to the Public Service; at the same time I desire it to be recorded in answer to your Letter on this occasion that I am as zealous for the public preservation of the British Possessions in the East Indies as you can possibly be, I mean to comprehend that great whole of which this Settlement is but a part and as you deal so much in retailing by pieces my sense of public Affairs when offered to you I shall reserve what I would otherwise communicate to you to that Enquiry with which you have so unhand-somely threatened me & proceed with unabated zeal to do my Duty to the utmost with the Force entrusted to my Charge for the Protection of the British Dominions in the East Indies, but the manner of best effecting this great Object is with me, of which I cannot suppose you in any Degree competent Judges — The Life of the Harbour

3208 *For Sir George Barr 11th 1782*

of Trincomallay which you labour so much
to fix on me will on Enquiry be found the
Effects of your own Councils and Proceedings
but I deal not in Crimination let your Masters
judge your Conduct and insignificant as you
are in the Scale of the National and even the
Company's Interests it will, I believe, be thought
by all Men highly unbecoming in you to
attempt to hector or bully the Commander in
Chief of His Majesty's Forces by Sea in this Country
into a Compliance with your selfish measures
for the preservation of yourselves from Danger
at the risque of the Destruction of that Force
on which the whole of the British Possessions
in India greatly depend for Preservation —

I have the honor to be

Superbo in Madras Road
9th October 1782 —

My Lord & Gentlemen

*Your most obedient
humble Servant
Edw Hughes*

General Stuart having been absent with the
Army was the Letter of the 7th to Sir Edw Hughes
was written it was on his return sent to him for
his perusal and the Committee now wish to know
if Gen Stuart approves of that Letter —

General Stuart answers that
he has read the Letter from the Committee to
Sir Edw Hughes & cannot help thinking that
the most earnest wishes of the Government in
which he concurs with them is derived all

*Gen Stuart's opinion
requested on the above*

*Gen Stuart's Sentiments
on the above Letter —*

3209 J^{ms} L. George Dec^r 18th 1782

possible advantage from his Majesty's Squadron
and likewise the reasons for pressing the
business immediately upon the Admiral might
have been expressed in Terms equally forcible
without entering into Discussions on Sea
Matters or bringing forward certain comparisons
which Sir Edw.^d Hughes might doubtless feel
personal to himself - The Admiral deserves
well of his Country and the East India
Company in his / General Stuart's / opinion /
and he will doubtless give his reasons in
explanation of every part of his Conduct
when called upon by what he thinks proper
Authority - He has in four different occasions
given manifest Proofs of great professional
Abilities and great readiness for Action

General Stuart wishes with
the Committee that Sir Edw.^d Hughes would
do all that is wanted in our opinion but
it is and ever must remain with the
Admiral himself to judge whether it is
now in his Power to do all we wish or
if all cannot be done, to say what part -
and General Stuart has the greatest Confidence
both in his Conduct and his good Intentions for
the public Service -

General Stuart therefore agrees
with the Committee in wishing to draw every
possible advantage from Sir Edw.^d Hughes and his
Majesty's Squadron but he cannot approve of

3210 Fort St. George Octo. 18th 1782

the stile of the Letter —

Mr Davidson enters the following
Minutes —

Mr Davidson's
Subinments on the above

I observed when the Draught
of the Letter was read the 7th Instant at the
Committee that I thought it admitted of a
Construction unfavorable to Admiral Hughes
and advantageous to Admiral Suffren. I believe
the observation that I made use of; was, that
it contained a Panegyric on the French
Admiral at the Expence of Admiral Hughes
I added that I should not be surprized if it
interrupted that Harmony which had subsisted
between Sir Edw. Hughes and the Right Honble
President and Select Committee though the Admiral
would never allow a Difference of opinion to
influence him in what he regarded the Interest
of the Company or the public Service. —

Further as this Subject has been
revived since General Stuart's Return from
Camp on attending the Committee I shall
against a future meeting enter my sentiments
more at large on the Records.

Agreed that the following Letter

be written to the Admiral

To Sir Edw. Hughes Kt. B.

Sir,

We have received your Letter of the
9th Instant and shall leave our Superiors to judge of the
The respect which we owe to ourselves and our

To Sir Edw. Hughes stating
the necessity of approving
the propriety of the Admirals
conduct on the Coast —

3211 Fort St. George Oct 17 1782

Station precludes us from making a reply - but as the safety of this settlement and with it immediately that of the whole Coast of Coromandel is a matter of the highest Concern nothing shall prevent us from fulfilling our public Duty in acquainting you with the present state of our Supplies on which that Safety must depend

The Rice now in this place does not exceed 30.000 Bags - the Quantity afloat in the Roads amounts only to 30.000 Bags - the monthly Consumption at least is equal to 30.000 Bags -

Our sole dependance for the preservation of the settlement is on the Supplies expected by Sea and now supposed to be on their Way - The Number of Boats for the daily Service of your Squadron has in a great measure deprived us of the means of landing the Grain from the Vessels already in the Road. Those Vessels and the others which may arise in future will be exposed to the utmost hazard from the Enemy if they should be left to the inadequate protection of Frigates only -

The fate impending in such a Case on these most important possessions to the Company and to the State can neither be doubtful nor distant. It may therefore be worthy of your Consideration whether the Squadron should not remain in a proper Station at least during a time sufficient for the landing under its Protection the Provisions already in the Road and those in their way from the Northward - at all Events if the whole Quantity

3213 Fort St George Oct^r 10th 1782

were already landed it would still be very inadequate
to our wants.

We have the honor to be

Fort St George

Sir

10th October 1782—

Your most obedient

humble Servants

Macartney

per S. C. —

General Stuart's
opinion on the foregoing—

General Stuart desires it may be
minuted that he agrees to the foregoing Letter now
proposed to be written to the Admiral referring to his
Minute of this Day respecting the Comm^{rs}'s Letter
of the 7th to the Admiral.

3213

Fort St. George Octo^r 1782

10th

Read Letter from Mr. Jarvis - Received Letter from Mr. Jarvis an Officer in the Madras Service as entered in the Miscellany Book

11th

Received the following Letter and enclosure from the Resident at Ingeram -

To the right Honble Lord Macartney M. B.

President & Members of the Select Committee

My Lord and Gentlemen,

From Mr. Hamilton
with Mr. Perrot's observations
on an intercepted letter -

I took an opportunity of showing Mr. Perrot Copy of the intercepted Letter forwarded to me by Mr. Secretary Hudleston and have now the Honor to transmit a Letter he has addressed to me in consequence.

I have the honor to be with great respect

Ingeram

My Lord and Gentlemen

2^d October 1782 -

Your most obedient
humble Servant
Will: Hamilton

To William Hamilton Esq^r

Resident at

Ingeram

Sir,

The intercepted Letter transmitted to you by the Honble Board as a reason for detaining me here, savours a little of the French, I must allow but it does by no means destroy my first Assertion that I am a Geneva Man, I heard at the time of such an Interception and so little was I concerned about its consequences being conscious that

3212 Fort St George Oct^r 1782
10th

I could have hurt no Man in the World
init^y that I did not hesitate to undertake
this present Voyage —

Since you have that Letter in your
Hands you may observe that it was wrote at
a time when Hyder^{was} Master of almost all the
Country, insulted all the Europeans and it was
natural to wish for any power that could either
Stop or at least regulate his Course, and in
case Victory should prove unfaithful to her so
long favorite General Coote, I wished for the
Interposition of the French altho a General Man.

In that Letter I see not one
syllable that can afford the least shadow of
resentment to any Individual or body of
Individuals excepting perhaps Sir Thomas Rumbold
and here I see I am wrong. The expression even of
old Hige altho it struck me at first appears
upon reflection a very innocent one on
account of the Difficulty of its application.

The French even might, if they had
intercepted that Letter, have complained of it
for many of their measures I took the Liberty
to disapprove, and I appear in it a wellwisher
to the English against Hyder to whom I profess
myself an Enemy, as he has plundered me and
detained me a Prisoner for 6 Months —

But not to chime more
about the Letter which is not worth the
attention of the Hon^{ble} Board, I will represent
to them first that my Reg^t is English

3215 Fort St George Cal. 1782.

10th

Property and consequently that I was in the English Service 2^d. that in the little space of time I commanded her I had occasion to serve pretty well some English Gentlemen to whom I gave a passage to Madras. 3^d I freighted her to an Englishman to carry provisions to Madras in a critical time. Those are three points of Fact sufficient I think to counterbalance any insignificant Letter from an individual to his Friend wrote without minding much the Words which may consequently flow neglected unregarded and unreserved.

If after all it is my fate to be successively a Prisoner to the Drabs, to Hyder and to the English I cannot avoid it, and must submit to a certain ruin because I came here to load victuals for the Settlement of Madras and add to that certain ruin of mine the still more cruel Idea of being the occasion of severe losses to my owner and to my Friends who lent me money upon Respondentia. I will only request of you to be so kind as to represent to the Honble Board that having already spent all the Money I brought here I am now deprived of the means of subsisting by myself.

I am with great Respect

Sir

Comproallam

29th September 1782.

Your most obedient Attendant
A. Perrot

3216 Fort St. George Octo^r 1782.

15th

Received the following Intelligence by two
Hircarrads from Negapatam —

Intelligence of the
French fleet being
at Negapatam —

On the morning of the 3^d Inst.

28 French Ships appeared in the Nears off
Negapatam, there was one English Ship there
the Crew of which ran her ashore and got
safe on land themselves. The French began to
fire upon the Fort which the Garrison
returned very smartly, the Engagement
continued till 3 O'clock in the afternoon,
when the French sailed to Cuddalore except
six Ships which came back again and
anchored off Negapatam.

They came to Cuddalore the
6th Instant where they saw the Ships
taking in provisions —

It is reported there that these
Ships are to return again to Negapatam.

Dispatched the following Letter
to the Governor of Tranquebar —

To the Governor of Tranquebar
Sir

Tranquebar —

able to afford a supply
of rice a copy of this
letter transmitted to Bengal

I am to acknowledge the honor of your
Letter of the 15th September ^{last} & feel very much
affected by your most ^{kind} representation of the
distresses of your Settlement.

Our situation at the same time
that it is in a great measure similar to yours at
the same time that it tends to impress one with

d
which

3217 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782
Wth

a stronger desire of contributing to your relief unfortunately deprives me of the means of doing it, and of affording that assistance which from every motive I should be happy to give.

Circumstanced as we are our feelings must be regulated by prudence, and the principle of self preservation must for the present put it out of our power to gratify the desire we should have of complying with your Wishes—

We have transmitted your application upon the point, long since to Bengal from whence all our own Supplies come— We have not detained any Vessel here on her way to you with Provisions, nor have we heard any thing of your ship *Tranquebar*— a few days since a vessel passed here to the Southward under Danish Colours which probably may be the one you expect—

I have only to add that you may be assured of my readiness as far as our Situation and Circumstances permit to show you every mark of attention and friendship, and to prove to you the Esteem and Consideration with which I have the Honor to be—

Sir

Fort St. George
October 11th 1782

Your most obed^t and
most humble Servant

Macartney

3218

Fort St. George Oct^r 11th 1822.11th.

Passports for
the cartel ships
to be sent to the
Admiral to be
filled up—

The Commanders of the bar-
ships the Concord and the La Betsy having
applied to this Government as well as to the
Admiral for a Passport, it is agreed that
their request be complied with and that
Passports be immediately made out and sent
to Sir Edward Hughes and that he be desired to
insert the place of their Destination and the
term of the Passports remaining in force—

The following Letter with
Passports enclosed are accordingly sent to
Sir Edw^d Hughes—

To Sir Edw^d Hughes M. B.
Sir,

To Sir Edw^d Hughes
request him to fill
up the enclosed
passports.

The Commanders of the two
cartels sent by Mons^r Suffren having
applied for a Government Pass as well as one
from you— We now enclose them and beg you
will fill up the blanks that are left and
forward them—

We are,
Sir,

Your most obedient
humble servants

Macartney

per Secy Com^d

To

Fort St. George

October 11th 1822—

3219 Fort St. George Sept 1882
11th

To all to whom these Presents shall come,
greeting- Whereas the the right Honble George
Lord Macartney K.B. President and Governor
of Fort St. George and the rest of the Select
Committee do hereby require all persons in
the service of His Majesty or the English
East India Company to permit the ship La
Betsy to pass in safety from this port to -
without visiting searching or molesting her
in any shape whatsoever the said vessel having
been sent as a Cartel by Mons^r Suffren
Commander in Chief of the French Forces
with the Garrison of Trincomalee this
pass to be in force untill

Given under our hands and
the seal of the said Company in Fort St.
George this day of October one
thousand seven hundred and eighty two.

The same to the Concord. Macartney J. Committee.

12th. Received the following Letter from Sir Edw. Hughes

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

From Sir Edw. Hughes
relating to the form of the
Passport granted to the
Cartel Ships - enclosing
declarations respecting
the capture of the French
vessels, & requesting that French
Prisoners may be assembled
on board.

I have had the Honor to receive
your letter of Yesterday, enclosing what you term a
Government Pass for each of the Cartel ships now in
the road to St. Thome to be forwarded by me which
shall be done when I see it proper for them to proceed

3220 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782.
12th

back to Trincomall and the Blankets filled up
accordingly—

In your Papers you are pleased to require
all Persons in the Service of His Majesty or the
East India Company to permit the Ship to
Pass in Safety. I am of opinion your paper ought to
have been addressed to the English East India Company
Servants only and that His Majesty's servants
at sea particular as in the present case of the
Cartel ^{Ship} should have been left to me, this however is
not a Point worth contending under the present
Circumstances of Affairs and your Papers shall
accompany mine.

I have the honor to enclose with this
the Declarations of Captain Mitchell and other
Officers of His Majesty's Ship Sultan respecting the
capture of the French Cutter the Lizard off Tranquebar
Road which are the Grounds for my retaining that Ship
as a legal Prize without any infringement of the
Neutrality of that Port.

There are in this Vessel about
an hundred French Prisoners which I request you will
do me the favor to receive into your Charge on
Shore, as it is highly improper to carry them on board
the Line of Battle Ships of the Squadron and I have
no where else to send them. to this request I beg you
to honor me with a speedy answer that I may

Superb in Matras Road
12th Octo^r 1782.

proceed accordingly I have the Honor to be

My Lord and Gentlemen

Your most obed^t & humble servant

Edw^d Hughes

The

3221 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782

12th. The Declarations of Captain Andrew Mitchell
of His Majesty's Ship Sultan and of the Officers
of the said Ship, regarding the Capture of the
Lizard a French Cutter of 18 Guns & Men

Captain Mitchell declares
that when he was at Anchor in His Majesty's
Ship Sultan in Negapatam Road, he received information
from several Persons that there was a French cutter
at Anchor in Tranquebar Road & that this cutter
then lay anchored within the Ships ^{then} riding there.
That in the morning of the second of this
Month on his Way from Negapatam to this
Road he saw the said Cutter at Anchor without
the Road of Tranquebar and without all
the Ships riding there; that under these
circumstances and considering the Cutter
stationed there as for the purpose of more
easily and effectually capturing any English
Vessels that might be passing in sight of her, or
coming into Tranquebar Road, and considering
her also to be without the Protection of the
Danish Flag and Guns he therefore seized the
said Cutter as an Enemy: —

Dated on board His Majesty's Ship
Sultan in Madras Road the
9th October 1782 —

Andrew Mitchell,

We the undersigned Officers belonging to His
Majesty's Ship Sultan Captain Andrew Mitchell
Commander do declare that when the Lizard

3222 Fort St. George Octr. 1782

12th French cutter was seized by the said ship she was at anchor without the Road off Tranquebar without all the ships riding there, and a considerable Distance more than Gun shot from the Fort and consequently in their opinion not entitled to the protection of the Danish Flag and Guns.

Dated on board His Majesty's ship Sultan in Madras Road the 9th Octr. 1782.

Mr. Hamby	1 st Lieutenant
Edw. Beys	2 ^d Do
James Bughton	3 ^d Do
P. Bartholomew	4 th Do
James Daves	5 th Do
W. H. Gibbons	Capt. of Marines
Pat. Stone	Master

Read Letter from Mr. Turing enclosing Return of stores in the Garrison of Bellora as entered in MB Read Letter from Captain Hughes enclosing Surgeon's Certificate of his ill Health and request to proceed to Bengal.

Agreed that he be permitted to proceed to Bengal for the recovery of his Health

Read Letter from Captain Symes of the 98th Regt. enclosing an acct. of equipments and shares belonging to his Company which were lost in the Madras Transport and requesting to be reimbursed the amount of them.

Capt. Hughes permitted to proceed to Bengal for the recovery of his health.

Capt. Symes of the 98th Regt. requests to be reimbursed for equipments lost in the Madras Transport.

of considerable

782.

esting

3223 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782
12th

Minute thereon

Agreed that Captain Symes be informed the Demand is quite unusual and that the Select Committee cannot make the Company responsible in any degree for the Loss he has sustained.

Received the following letter from Colonel Dixon —

To the right Hon^{ble} George Lord Macartney KB
President and Governor &c. Select Committee

My Lord and Gentlemen,

From Col. Dixon
advices of an attack
with Tippoo, requests Arms
Ammunition and a Reinforcement
of Europeans.

with a large

I had the honor of writing on the 5th Instant wherein I acquainted you of our party at Terriore having gained a Victory over a Party of the Enemy's the day following Tippoo Saib invested the place closely on all sides with an army as I hear consisting of 12000 horse, 12000 regular foot among whom are 300 French and an enormous multitude of Polygars with a large Train of Artillery - on the 11th he erected a Battery against the Village of Terriore which was only surrounded by a milk Hedge, and the 12th in the morning opened from 4 twenty four ^{lb} and two 9^{lb} and continued without Interruption till Dark when our people finding they could not maintain the place as all the ammunition except what remained in the Limber Boxes was expended and only two Days provision left, Lieut^{nt} McKinnon very properly and with great Conduct began his Retreat at 8 o'clock at Night, and after a severe march of upwards of thirty Miles he arrived at Mooroorpetta at 7 in the morning.

3224. Fort St George Octo. 1782.

12th

where two Battalions of Sepoys were ready drawn up to cover them - they fortunately arrived in the very instant, had they been 20 Minutes later, it would have been too late, for the Enemy were pressing fast on them on all sides, both Horse and foot, and before our people had reached the Coleroon the Enemy opened several Guns on them - I cannot express to you the Satisfaction I felt at seeing them crossing the Coleroon in two Columns - we had four Guns posted on the Southern bank of the Coleroon under Major Galway, which were so well served that the Enemy did not annoy our People much in crossing tho' they fired many shot. The whole of our Loss will not exceed 100 Men - the fortune of this party is the most fortunate Circumstance that could have happened. Tippoo went the next day to Terrore with the greatest part of his force. He may now expect to have nothing left on the Northern Bank of the Coleroon from Putekandarsafoe West.

I had mentioned my design of attacking Tippoo but I find without a body of Europeans it would be too great a risk - We are in great distress for cloathing and Tents for the Troops in general to the Southward, also for arms in the Room of what have been lost - I wish these Articles could be sent as soon as possible -

Trichinopoly

16th September 1782

I have the honor to remain with great respect

My Lord and Gentlemen.

Your faithful obed. Servant
Eccles Nixon

3225 Fort St. George Octo^r. 1782

12th

Copies of sundry Papers
sent to Gen^l. Stuart —

Sent (the following) to Gen^l. Stuart at his request
at his request Copies of the Minutes of the 2th and 30th Ult^o.
of his Letters of the 1st, 3^d, and 4th Instant and extracts
of the minutes of the 8th Instant containing the requisition
to him to order a Court of Enquiry on the conduct
of the Officers who lately commanded at Trincomallé
and Fort Osoraburg.

Bills on Bengal granted to
sundry King's Officers for their
gratuity —

Ordered that a set of Bills on Bengal
be granted in favor of Lieut. Thomas Boyes of the
98th Regiment to the amount of 122.30.50 Captain
O'Mara of the 98th Regiment for Pag^{ts}. 152.44.38
Brig^{ad}. M. Campbell of the 98th Reg^t for Pag^{ts}. 11.12.20
Ensign Keith Young of the 98th Reg^t for Pag^{ts}. 57.31.40
and Surgeon Thomas Bengurson of the 42^d Reg^t
for Pag^{ts}. 97.21.40 being the arrears of their Gratuity

Dispatched the following letter
to Bengal by the Nottingham with the returns of
Prisoners and recruits embarked on her —

To the Hon^{ble} Warren Hastings Esq^r.

Governor General and Council
of Fort William

To Bengal —
with return of Prisoners
and recruits sent thither —

Hon^{ble} Sir and Sirs,

We have the honor to enclose your
Return of recruits belonging to your Establishment
and also a return of French Prisoners embarked on
the Nottingham —

Fort St. George
12 Octo^r. 1782

We have the honor to be

Hon^{ble} Sir and Sirs

Your most obed^t. H^{ble} Servants
Macartney J. S. C. —

3226 Fort St George Oct^r 1882.

13th Received the following Letter from the Secretary
of the Governor General and Council —

To John Hudleston Esq^r.

Secretary to the right Honble the Pres^d and Select Com^{ee}
of Fort St. George —

From Mr. Auriol —
Gun Powder and Specie sent
on the Britannia. Mr. Ritchie
undertakes to conduct the
Squadron into the River
of Bengal —

Sir

I beg leave thro' you to acquaint
the Board that their Dispatches to the Governor
General and Council by the Blake have been received and
were immediately taken into Consideration —

To obviate the Delay unavoidably
incident to the regular forms of public Dispatches
from the Council, I am directed to forward this to
you by express with a Brief intimation of the
measures which have been taken by the Board,
referring for particulars to their Letters which will
shortly follow —

The Snow Britannia on which
1000 Barrels of Gunpowder have been laden for the
use of the Garrison of Fort St. George being a stout
Vessel and remarkable for sailing well, a supply
of specie amounting to three Lacks of current
Rupees will also be remitted by her. —

Mr. John Ritchie Marine Surveyor
who is ^{proprietor of} particular Charts of the new Channel
for the entrance of this river, who has repeatedly
surveyed it and is well acquainted with the
navigation of the Coast, will undertake to
conduct His Majesty's Ships safely to a proper
anchoring place in the River. He has therefore

3227 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782

13th

been directed to proceed in the Britannia with
Letters to Admiral Sir Edward Hughes, by which
the Board mean to recommend it to him to pass
the approaching Monsoon in Bengal - The Captain
of the Britannia will leave Town in two days

I am further authorized and
directed to assure you in the name of this
Government that every possible Exertion shall
be used on their part for the relief and Support
of the Company's possessions on the Coast of
Coromandel. —

Fort William

I am
Sir

24th Sept^r 1782. —

Your most obed^t serv^t
humble servant

D. M. V. Secy

Minute Motion. —

Agreed that Copy of the above
Letter be dispatched to Sir Edw^d. Hughes. —

Received the following Letter
from Masulipatam, with Invoice and Bill of
Lading of Tents embarked on the Ship Free
Trade for the Presidency. —

To the Right Hon^{ble} George Lord Macartney
President and Governor &c Select Committee
My Lord and Gentlemen,

From Masulipatam
with invoice of Tents
laden on the Free
Trade. —

In consequence of your Commands
under date the 12th Ultimo such tents as could
possibly be spared from the Corps doing duty

3229 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782
13th

to the Military Secretary from M^r. Auried

To Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hughes K^t. B.

sea sea sea

Sir

To Sir Edw^d. Hughes
in ans^r to his objections
to the Passports and
enclos^d. Copy of letter
from M^r. Auried —

We have had the honor to receive
your Letter of the 12th Instant with its enclosures
With regard to your exception to the terms of
our Passes we have only to answer that they are
agreeable to the established form, and ^{the} same that
were used in the passes furnished to the Cartel
Vessels that conveyed to Europe and to the
Mauritius the French Troops and Inhabitants
taken at Pondicherry. — And we may add
that if our Passes were only to exempt Cartel
Vessels from being captured by the East India
Company's Ships, they would be of little or no use.

Respecting the French Prisoners
in the Sloop, situated as we now are it would
be extremely inconvenient to us to receive them
on shore, more so we should imagine than it
could possibly be to you to have them divided
among all the different Ships of your Squadron;
but if you should still think otherwise we
shall immediately comply with your request.

We enclose you Extracts of
a letter which our President has ^{just} received from
Mr. Hippesty at Tranquebar from one of which
you will observe there is a person on
board the Sloop (or Cutter) whom it maybe
of consequence to attend to.

We

3230 Fort S. George Octo^r 1782.

13th

We enclose also copy of a Letter just received
express from Bengal —

We have the honor to be

Fort S. George

Sir

Octo^r 13th 1782. —

Your most obedient
humble servants

Macartney

Secy. & Com^{rs}

Ordered that Bells on Bengal be
granted in favor of M^r. Henry Miller Assistant
Surgeon to the Amount of Pag^s 21.18 being his
Arrears of Pay —

At a Select Committee present

The right Hon^{ble} George Lord Macartney

President & Governor

Anthony Sadler Esq^r Major Gen^l Stuart

Alex^r Davidson Esq^r

John Holland Esq^r at Bengal

Minutes of last Committee

read and approved.

The President lays before the
Committee the following Minute

As the Commander of
His Majesty's Squadron sent into these seas for the
Protection of the Company's Possessions has
absolutely refused to comply with the requisition
of this Government to remain on this side of
India to oppose the Enemy's Squadron in its
Design against the Company's Possessions on the

Sunday 13th Octo^r }
at 8 a M. —

President's Minute on
the measures proper to be
adopted on the Squadron's
leaving the coast —

Fort St. George Oct^r 1782.

13th.

Coast of Coromandel, and as the public Distress and Danger are thereby increased from day to day, and render new and decisive measures every moment very necessary, the President thinks it right to be prepared against every attempt which may be made by Sea and Land against this principal Settlement, in which the fate of all the Territories on this Coast and perhaps that of Bengal may eventually depend, and he therefore offers the following objects to the Consideration of this Committee

A Calculation as correct as may be, should without Delay be made of the Garrison necessary for the defence of Fort St. George in the case of a Siege, together with the servants and followers really necessary to such Garrison, also of the Number of Artificers of all kinds and of Coolies or other Persons necessary in the Fort in case of a Siege. To these must be added all the Company's Civil Servants residing in Fort St. George with a reasonable number of Black Attendants

These Calculations being made, it is the Duty of Government to exert the whole of its authority as far as may be necessary in laying up immediately a sufficient Stock of the necessary provisions of all kinds for the Consumption of the Numbers thus calculated, at least until the first day of March next, by which time it is reasonable to suppose the Fleet may be back from Bombay and consequently the Sea open for the conveyance

3232 Fort St. George 13th Dec^r 1782

of new supplies.

Whatever proportion of the Rice now in the Road may be necessary to make up the Stock just mentioned should at all events be secured by Government. What part of the Grain so secured as is private property should be paid for at the rate already stipulated of 150 Pagodas, and should be paid partly in cash or in such Bills and at such Exchange as should make them equal to Cash —

If there be more Grain in the Road than is necessary for such public Stock, what should be taken for such Stock out of each quantity of Grain that is private Property should be in the same proportion from each that is $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{3}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ or whatever may be necessary. —

Besides this Quantity for the public Stock there must be a further quantity retained for the Consumption of the rest of the Army and such of its followers as are really necessary while the whole of the Army continues in the Neighbourhood of Madras. But it would no doubt be proper to send so much of the Army as may ^{not} be necessary for maintaining a Siege, to such distant places as may supply that Food which is not likely to be found here long. If there be any fund either remitted from Bengal or other funds, it should be immediately employed with the Assistance of Government in the purchase of Rice for the Poor which should be delivered to them on Condition of their Departure from hence to seek Subsistence elsewhere for which

3233 Fort St. George 13th Oct. 1882

purpose they should be assembled by the Charity Sea and given their respective shares of rice, be immediately conducted by a Guard of Sepoys at least beyond the next river to the Northward at which River a few Guards properly stationed might prevent the return of most of them to Madras.

The Centinels placed at the Gates of the Black Town and Fort St. George might under proper orders likewise be an additional check to prevent the admission of useless people into either place.

Whatever proportion of Grain being private Property remains after these several Drains might be left, if the public desire it to take its course. In the present critical times there is unhappily no alternative - The Poor must leave the place or perish. The rich are many of them partly provided and can afford a high Price. If the abuses supposed to have been committed by the Natives under the authority of the Grain Committee have really existed, the difference in laying the sales open will only transfer the profits from the Natives to the present Owners of the Grain, who may probably avail themselves of the scarcity to export extravagant Prices - but it would be highly proper to give Notice in all the languages spoken by the various Classes and Nations in Madras and in the most public manner, that no Grain will for the future be issued for the Consumption of the Inhabitants from the public

3234 Fort S. George 13th Oct^r 1782

Stock, which otherwise they might flatter themselves would be the case, as it has been done before, and to warn all Persons not provided with a sufficiency of Grain for themselves and families, until Supplies shall arrive next Year from the Northward, to leave Matters immediately. — such Notice will be no news to the Enemy, who will without it perfectly know our situation, but will find by it that we are determined to take precautions that the Garrison shall not be reduced by famine to surrender to them, and such a conviction might remove the wil against which we must be prepared. The Artificers Coolies &c. which may be necessary to retain in case of a Siege, and consequently must be maintained, must be regularly and exactly mustered and inspected by and under the Care of proper persons. —

Notice should be also given that any part of such merchantable Rice which shall arrive in this Port after the first day of next Month until the 20th of December, as shall be purchased by Government, shall be paid at the rate of 200 Payas per Mace either in Cash or in Bills at the Current exchange of the Place among the merchants and all the rest of the Grain to be left at the free disposal of the Owner. —

And every Encouragement should be given to engage Homage to fetch Grain from Masulipatam on the part of the Company
Signed Macartney. —

3235 Fort St George 13th Oct^r 1782

The President further acquaints the Committee that the Motions proposed in the above Minute have issued from the Council and that he has summoned them (the Committee) to take into Consideration how the Army shall be stationed, so as to be the least burthensome and best supplied with Provisions

Genl. Stuart desires it may be minuted, that he is of opinion no reduction of the armed Force of this Army should now take place, but that there is a Part of this Army ^{that} he considers not as armed, and therefore not necessary, and that with the leave of the Committee he will deliver in a state of such Part as may now be reduced. That as to the followers of the Army he thinks a great reduction may be made of the numbers now subsisting on the present Stock of the Garrison, and as to private followers that such arrangements may take place as without any great inconvenience may enable the Officers to send off their servants to be fed separately from the Stock, but the General is clearly of opinion that the followers in the pay of the Company that are essentially necessary to the Army should be kept up in like manner tho' not fed here. The Cantonment he should propose would be nearly the same as last year with the Difference of a considerable Body of Sepoys, and a large proportion of the followers to be cantoned at Pelicat, where if he is rightly informed a very considerable supply of rice may be had if proper Encouragement is given, sufficient even for that ^{part} of the Army which he would

Genl. Stuart's Minute
the state of the Army the
reduction of its followers
& Cantonments —

3236 Fort St George Oct 18. 1792

wish to have cantoned there - and upon this subject of Encouragement for rice the Genl begs leave to observe as his own opinion that the Government of Bengal which now furnishes both rice and Money would not hesitate to give much greater encouragement especially during the Monsoon months than what is held out by any publication he has yet seen - The General thinks that whatever reforms may take place the Encampment ought not to break up as long as his Majesty's Squadron remains in the road, because by that time he supposes the Monsoon and bad weather will be setting in, and there will be no attempt on the part of the Enemy against any of the out Garrisons which he thinks might otherwise happen - another reason the General observes is a degree of doubt that might remain with the Enemy whether any part of the Army would go in his Majesty's Ships to the Southward the number of Months might be reduced as well in Camp as in Cantonment - as to the Defence for the Garrison they will equally answer that purpose as if they were in Garrison, and some of the Troops might be removed thither.

With respect to the President's Minute just read the General observes he never saw it till now and not being Master of the Subject he requests to be furnished

With

3237 Fort St George 13th October 1782

Gen^l Stuart furnished
with a copy of the President's
Minute

President's Minute
on the Cantoning the
Army.

with a Copy of it, which is accordingly agreed to, and the Determination relative to the Disposal of the Army for the present deferred - but the President desires it may be minuted that he is not for disbanding the Army, but for immediately cantoning such part of it as is not necessary for the Defence of Madras in such Districts to the Northward as may furnish Supplies to subsist them, and that he believes the Melloor Country will be able to subsist two Battalions at least - The President is of opinion, that every unnecessary Mouth should be dismissed, and that the Commander in Chief should inform the Committee without delay of the Numbers which the Army, when that is done, ^{will} consist of, and the President is further of opinion that the terms offered by Government for Supplies brought here are very ample and sufficiently encouraging.

President's Minute
on withdrawing the
Out-Garrisons -

The President has always been of opinion that such of the out-Garrisons as were most exposed to the Enemy should be abandoned and destroyed, Manduash and Carangoly particularly, and the President repeats it here, because he very much apprehends that they will be lost - but as the opinion of the Commanders in Chief Sir Eyre Coote and Gen^l Stuart, military opinions differ from his he would not venture to insist against such Authority by further representations -

Gen^l Stuart informs the Com^{re}

Return of the Army
to be ready for the Disbanding
at the Request

3238 Fort St. George Oct^r 13th 1782

that a Return of the Army in the field will
be ready and delivered in before the Packet sails

Report from Com^{ee}
of Apartments approved of

Read reports from the Committee
of Apartments (as lodged in the Office) which is
entirely approved, and it is agreed, that they
be desired to cause the several Arrangements
recommended to be immediately carried into
Execution. The President is also requested
to have them published in Orders in this
Garrison —

Mr. Norris app^d.
Assist^t. to the Com^{ee}
of Apartments —

Agreeably to the recommendation
of the Committee of Apartments resolved that
Mr. Norris be appointed their Assistant with
an allowance of 20 Pags^t. p^r. Month. —

3239 Fort St. George Oct^r 1882

13th Sent the following letter to the President and Members of the Committee of Military Quarters agreeably to the resolution of Committee

To Anthony Sadler Esq?

President &c Members of the Comm^{ee}
of Military Quarters
Gentlemen

To Com^{ee} of Military
Quarters approve of
this arrangements.

I am directed by the right Honble
the President and Select Committee to acknowledge
to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter and
Proceedings, and to inform you that they entirely
approve of the arrangements you have recommended,
and have requested the President to have them
published in Orders in this Garrison. —

They desire that you will therefore
cause them to be immediately carried into execution

I have the honor to be,
Gentlemen,

Your most obedient
humble servant
John Hudleston
Secy

Fort St. George
13th October 1882. —

14th Received the following Letter from Mr. Light

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney MB
President and Governor &c Select Committee
My Lord and Gentlemen,

From Mr. Light
in the complaint filed
against him by Mr. Pracher

Have this Instant been honored with
your Letter of the 13th Instant and am surprised and

3240 Fort St. George Octo^r 1782

1/4

concerning Mr. Proctor should have laid a complaint
against me which has not the smallest foundation
on truth, and am to request your Lordship you
will with your usual candour suspend your
Judgement for a few Days, when I pledge myself
not only to clear myself of this charge but of any
other Mr. Proctor may alledge against me

I am with due respect

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient

humble servant

William Light

Palamcottah

30th Sept^r 1782

Received the following Letter from the Committee
of Stores with their Proceedings of the 12th Instant

To John Huddleston Esq^r.

Sir

From Com^{tee} of Stores
with their Minutes of the
12th Instant —

The Committee of Stores request
you will lay the accompanying Proceedings of
the 12th Instant before the right Hon^{ble} the
President and Select Committee —

I am

Sir

Your most obedient humble Serv^t
Charles Floyer Jun^r

Clk to the Com^{tee} of Stores

Fort St. George
14 Octo^r 1782. —

Floyer

3241 Fort St. George Oct^r. 1782

14th

Fort St. George the 12th Octobers 1782—

At a Committee of Stores—present—
Major General James Stuart—
Lieutenant Colonel Patrick Robt.—
Lieutenant Colonel John Kennedy.
Bryan Scottney Esq^r.

Minutes of last Committee
read and approved together with the Orders of the
Select Committee ~~thereon~~

Colonel Kennedy lays
before the Committee a proof of Gun
Powder made at Fort St. George
the 11th Instant—

The Committee taking
into Consideration two Indents from
Ongole and Temeribetah, it is
agreed they be complied with—
conformably to the remarks of the
Commissary— With regard to
the Gun Carriages the Committee
recommend that they be made
either at Ongole or Masulipatam^x approved—

Gen^l Coote having
desired to be furnished with a list
of Stores wanted for immediate
use to be sent to this Presidency
from Fort William, the
Military Storekeeper now lays
the same before the Committee

As Captain Monro may
think proper, and that the
Muskets Commission and
Powder be supplied from
Masulipatam.

3242 Sept. 1. George Octo. 1782.

14th

Agreed that it be submitted
to the Right Honble the
President and Select Com^{rs}

Read a Letter from
Mr. Sub-Secretary Kingscote
accompanying one from the
Commander in Chief, upon
which the Committee think
it necessary for the sake of
expedition that every means
should be used both by
employing the artificers
belonging to the Army and
those in the Arsenal, as is
recommended in the General's
Letter —

General Stuart
recommends that a Committee
be held soon to consider of
Improvements that the Gun
Carriages and Moulds may
admit of, before any new ones
are made up, and that

approved

Major Elliot
Major Mackay
Captain Riggs
and
Captain Morehouse
be requested to attend. —

Agreed that it be
recommended that Timber

3243 Fort St. George Oct 18 1822

144

from Rajahmundry of the
largest dimensions which can
be procured be sent by the
first opportunity, and with
regard to the Teak Timbers to
be sent from the Malabar Coast
It is recommended to the Right
Honble the President and
Select Committee to obtain
a large supply of Timbers
from 10 to 18 Inches square
and any lengths and Planks
of $2\frac{3}{4}$ Inches thick to 5 of
any length from 18 to 30 feet
and that they be sent round
under a safe Convoys. —

General Stuart
recommends that eight BPs
with their field Carriages
and every thing belonging to
Service be kept complete and
in readiness at the shortest
notice, to make part of the
train of Artillery with the
Army when needed and kept
separate for that purpose only,
and that Iron braces be
made for them. The whole
according to the following
Inventory. —

approved and Letters
be written to Bombay
upon the Subject

approved

32414 Fort St. George Est. 1782 -

14th Field Carriages with Limbers 18th - 9

Iron Chains with Jokes complete - 9

Iron round Shot 18th P^m - 2000

Sponges with ramheads - 24

Field Tompeons with bolans 18th - 8

Drag Ropes 18th P^m Sets - 8

Traversing Handspikes 18th P^m 16

Purchasing Handspikes 18th P^m 18

Trunkets 18th P^m - 9

Lead aprons 18th P^m - 8

Leather Buckets - 16

Tin Tubes filled 18th P^m - 1300

Empty Cloth Cart^s Bags 18th P^m 2000

Ladders with Madhooks 18th P^m 8

Tube Boxes 18th P^m - 8

Power Horns with Bufflings 12

Priming Irons - 24

Steel Pots - 24

Tar & Grease half Drummers 8

Gun complete - 1

Platforms for Guns - 8

Agreed to recom =

= mind the same to the
Right Honble the Presid^t
and Select Committee.

General Stuart
recommends that Sepoy and
private Sents equal to two
thirds of the Complement
of the present Army in
the field be ordered to be kept

bridge

3245 Fort St. George Oct. 1782

11th

in readiness as necessary for the
Service, when the Army takes
the field after the Monsoon
as also the proportion of one
half of the Officers Marqueses
according to the Company's
regulations for size and materials

The Committee are
of opinion that no time should
be lost in arranging the Company's
Military Stores of every kind and
disposing of them in the proper
places so as to be in repair
and ready upon any emergency
They recommend also that the Nabob's
and Prize Ordnance and Stores
now in Garrison and upon the Beach
be arranged and disposed of,
and inventories made of them
with the knowledge and consent
of the Agent for the Captors,
and that the Right Honble the
President and Select Com^{rs}
will be pleased to determine
who is to defray the expences
attending the same.

*It has been often
recommended to the Hon^{ble}
to particularly recommend by
the President to Gen. Mordaunt
that a Gen^l Consignation should
be taken of all Stores without
delay. —*

*The Arrangement of the
Nabob's Stores will be paid
by the Company, on the Nabob's
account. The Captors should
bear the Expences of arranging
their own Stores. What may
be really necessary of them
for the Company, the Com^{rs}
may agree for*

It is recommended
that covers for the Guns / called
Armo^d Houses / of a Size to take
in the Cheeks of the Carriages

3246 Fort S. George Oct^r 1782

14th

as far as the better transaction
be made for the Guns that
are to be brought towards approved —
the Sea —

Gen^l Stuart acquaints The Governor had given
the Committee ^{that} he has already orders for the purchase of 1000 lbs of powder to be
giving his opinion to the select be mounted towards the Sea before
Committee respecting the Ordnance in bags each left the ammunition —
recommended to be mounted towards
the Sea with all expedition

The Military Storekeeper
lays before the Committee a list
of Shot and Shells lost in diff^t Boats
Two Boats overboard embarked Shot and
Shells on board His Majesty's Ship
San Carlos for St. Vincent
lost - Shot 120^{lbs} — — — 93

2^{do} 60^{lbs} — — — 50

Hand Grenades — — — 36

One Boat in coming from the Company's
Ship Major broke near the Shore. — lost
Shot 120^{lbs} — — — 93

About in going to the Ship
Friendship and another to
the Gen^l Atkesie — lost
Shot 60^{lbs} — — — 30
Shells 8 Inch — — — 40

The Military Keeper
delivers in a Letter from Mr.
Lasselles/Company's Cooper/

3247 L. M. S. George Sept. 1782.

14th setting forth the want of
Copper Hoops for Powder Barrels,
to the Military Storekeeper acquaint-
-ing the Committee that he
has sent to the Cooperage all the
Copper Hoops from the Stores
The Committee recommended
that Copper be furnished
from the Company's Stores
for the purpose of making
Copper hoops for the Powder
Barrels. —

Approved

Jam^s Stuart
Patrick Ross
John Kennedy
B. Scotland.

Received Letter from Mr.

From Mr. Van Vlespingen
with list of his family
and requesting his Pay
in advance and a
Passport.

Van Vlespingen as entered in Miscellany Book
enclosing a list of his family with which
he wishes to proceed to Bavaria in the
Ship Concordia and desiring that his
allowance for the month of October may
be paid him in advance to purchase
Necessaries for the voyage, and further requesting
that a Pass may be granted to Mr. Abraham
Dormieux to accompany Mrs. Van Vlespingen
to Negapatam.

Minute thereon

Agreed that Mr. Van Vlespingen's
allowance for the month of Octo^r. be advanced him.

3218 F.F. George October 1812

It is agreeable to his request and that Passports be granted to enable him to pursue his voyage as soon as it may be convenient to him. —

To Mr. Daniell

Dispatched Letter to Mr Daniell
as entered in MB informing ^{him} that Messrs Indama
and Dings have permission to leave Jagganapuram
15th

The Ship Hertford lost
in a gale

A gale of wind came on this
Morning which drove on shore the Honble Company's
Ship Earl of Hertford and several other large vessels
lying in these Roads - all the small Craft likewise
amounting to upwards of 90 were either sunk or
stranded. Sir Edward Hughes put to Sea with the
Squadron under his Command at the Commence-
ment of the Gale.

16

Active frigates

arrived from the Admiral

This Evening the Active Frigate
arrived from the Admiral for the Officers and
Men who were left on shore and brought the
following Letter —

To the right Honble Lord Macartney H. B

My Lord,

From the Admiral

The weather threatening a Gale of Wind
yesterday made it absolutely necessary the Squadron should
put to Sea for being so ill furnished with Anchors and
Cables it was probable many would have been in
the Surf, there was so great Sea from the Eastward
and the Superb's masts so much wounded in general.
Am sorry to acquaint your Lordship the mainmast
fell first then the mainmast then the mainmast after that
Foremast, happy it has not been the case of any
other Ships I fear were most wounded, I am proceeding

3249 *For Mr George C. H.* 1/82
16.

to refit at Bombay. the *St. Carlos* returns to protect
the Grain Vessels, the *Active* must bring Colonel
Macleod to me and many Officers of the Squadron
we were obliged to leave behind. —

Superb at Sea

16th Octo^r 1782

I am always

My Lord

Your Lordship's most obedient
humble Servant

Edward Hughes

P.S.

Lieut. Murre, Mr. Davidson, and Captain
Brown who could not return to the Shore come
now on the *Active* —

from Mr. Light
with acct. of repairs
of Tanks &c.

Received Letter from Mr. Light
enclosing an account of repairs of Tanks and the
exchange of Porto Novo and Star Pagodas as
entered in Miscellaneous Books. —

Minute thereon

Agreed that the Accounts enclosed
in Mr. Light's Letter be sent to the Committee of
Assigned Revenue. —

Enr. Adams permitted
to proceed to Bengal

Received Letter from Ensign
Adams as entered in Miscellaneous Book enclosing
a Certificate of his ill Health, and requesting
permission to proceed to Bengal which is granted
accordingly. —

To Capt. Symes of
the 98th Reg^t on the
loss of baggage in the
Manilla Transport. —

Sent Letter to Captain Symes of
the 98th Regiment as entered in MB acquainting
him with the resolution of the Committee
of the 12th Instant respecting his Baggage lost in
the Manilla Transport. —

3250 *ppp* J. George Oct. 1782 —
164

*Snow Britannia
arrives from Bengal. —*

Arrived the Snow Britannia from Bengal by
which the following Letter and enclosure were recd
from the Governor General Council. —

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney
President &c Select Committee
My Lord and Gentlemen,

We have received your several Letters
and Despatches dated the 25th Aug^t & 10th & 11th Sept^r
by the Blacke. —

*From Bengal. —
with a copy of their
Letter to the Admirals
send 1000 Barrels of
Gun Powder & 3 Lacks
of Rupees. —*

The importance of recommending
a proper and convenient station for the Fleet during
the approaching Monsoon to supply the place of Chinsamlay
which has unfortunately fallen into the hands of the
Enemy appearing to us so urgent we gave it our
immediate and most serious attention. By the
enclosed copy of a Letter we have written to
the Admiral you will see our Sentiments upon this
Subject formed from particular inquiries and the
maturest Deliberation upon them. —

We shall reply to the other points
of your Letters more particularly by another
opportunity. In the mean time we beg leave
to acquaint you that we have laden on the
Vessel Britannia for the Service of your
Presidency 1000 Barrels of Gun Powder and
Gold Bullion to the value of three Lacks of
Rupees and that we shall continue our exertions
to supply your wants in the most effectual
manner from this Place. —

We

3251 Fort S. George Oct^r 1782

16th

& We are

My Lord and Gentlemen

Your most obedient

humble Servants

Edw^d Wheler

John M^c Pherson

Fort William

25th September 1782 —

To Sir Edward Hughes K. B. —

Vice Admiral of the Blue & Commander in Chief
of His Majesty's Ships
in India —

Sir,

The Governor/General/and Council
of Fort S. George have communicated to us the Letter
you were pleased to address to them on the 8th of
this Month with an account of the action between the
Squadron under your Command and that of the
Enemy on the 3^d Instant. —

Much as we regret the loss of
Trincomalay we most heartily congratulate you
upon the repeated Gallantry and good Conduct
with which you have maintained the honor of
the British Flag in this late action. —

The annals of the British Navy
do not, we believe produce more Military Honour to
any Admiral within an equal Space of time than
you have acquired since your first Engagement
with the Enemy in February last. No British
Squadron ever fought so much within the
same period as that which you command still
refitting itself for action, nor has it we

3252 To Mr J. George Esq. M.P.
16th

imagine fallen to the Lot of any Commander to bear a greater share than you have personally done in the Danger as well as Glory of your reiterated conflicts with a Gallant Enemy at the head of a superior tho' never victorious Force. —

We have no apprehension that the Possession of Trincomalay can immediately afford the Enemy those Advantages which they may expect from such a Port and Harbour — we are persuaded that many of their Ships must be in so bad a Condition that they can only be properly refitted at Mauritius or Batavia yet the enterprising spirit of their Admiral will probably lead him to detain those Ships at Trincomalay and thereby leave us ultimately an advantage. —

During the Sootherly Monsoon Madras can be better protected by the Squadron under your Command from different Stations of Security in your opinion than if you had taken your Station at Trincomalay —

We have the greatest Satisfaction in informing you that our Marine Surveyor W. Ritchie has lately ascertained a Channel in the entrance of the River, which a Squadron of the largest Ships may enter with the greatest Safety, and thro' which they may proceed to a Station near Channel Creek where they may pass

3253 Fort St. George October 1/82

16th

The Monsoon with the most perfect security. The season is there healthy and every supply that the Squadron may want and every advantage that any Harbour in India can afford except that of a Dock can be obtained here —

The Passage from hence along the Coast of Coromandel in the Months of December January and February is effected in a very few Days and the Conveyance of Supplies by sea from hence to Maoras in that Season cannot be interrupted by the Enemy while your Ships are to Windward. In the Islands in the middle of the Bay there are excellent Harbours against the Monsoon, of some of them we have got accurate Surveys made by Mr. Ritchie who has examined the new Entrance into this River — To give you the completest Information in all those points we have ordered Mr. Ritchie to repair to Maoras and wait upon your commands. —

To perhaps any other Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships in these Seas we might think it necessary in the present occasion to represent in the most forcible manner that the Departure of the Squadron from the Coast would ^{infinitely} endanger the Company's Possessions in the Carnatic. We would perhaps avail ourselves of the utmost authority with which we could converse or remonstrate as a

3254 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782

16th

National Government. — But to Admiral Sir Edw.^d Hughes who has never made a Distinction between the Interests of the Company and those of the State, and who has long maintained both in these Seas upon an invariable principle of Harmony and Public Seal, to him we shall only take the Liberty of observing that the existence of the British Interest is now at Stake upon the Coast, and that his presence with the Squadron under his Command is his best Security. —

We should even hope that if the Majesty's Squadron passes the Monsoon upon the side of India that we may ^{be able to} begin the Campaign very early in the Year with the reduction of Trincomalay and such other Efforts as may ^{be} terminate our Wars in India. — From the Mahvatta Peace we have now the most sanguine expectations.

We have the pleasure of informing you that by some interior arrangement in these Provinces, and upon our Frontiers, we have a prospect of ample resources to maintain other Presidencies. And we conceive that with little Assistance from the Forces under your Command a Blow might be concerted and struck against the vital Interests of our Enemies to the Eastward. — An Argument of additional Weight in favor of the principal Object of this Address. —

We have the honor to be with perfect regard and Esteem. —

3255 Fort St. George October 1782

16th Sir

Your ever faithful and Most Obedient
humble Servants

(Signed) Governor General & Council
a true Copy

B. Auriol
Secretary

Fort William
25th Sept. 1782

Minute thereon

Agreed that the Letter from the
Governor General & Council to Sir Edward Hughes and a
Copy of their Letter to this Committee be dispatched to the
Admiral tomorrow by the Active Frigate, and that the
Secretary in the mean time acknowledge to their Secretary
the receipt of their Letter by the Britannia and acquaint
them with the severe Misfortune which this Settlement
has experienced by the Gale of Wind.

The following Letter having been immediately
prepared in answer to the foregoing one from Bengal is now
approved and Ordered to be dispatched.

Honorable Warren Hastings
Governor General & Council
Fort William

Gentlemen,

We have the honor to acknowledge
Your Letter of the 25th of Last Month which Arrived
this Morning.

We have a particular pleasure
in Acknowledging the fresh Instances You have given us of
Your

to Bengal acknowledging
the fresh Instances
they have given in
contributing to supply
our wants, but more
extensively adequate -
happy they concur in
decision with regard
to the Admiral's not
going to Bombay; the
arguments make use of

3256 Fort St. George October 1782

of to detain him but
all to no effect - admit
of the sale and sale
of several vessels -
The Admiral sailed for
Bombay - enclosing
regulations proposed on
the supervision of the
Admiral's Department

16th Your unremitting attention to our Critical Situation and of
Your Zeal and Liberality in Contributing to the Supply
our wants

We are not deterred from forming
this Opinion by the Consideration that those Supplies tho
very Large, have yet not been adequate to all those Wants,
Nor from expressing the Sentiments which that Opinion has
excited in Our Breasts from the apprehension of their
implying a Complete Supply. It is Sufficient for us that
what You have spared to Our Necessities was great in
proportion to Your own, and to the Demands upon You
from other Quarters - We have felt the injustice of the
inference that more ought to have been done, because it
was desirable that more could have been done; and we do
not Chuse to be guilty of such injustice towards others, We
have endeavoured to make our Efforts Correspond with yours
in procuring Resources for the many and heavy public
Exigencies, as well as in the faithful, and where we could
interfere, the Economical Application of Your Resources
and Our own.

It is a great Satisfaction to us that
You so fully and perfectly Concur in Our opinion of the
Necessity of His Majesty's Squadron Remaining, not on this
Coast, but in some safe Station in the Bay of Bengal
during the Monsoon. Since the Return of Sir Edward Hughes
on the 9th of Last Month we requested his Attendance at our
Meetings when we laid before him the State of our Affairs
the Smallness of our Supplies, our apparent inability to
subsist without the protection of his Squadron untill the
usual

3257 Fort St. George October 1782

16th Season of Ships returning from Bombay, the necessity of attacking Cuddalore with his Assistance, for the purpose of depriving the Enemy of the European Troops, and warlike Ammunition in that Garrison, which would Cramp their designs against any of our remaining Possessions, and when we found that Monsieur de Suffren was actually before Madraspatam on the 3^d Instant, we proposed to the Admiral to Supply his loss of Men in the late Action, that he might go in pursuit of an Enemy who had two Ships fewer than in that Engagement in which his Fleet by all Accounts was greatly Shattered with a Considerable diminution of his Crews, which he had no new opportunity of recruiting. But to none of our proposals, and indeed Entreaties, would the Admiral accede persisting to decline Seeking for the Enemy, but to proceed directly for Bombay tho' we thought it at length our duty to lay before him in Strong Terms some of the probable Consequences of such a Resolution and of the Necessity for the preservation of the British Interests in India, that he should Comply with our Repeated Request.

The Moment the Letter from Your Secretary to Ours of the 24th of Last Month Arrived here, which indicated Your opinion and desire to the same Effect as ours, we sent a Copy of it to the Admiral, but have Received no Answer from him since.

Strong as Our Applications to the Admiral to wish that His Majestys Squadron should pass the Monsoon in some of the Harbours on this side of the Peninsula, in Order to be at hand to check the attempts of the Enemy, and to protect our Supplies

on

matines were when we

3258 Fort St. George - October 1782

16 on Account of the Scantiness of those we had in Store or in the Road - These Motives are become Still more Cogent by the Consequences of a Gale of wind which blew here Yesterday with such degree of violence, as to drive a Shore almost all the Small Vessels that attempted to ride out the Gale as well as the Hertford Indiaman and several other Vessels of Size that either foundered at their Anchors, or were wrecked upon the Shore -

Several Vessels went out to Sea, and tho they Should Return, yet a large proportion of the Grain which was a float in the Road, and which we Calculated for part of our Subsistence, and which exceeded the quantity in Store, is irrecoverably lost. Most of it would have been landed if a Considerable Number of the Boats had not been Constantly diverted from that Service, by being employed in the Service of the Fleet.

This dreadful Disaster has also deprived us of a vast quantity of Tonnage, which, for the high Freight we are in these times of Scarcity and the Necessity of Offering, might have been induced notwithstanding the Risk of the Weather and the Danger to go for Grain to our Northern Settlements -

Sir Edward Hughes who had embarked some days before sailed away Yesterday with the whole of the Fleet; Tho the wind is now southerly, and that he cannot consequently make much progress in his Voyage to Bombay, we can ground no certain hope

3259 Fort St George October 1782

16 hope of his returning to this Road, tho the Gale being over there is no prospect at least immediately of another. If he should however come back or send a Frigate for some of his people who happened to be on Shore and Coals that get on board on Account of the bad weather we shall not fail to forward to him your Letter which we are willing to flatter Ourselves may produce some Alteration in his Intentions.

We have the honor to enclose to you a Minute of the Regulations proposed on the Supposition of the Admiral's departure, and which on Account of what relates to provisions was Communicated by our President to the whole Council as well as to the Select Committee. Our Situation becoming still more Critical by the Misfortunes which happened Yesterday we may be forced to adopt other Measures suited to our increased Embarrassments, and diminished Resources.

We still hope, that Assistance from abroad, our Own Efforts and favorable Accidents may relieve us from the Evils to the Danger of which we are now exposed.

We have the honor to be
Gentlemen

your most Obedt^t

humble Servant

Henry Macartney Esq^r &c.

Oct 17

We have the honor to enclose you a copy of a letter our President has received from Sir Edward Hughes

3260 Port St George October 1782

16th Dispatched the following letter to Mr. ^{Surintendant}
Secretary to the Governor General & Council

To Mr. J^r Peter Marist

Secretary to the Hon^{ble} the Governor Gen^l and Council
of Bengal

Sir

I have had the honor to receive your Letter of the
24th Ultimo, which was immediately communicated to
the Right Hon^{ble} the President and Select Committee,
and they have since received ^{of the 25th} the letter from the Hon^{ble}
the Governor Gen^l & Council, enclosing Copy of one
to Sir Edward Hughes.

As the Select Committee may be
prevented from addressing the Governor General
and Council by this Post, I am directed to acquaint
you for their information, that this Settlement
has experienced a new and severe misfortune in
consequence of a Gale of Wind which came on
yesterday morning, and blew with increasing
Violence until midnight. several large Vessels and
among them the Hartford Indianman were driven
^{into the harbor at their anchor} ashore, and all the small Craft consisting of
upwards of 90 were either sunk or stranded - The
quantity of Rice lost is at least 30,000 Bags which
is equal to our whole remaining Stock and the
loss of the Tonnage is irreparable

The Squadron put to Sea at the Com-
mencement of the Gale, and we were in hopes it
had escaped the Violence of the Storm, but this
afternoon the Native Frigate brought the
disagreeable Intelligence that the Superb is
dismasted, and besides with difficulty
kept above Water. The Admiral has shifted
his flag on board the Sultan, and proceeds
immediately to Bombay. The ^{Native} ^{Commissioner} ^{of the} ^{Revenue} ^{at} ^{the} ^{Settlement}

with

To the Secy at Bengal
with an acct of the loss
of the Hartford and damage
sustained by the Gale,
request an immediate
supply of provisions

3261 Fort S. George Octr. 1782

16th

with some of his Officers who were left on shore, and the Select Committee intend to await themselves of that opportunity to forward to him the Letter which the Governor General and Council have written to him.

The Select Committee are desirous that the Governor General and Council should have the earliest notice of this disaster as the present very alarming state of this Settlement may perhaps induce them to alter the destination of the Indiamen that were intended to be dispatched to Europe, and to send them hither immediately with rice and other Provisions

I am

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble Servant

J. Muddleston

Secy.

Fort S. George

16th Octo. 1782

17th

Received the following Letter
from Captain Smith.

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.

My Lord,

I am sorry to acquaint your Lordship that after all my endeavors to get Grain brought to this place, the dreadful Gale last night has driven all the Vessels on shore, which were seven in Number, and that it has not been in the Power of all the Men I could collect to save one single

from Capt. Smith

Gale destroys all
Vessels in Port
and

3262 Fort St. George Oct^r 1782

14th article out of either of the vessels, and the
Inhabitants here are in a distressed situation
by this Melancholy event.

I have the honor to be with due respect

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obed^t
humble Servant
George Smith

Poliacat
16th Oct^r 1782

14th Received the following letter from the
Committee of Assigned Revenues with their Minutes
of the 14th Instant as lodged in the Office and
acct of Bullocks taken from the Inhabitants
of Nagtapor and Modcotah

In the Minutes the Com^{rs} of
^{revenue} Assigned recommend that the prices of the cattle
carried off from these Districts be allowed to
the Inhabitants if the numbers stated correspond
with those received for the use of the Army.

To the right Hon^{ble} Lord Macartney KB

President & Select Committee

of Fort St. George.

My Lord & Gentlemen,

We have the honor to honor to
lay before your Lordship &c an Extracts from
our Minutes of the 14th Instant with Copies
of accounts of the value of Bullocks taken
from the Inhabitants of Nagtapor & Modcotah
by a party of Sepoys sent from Tripapore.

We have the honor to be

My Lord & Gentlemen

Yours

From the Com^{rs} of Assigned
Revenues with Extracts
of their Minutes of the
14th Instant & acct of
bullocks taken from
Nagtapor &c

3263 Fort St George Oct^r 1782

17th

Fort St. George
17th Oct^r 1782. —

Your most obedient
humble Servants

Chas. Oakeley
Cyles Irwin
Hall Plummer
David Haliburton
Geo. Moubray —

Received the following letter from
Captain Flint. —

To the Right Hon^{ble} George Lord Macartney
President Sec. Select Committee.
My Lord and Gentlemen,

From Cap. Flint
M^{rs} Intelligence
of the French. —

I beg leave to inform you that
five Frenchmen came in ^{here} last night; they deserted
from Cuddalore six days ago and inform me
that when they left it, the French fleet
consisting of 13 Sail of the Line were then
in the Roads — The Bizarre a 74 gun Ship
was on shore near Cuddalore and even a
Doubt whether she could be got off or not — The
L'Orient (a 64) foundered after the Engagement
off Trincomalay. The 4th Battalion of the
Régiment de L'Isle de France (800 Men) was
left to garrison that Place. The Hero and an
80 gun Ship were dismantled in the last Action
and continue in a shattered Condition. Two
Ships had joined the French Admiral the latter
end of July or the beginning of August left
Mons^r Bussy at the Mauritius; he is hourly expected
at Cuddalore with 8000 Troops. When he arrives
their grand expedition is to commence by attacking

3264 Fort St George Oct^r 1782

17th Madras. At present they are for fortifying themselves in the strongest manner that their means and the situation of Buddalore will admit, some redoubts and Batteries on the Fort St. Davids side are finished 1300 Europeans and about 2000 Sepoys are cantoned at Mungicon-jum.

I have the honor to be

My Lord and Gentlemen

Your most obedient
humble servant

A. Flint

Wanderwash

13th Oct^r 1782.

Agreed that copy of the above

Minute be sent

Letter be sent to the Admiral.

Dispatched the following Letter to Sir Edward Hughes with the Letter to the Governor General and Council and copy of a Letter to this Committee agreeable to the resolution of Yesterday and also a copy of the foregoing Letter from Captain Flint.

To Vice Admiral Sir Edward Hughes K. B.

Sir,

To the Admiral

Last night Captain Mackenzie of the Active arrived and brought your Letter of Yesterdays date addressed to our President. We learn with much concern that you were hurt by a fall during the Gale and that the Superbe has suffered so much in the bad weather. Of the Merchantmen that were in this Road between Rice several of the large and almost all the Vessels of Windy by return foundered at their or were wrecked on shore. Not only the Cargo are irrecoverably lost but most of the

3265 Lord S. George Esq. 1782

17th by which we might flatter ourselves with a chance of receiving further supplies from the Northward is lost.

Tho' there is scarcely an instance of a second Gale in the same season, yet the sense of so recent a Disaster, joined to the apprehensions of the Enemy's Squadron ranging thro' the Bay of Bengal without any opposition will probably deter most of those which have escaped from returning here until both those Dangers shall be over.

There is not now in Store or remaining afloat in the Road, a sufficient Quantity of Grain for the Army Garrison and Inhabitants for above six Weeks, nor can we depend upon the arrival of any considerable Supply till the Return of your Squadron on this side of the Peninsula.

There is a report but we have not yet been able to trace upon what Authority, that Sir Richard Bickerton has appeared off Tricomanlee and that Mons^r de Souffren has sailed with his Squadron from Cuddalore

We have the honor to enclose to you a Letter from the Governor Gen^l and Council of Bengal and a Copy of one just received from the Commanding Officer of Wandewash: and we are

Sir

Lord S. George
17th Octo^r 1782.

Your most obedient
humble Servants

Macartney

J. P. Horn

3266 Fort St. George Decr. 1782 —

17th Dispatched the following Letter to Captain Cuppage
with a supply of 2000 Pagodas. —

To Captain Cuppage

Commanding at Vellore

Sir

To Cap. Cuppage
with 2000 Pag. —

I now send you 2000 Pagodas
by eight Mirciarrahs —
I am

Sir

Your most obed^t serv^t
humble Servant

Macartney. —

Fort St. George

14th Decr 1782 —

Dispatched the following Letters —

To James Daniell Esq

Chief Sec. Council at Masulipatam

Gentlemen

I am directed by the right Honble

The President and Select Committee to desire
that you will procure from Rajahmundry or
elsewhere and send to the Presidency by the very
first opportunity as many Timbers as can be
had, and of the largest Dimensions. —

The Select Committee desire
also that you will cause a quantity (5000
pair if possible) of good serviceable Shoes to be
made up for the use of the Europeans in the
Army, and send with all expedition 200 or 300
pair at a time to Madras.

The Tents sent from

To Masulipatam
to procure Timbers
Shoes. That to be made
according to direction
of the Select Committee. —

3267 Fort St. George Mad. 1782

1th Masulipatam and the other Northern Settlements being found to differ very considerably from the established Dimensions, the Select Committee direct that all made up in future be exactly conformable to the dimensions expressed in the enclosed Paper and that every exertion be used to make up as many as possible - those sent by the Ship Force Trade being ^{all} lost in the last Storm —

The Select Committee desire also that you will cause 1000 light Horse Saddles to be made up as soon as possible under the inspection of a Cavalry Officer sent with Patterns for that purpose —

The Select Committee earnestly desire your immediate attention to these orders and that not a moment be lost in carrying them into execution

I have the honor to be,

Gentlemen

Your most obedient
humble servant
J. Audleston
Secy

Fort St. George
17th Oct. 1782

To Claud Russell Esq.
Chief Secy Council

of Vizagapatam

Gentlemen

I am directed by the right Honble the President and Select Committee to desire that you will cause a quantity 5000 pair if possible of good serviceable Shoes to be made up for the

To Vizagapatam and
Ganjum to send shoes
to the Presidency - to
make up the Tens
according to Muster

3268 Fort St. George Oct. 1782

17th Use of the Europeans in the Army and sent with all expedition 200 or 300 pair at a time to Madras.

The ^{sent} Sents from Masulipatam and other Southern Settlements being found to differ very considerably from the established Dimensions, the Select Committee direct that all made up in future be exactly conformable to the Dimensions expressed in the inclosed Paper, and that every exertion be used to make up as many as possible, those sent by the Free Trade being all lost in the late Storm.

I have the honor to be

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient
humble servant

J. Huddleston
Secy

The same to Ganjam. —

Intelligence received from Cuddalore by a sett of the Company's Mircambs who left that place the 14th Instant. That there were 17 Ships of War near Cuddalore, 14 of them lying in the Roads and three in the Offing with 11 Country Vessels, the 11 of War have taken in Provisions, and other necessaries, and will soon sail for Trincomalay. The French were repairing the round walls of Cuddalore. About 500 French Soldiers 100 Horse and 15000 Sipsys with 11 Guns were at Mungamcoopam or Newtown.

Intelligence from
Cuddalore by Mircams.

3269 Fort St. George Oct^r 14th 1782.

Thursday 14th Oct^r. 1782.

At a Select Committee present —
The right Honble George Lord Macartney
President and Governor —
Anthony Sadleir Esq^r. Major Gen^l. Pat^r. Stuart
Alex^r. Davidson Esq^r
John Holland Esq^r — absent.

Minutes of last Committee read
and approved. —

Genl. Stuart proposes
that the Army be
canton'd

General Stuart begs leave to
represent to the Committee that the storm of last
night and the present appearance of the weather
making it necessary to put the ^{immediately} Army under
Cover to prevent the worst of consequences attending
the Health of the Europeans he recommends the
cantonning the Army immediately, and proposes
the following as a Plan for a temporary Cantonment.

The Troops and Followers
proposed to be cantoned with some small
abatment the General thinks will not require
above 350 Bags ^{of Rice} and that if the Duties
are taken off the Importation of Grain
at Pulicat, and every encouragement in
the Power of this Government given to import
Rice at that Place, one third at least of the
above 350 Bags will be saved of the store
of this Garrison ^{in the course} of the next two months.

As soon as the Roads will
admit, the General recommends that two
Battalions of Sepoys proceed without
their Guns by the Sea Coast towards Bellone

3270 *Mr A. George Oct. 14th 1782.*

and have under their escort all the public and private followers of the Army that can be spared from the service during ^{the} Cantonment, and also a large proportion of the Gun Bullocks - that a reduction do immediately take place from the Pay and provisions of the Company of 2200 men under the description of Lascars, Artificers, and Coolies paid by the Paymaster, and in the Departments of the Commissary of Stores and the Agent with the Army - so that in the next Indent for rice commencing the 18th or 19th they be not included. The Gen^l adds that this Movement is not only immediately necessary from the state of the army but it may facilitate any other Disposition of the Army, and has also the Benefit of being nearer for the purpose of receiving Provisions and Stores -

Minute thereon

Agreeably to the Gen^l's recommendation it is resolved that the Army be removed into Cantonment and the Committee entirely approve of the Motion proposed by the Gen^l of sending two Battalions ^{&c} to Adjour and of the reduction of 2200 men in the Lascars ^{&c} and direct the General to carry both into immediate Execution. —

The General acquaints the Committee that he has received representations from the Officers in the King's Service of their distress for want of Rice for their Servants, and recommends that to both

the

a third of the field allowance of rice given to the Officers of the Army

3271 Fort St George. Oct^r 1st 1782

The King's and the Company's Officers their Indents
be admitted for one third part of the full allowance
for rice according to the Gen^l Orders - Agreed to
accordingly:-

Agreed that a Letter be immediately
written to Captain Campbell to desire that he will
use every precaution for obtaining as large a stock
as possible of rice and other Provisions at Melloor,
as a considerable Body of Troops will shortly be
sent thither and it may perhaps be necessary to
keep them there a considerable time - Agreed also that

Rice to be sold on account of the general scarcity the Amildar at
at 8 Seer for the Rupee - Melloor be permitted to charge for rice at the
rate of 8 Seer for the rupee

Provisions to be
collected at Melloor

Dispatched

3272 Fort St George Oct^r 1782

17th Dispatched the following letter to Captain Campbell agreeably to the resolution of this day. —

To Captain Campbell,

Commanding, at Nellore.

Sir,

To Captain Campbell
to lay up a stock of
Provisions at Nellore.
The renter to sell rice
at 8 per the rupee —

I am directed by the right Honble
the President and Select Committee to desire that
you will use your utmost endeavors to cause as large a
quantity as possible of rice and Provisions to be laid
up at Nellore as it is probable that a considerable
Body of Troops will shortly be sent thither and it
may perhaps be necessary to keep them there a
considerable time. This business must be accomplished
with as much secrecy as the nature of it will
admit.

On account of the General
scarcity of rice the Renter has Permission to charge at
the rate of 8 per for the Rupee and it must be paid for
at that Rate.

I have the honor to be

Sir Your most obedient,
humble servant,

J. M. M. M.
Secy

Fort St. George

Oct^r 17th 1782.

Passports given to
Mr. van Olfingen
and Mr. Harbo for
Batavia. —

Sent Passports to Mr. van Olfingen
for himself and for his family and to Captain
Harbo Commander of the Concordia a Dutch
Carbel Ship bound to Batavia as entered in MB

The Ship Concordia sailed this
day for Batavia with all the Dutch Prisoners

3273 Fort St. George Ceylon 1782

15th amounting to & the following letter dispatched
to the Governor General of that place. —

To His Excellency

William Arnold Alting

Governor Gen^l of Netherlands, India &c
Batavia

To Batavia
Dutch Prisoners
proceed thither desiring
English Prisoners may
be sent to Bengal or
Madras. —

Honble Sir,

We have the honor to acquaint
you that Mr. van Olfingen the late Governor of
Negapatam together with Dutch Prisoners
now proceed to Batavia on the Concordia, a Dutch
Cartel Captain Hartog which was sent from
the French Admiral to this place who have all
signed a Parole not to serve against Great Britain
during the War or till regularly exchanged.

If you have any English Prisoners,
and will send them either to Madras or Bengal an
equal number of Dutch Prisoners of the same rank
will be exchanged for them. —

We have the honor to be

Honble Sir

Your most obedient
humble Servants

Macartney.
A. S. C.

Fort St. George
18 Oct^r 1782.

Received Letter from M. Mincham as entered in M. B. —

Received letter from Lieut Caldwell

as entered in M. B. enclosing Certificate of his ill Health
and requesting Permission to proceed to Bengal for his
recovery which is granted accordingly. —

Read letter from M^r
Mincham
- & from L^{ieut} Caldwell
requesting permission to
proceed to Bengal —
- Minute thereon

3274 Fort St George Oct^r 1782

18th Arrived in the roads this Majesty's Ship Juno
arrival of the Juno and received the following letter from her Commandeur

To the Right Honble George Lord Macartney K.B.

My Lord,

I beg leave to inform your Lordship
that the Ship you saw standing into the road this
Morning was this Majesty's Ship Juno under my
Command, being ordered hither by Commandeur Sir
Richard Bickerton with Despatches for Vice Admiral
Sir Edward Hughes but finding / from Captain
Mackenzie / that he is off this Place I thought
proper to proceed in quest of him.

I left Sir Richard Bickerton
with the Fleet and Convoy all well on Sunday but
lost sight of him on Tuesday

Enclosed I beg leave to transmit
your Lordship the Letters I received at Bombay for
you together with a Copy of the latest Intelligence
from Europe, which I obtained from a Packet
which came from Bussora. Sir Rich^d Bickerton
took out her Despatches for Madras and she
proceeded on for Bengal.

I have the Honor to remain

My Lord,

Your Lordships

most obedient
humble servant

Montagu.

Juno off Madras

18th October 1782.

From Cap. Montagu
Juno proceeded on the 10th of the
Admiral with his Despatches left
Sir Rich^d Bickerton on Sunday 10th
He despatched for this Government.

3275 To Mr F. George Oct^r 1782

18th

Received the following Letter and Enclosure
by the Juno Frigate from the President and Select
Committee of Bombay —

To the Right Hon^{ble} George Lord Macartney K^tB
President &c^{ca} Select Committee.

My Lord and Gentlemen

From Bombay

received the Packets by the
Mercury - enclose a Packet
for the Governor Gen^l & Council.

We have received the several Packets
by the Mercury which arrived here the 25th Instant
and most sincerely congratulate you on the favorable
Issue of the late Engagement between the two fleets

Advice has already been sent
to Lord Macartney by the President of the arrival of
the Juno Frigate from the fleet under the Command
of Sir Richard Bickerton - You will receive this
by the Juno and we enclose under a flying Seal a Packet
for the Hon^{ble} the Governor General and Council which
We request you will forward by the first opportunity

We have the Honor to be

My Lord and Gentlemen.

Your most obedient
humble Servants

Wm. Hornby.

D. Draper.

Thos. Goddard

Bombay Castle.
29th August 1782.

To the Hon^{ble} Warren Hastings Esq.

Governor Gen^l & Council

of Fort William

Gentlemen

327⁶ Fort St. George Octo^r 1782
18th

We have had the honor to receive your Letter of the 24th June - We hope our Letter of the 31st July will be a sufficient assurance to you of our intention and Determination to do the most we can - We therein mention that our Plan must be regulated both in its extent and Direction according to the Supplies we receive from you - That Dispatch was forwarded to Madras by His Majesty's Ship Coventry and Duplicates will soon follow by another Sea Conveyance which will probably reach you before this Letter. We however according to your desire send this Dispatch off immediately to remove any doubts you may entertain and to satisfy you that if you cannot afford Supplies adequate to the magnitude of the undertaking we had projected. We must necessarily reduce our Plan and confine ourselves to such measures as may be practicable with the force we may have the means of supporting. We have ever understood that the great object so strongly recommended to us was to make so powerful a Division in Hyder's Dominions on this side of India as might oblige him to abandon the Carnatic. On this Ground we planned our measures, the Force necessary for the undertaking was calculated by the commanding Officer and we gave you early notice as was our Duty that we should want Europeans to complete this force and money to equip the Expedition. This was a very plain and direct proceeding and we confess we feel a sense of Injury from the Interpretation you have been pleased to put upon it - As for the means of transporting the Troops &c. we did not apprehend much difficulty

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18th but what might be removed with Money. The navigation to any of Hyder's Ports is so short and easy that we should principally make use of Boats which with Indiamen the Company's Marine and the small Country vessels to be hired at Bombay and Surat would furnish abundant Tonnage. We should indeed require some Ships of war for their Protection which we must trust to the Admiral to furnish and we consider it as very probable that on the change of the Monsoon and the Departure of the French he will bring the fleet round to Bombay. —

If an Army is sent into Hyder's Country on this side you have the Sentiments of the Gentlemen at Madras before you in their Letter of the 22^d of June "that we must reckon upon being opposed by Hyder himself and his whole Force and that fatal experience had shewn there was too much reason to fear it would not be in the Power of the Army on that side to prevent his attacking our Army singly —

It would certainly therefore be the Height of Rashness to send an Army into an Enemy's Country not equal to the opposition that may in reason and probability be expected or to meet the want of its own success in the avowed object of its operations. —

We have strong Doubts how far an Expedition upon a smaller scale against such an Enemy as Hyder ally will answer the End proposed. However as we have said before we shall if we find it necessary pursue our Plan — or in other words if

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18th if we shall not have the means to equip
Army in force sufficient to invade and penetrate
into his Country we will confine our operations
to an attack of Mangalore or such other place
on the Sea Coast as we may find it practicable
to reduce and maintain but even for this
we shall require Supplies of Money from
Bengal. —

It is General Goddard's opinion
that all inferior attempts must prove inad-
vantageous to any useful purpose and only involve us in
a fruitless and unprofitable expence to any
part of which the means and internal resources
of this Government are very unequal. This
Minute will be transmitted by our Sea Dis-

We have obtained descriptions
of the Papes and accoys from this Coast to
Hydr's principal towns of Seringapatam
and Bimnure which we shall send by our
Sea Dispatch with a further reply to your letter
of the 24th June. —

We have the pleasure to advise
that his Majesty's Ship Juno detached from the
Fleet under Sir Richard Bickerton arrived here
the 24th Instant. Captain Montagu left the
Fleet the 31st of last Month in Lat. 21.40 N
and Long 82.50 E. approaching to the Malabar
Coast for Intelligence according to the advice
contained in the Letter from the Hon^{ble} the Secy
of Secy dated 8th of February. —

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18th

We have sent off every necessary Intelligence to meet Sir Rich^d off Bombay Bank and we trust he will be in a condition to proceed immediately for Madras —

We have not made any requisition to Sir Richard Bickerton to land any part of the land forces from the fleet as General Coote would not give his consent to the measure. When all his reinforcements are collected he will be able to judge what part can be spared for service on this side and of the method to take to supply us. We imagine the fleet will give him an opportunity of sending them round in sufficient time for as we have before said it will not be proper to undertake the expedition before the Month of December.

Eight Indiamen and a Shore ship separated from the fleet on the 21st of June. — The Commander of the Panther Cruiser which left Fort Marlborough the 28th of July brings advice that they were in hourly expectation of an attack from a Dutch Armament and that the blowing up of the Magazine there some time before had much weakened their means of resistance. —

By advices ^{received} over land we learn that Minorca had surrendered the beginning of February and that the